

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

+ August 10, 2025 +
10:00 am



Redeemer Lutheran Church

*300 O'Neal Road
Greer, South Carolina
Office (864) 877-5876*



Ministers
Pastor
Parish Administrator
Director of Music Ministries

The People of Redeemer
The Rev. Elise T. Stringer
Mrs. Jackie Pitts
Mrs. Donna Cotter

**Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church in the name of Christ our Lord.
Today we welcome New Members and celebrate the
Baptism of Sophia Rae Yanxin Barstow and Roman Salvatore Ginsberg.**

Hearing Assistance is available NOW!

We are very excited and thankful to announce that we now have AudioFetch **Hearing Assistance** available for anyone who may need it. It is a downloadable, wireless, Bluetooth system to pair with your personal device. Please See an Usher, or the printed flyer on the table as you enter the Sanctuary for details.

WE WARMLY WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US on this Ninth Sunday After Pentecost! It is our hope and prayer that the God who destroyed death and made new life possible on this day will touch and transform your life for all the days to come. If you are a guest today, please sign our Guest Register by the Front Doors. If you have any questions please reach out to Pastor Elise or Jackie Pitts at the Church Office, (864) 877-5876.

IF YOU ARE SEEKING A CHURCH HOME, we invite you to consider making Redeemer that home. For more information about Redeemer Lutheran Church, becoming a member, and sharing your gifts in ministry, please speak with Pastor Elise or contact Jackie Pitts in the Church Office at (864) 877-5876.

JESUS SAYS, "IT IS YOUR FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE TO GIVE YOU THE KINGDOM." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

WE ENTER THIS SANCTUARY WITH REVERENCE FOR GOD

AND RESPECT FOR THOSE WHO MAY BE IN PRAYER.

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

A Kingdom for the Little Flock

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Jesus promises the kingdom to us, his little flock, straining our minds with this uninhibited generosity. Even to us, so little and undeserving? Even to us, in the face of so many things to be afraid of? Suddenly everything we hold dear in this world is repriced, and the true value of things becomes plainly clear. We are being given the kingdom! So why not sell our possessions and give to those in need? We are being given the kingdom! So why not wait on expectant tiptoes for the master? When he comes he will wait on us! The Father’s free generosity calls forth in us a generosity we have never before known. Fear is now met with anticipation, and tightfistedness with open hands. We are being given the kingdom, so now we know what true treasure looks like. And yet, like our fathers and mothers in faith that the Hebrews reading speaks of, we too “desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.” But in Christ our heavenly country has already arrived. In him, God has freely given us the kingdom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the People of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW pg. 94

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.


Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

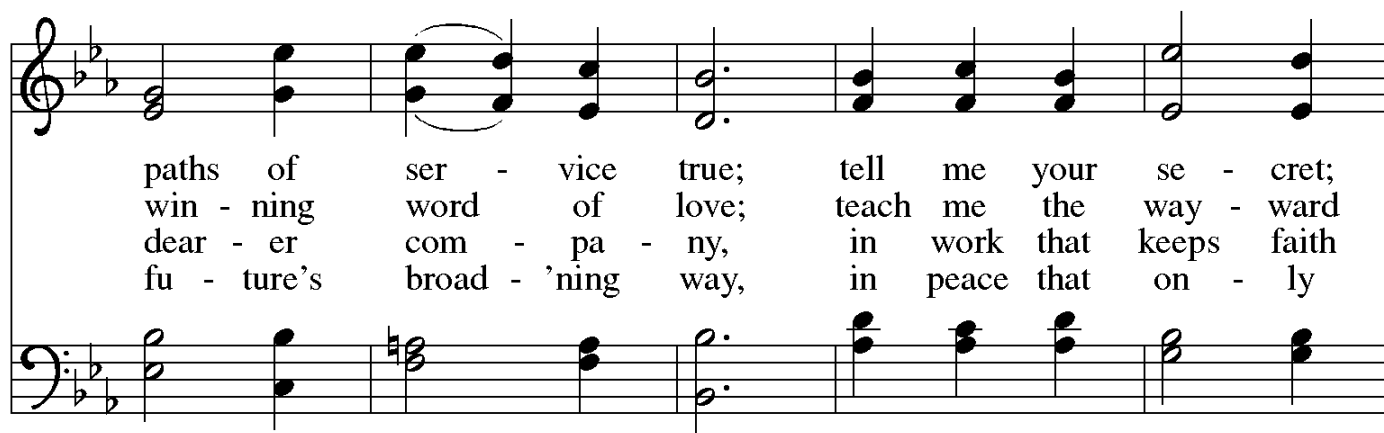
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

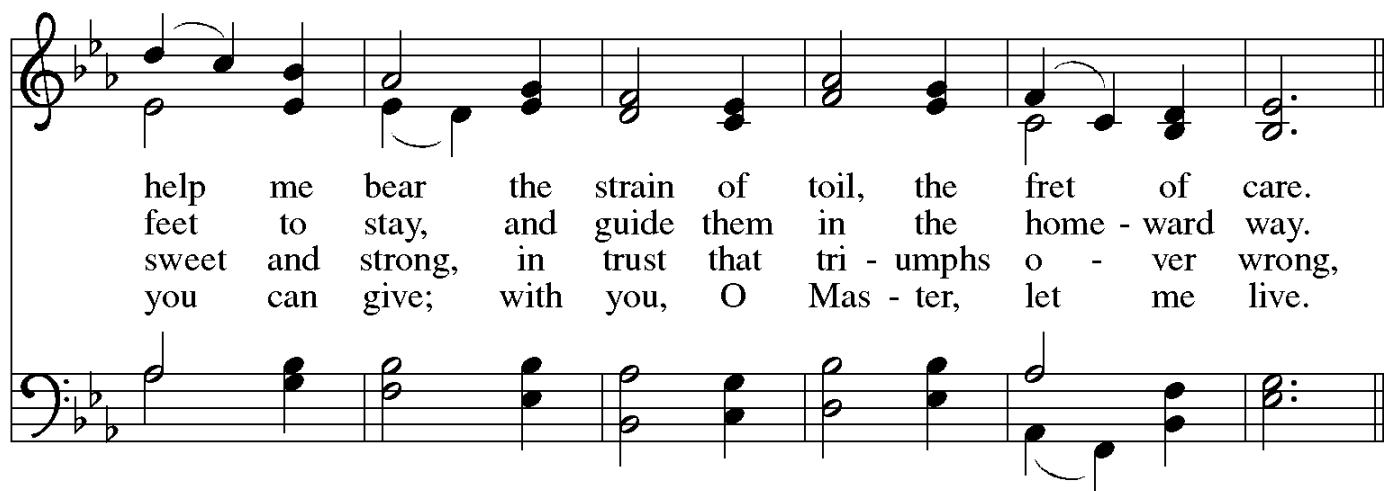
Amen.



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

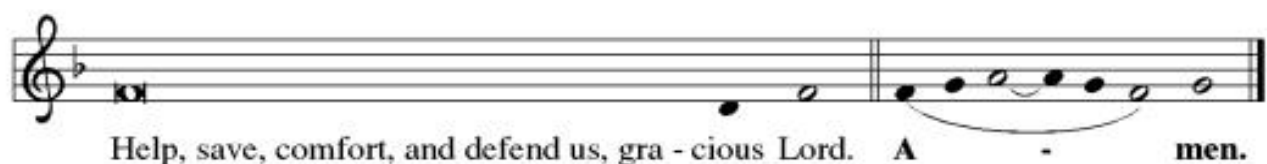
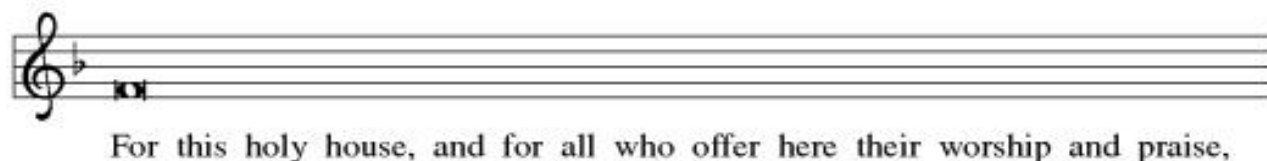
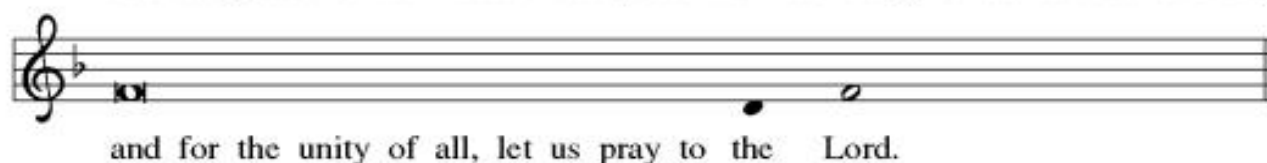
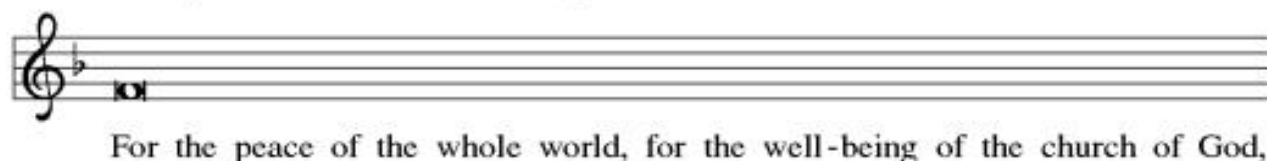
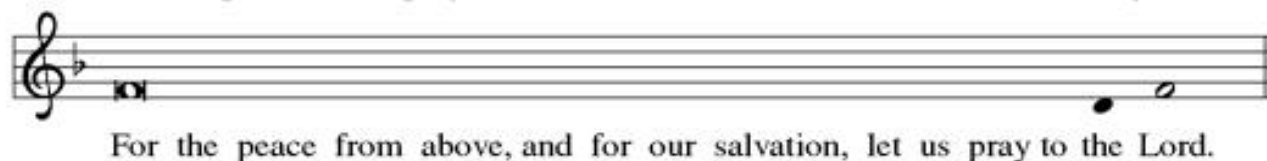
Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
 Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (NOT SUNG TODAY)

ELW P. 138




Assisting minister




Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



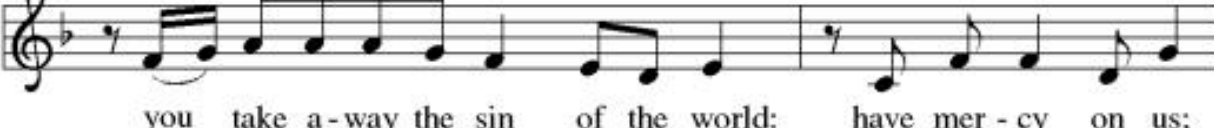
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



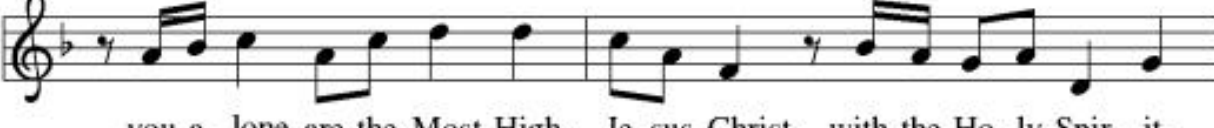
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;




you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

HOLY BAPTISM OF SOPHIA RAE YANXIN BARSTOW AND ROMAN SALVATORE GINSBERG

CHILDREN'S SERMON & BACKPACK BLESSING

Pastor Elise Stringer

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6 (NOT READ TODAY)

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

A reading from Genesis Chapter 15:

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 33:12-22 (NOT SUNG TODAY)

Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³ **The Lord looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

- ¹⁴ God sits firmly en- | throned and watches
all who dwell | on the earth.
- ¹⁵ **God fashions | all their hearts
and observes | all their deeds.**
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size | of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain | hope for victory;
despite its great strength it | cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear | you, O Lord,
upon those who wait for your | steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their | lives from death,
and to keep them alive in | time of famine.**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for | you, O Lord,
our helper | and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you,
for in your holy name we | put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, | be upon us,
even as we place our | hope in you.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (NOT READ TODAY)

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

A reading from Hebrews Chapter 11:

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them.

They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 142



GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

BORNING CRY

ELW #732



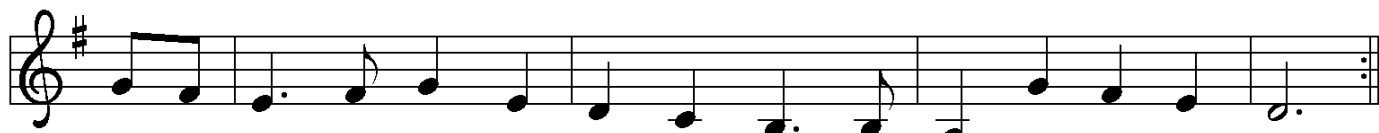
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.



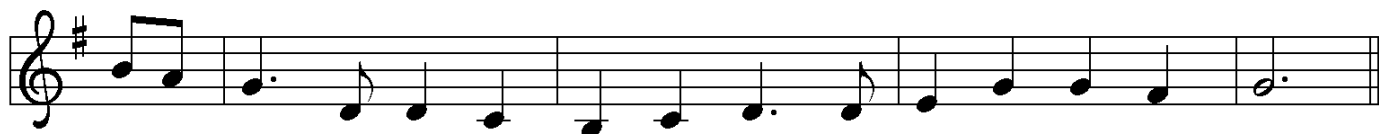
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some - one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS TO THE CONGREGATION

Following the hymn of the day, New Members being welcomed, their sponsors, and minister gather at the font.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these brothers and sisters, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as New Members into the lifelong ministry of God's love here at Redeemer. They come to us from different parts of the country, as well as varying denominations and faith journeys.

A representative of the congregation or the presiding minister may introduce each new member or household.

Matt, Shuling, and Sophia Barstow

Sponsors: Brook, Chrissy, Knox, and Millie James Bristow

Janet Elmore

Sponsors: Michelle Meloan, Phil and Debbie Rhoads

Brian, Alicia, and Roman Ginsberg

Sponsors: Mike, Liz, Evey, and Dean Miller, and Tyndall Stringer

John and Gayle Gremillion

Sponsors: Chuck and Kaye Pegram

Richard and Karen Moore

Sponsor: Janet Thomas

Beverly Williams

Sponsor: Janet Kelk

APOSTLES' CREED

The assisting minister may introduce the Creed.

Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Address and Questions

The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

The minister addresses the New Members.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New Members: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in *their* life in Christ?

Congregation: **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

PRAYER

Offered by the Assisting Minister.

We give you thanks for *our new members* whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ, and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others. May we continue to grow together in the lifelong family ministry of God's love at Redeemer. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WELCOME

The Pastor addresses the assembly.

Let us welcome *these sisters and brothers* in Christ to this community of faith.

Congregation: **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need, especially those on our prayer board and those we name before you now. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Calm the fears of all who struggle with homelessness and hunger. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of agencies who offer support and advocacy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises, and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We share a sign of peace with others. We sit.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

MORNING HAS BROKEN

Karen Roughton, Flute

OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Offered by the Assisting minister.

Let us pray. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the congregation and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 144

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice. **Amen.**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

HAVE NO FEAR LITTLE FLOCK

ELW #764

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHARD IS

ELW #502

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS CROSS

ELW #803

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Offered by Assisting minister.

Let us pray: Oh God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

MISSION

REDEEMER'S MISSION IS: A lifelong family ministry of God's love!

SENDING HYMN

BAPTIZED IN WATER
(printed on next page)

ELW #456

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.


POSTLUDE

Donna Cotter, Organist



A few of the Holy Yoga Ladies had dinner at Della Ventura's!

Baptized in Water



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Serving Today

Ushers:	Tom Lewis and Aaron Cornwell
Greeters:	Wade and Barbara Tate
Assisting Minister:	Del King
Acolyte:	Lily Childers
Crucifer:	Clara Cotter
Counters:	Chuck Pegram and Courtney Childers
Altar Guild:	Donna Norman and Barbara Tate
Flowers:	Given by Linda Cramer in memory of her mom's 100 th birthday
Sheepdog:	Michael Lybrand, Renee Phillips, Aaron Cornwell
Nursery:	Jennifer Tierce and Rose Lanning

Serving Next Week - August 17, 2025

Ushers:	Phil Rhoads and Wade Tate
Greeters:	John and Sharon Fouke
Assisting Minister:	Gordon Johnson
Lector 1:	Al Ludwigson
Lector 2:	Harold Neel
Acolyte:	Owen Smith
Crucifer:	Alexander Tierce
Cantor:	Jeffrey Stringer
Counters:	Chuck Pegram and Courtney Childers
Altar Guild:	Paula Ludwigson
Flowers:	Given by David and Edith Henderson in honor their 55 th wedding anniversary
Sheepdog:	BJ King, Wade Tate, and Sonny Lybrand
Nursery:	Jessica Johnson and Ava Johnson

NOTES