

15th Sunday after Pentecost + September 21, 2025 + 9:00 am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2417 Drexel Avenue - Racine, Wisconsin 53403
(262) 634-7998

<https://www.facebook.com/LCRRacine>
<https://www.racinelcredeemer.com>



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!
We are so glad you are here!

*Hymns marked as ELW may be found in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal and hymns marked as WOV may be found in the blue With One Voice hymnal. Assembly responses are in **bold typeface**.*

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.


Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**


Gathering Song

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" ELW #614


Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;




there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev-er be dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain.
you can tell the love of Je-sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re-fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

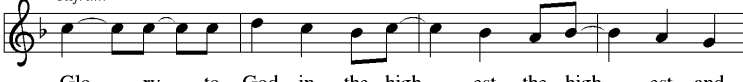
Greeting

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.

Gloria

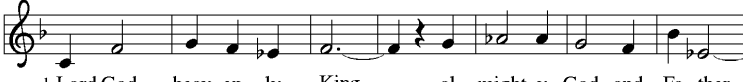
Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, the high-est, and



peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain

for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 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.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and

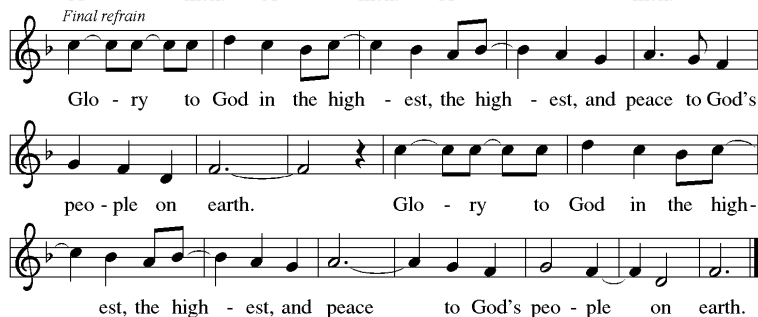
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -

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. A - men. A - men.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1

Jeremiah's primary task as God's prophet was to announce the terrible destruction that awaited the people of Judah and Jerusalem because of their sin. In this passage, a grief-stricken Jeremiah anguishes over the sadness of that message and weeps for his people.

- ¹⁸ My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick.
¹⁹ Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land:
 "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?"
 ("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
 with their foreign idols?")
²⁰ "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."
²¹ For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,
 I mourn, and horror has seized me.
²² Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?
 Why then has the health of the daughter of my people
 not been restored? ^{9:1} O that my head were a spring of water
 and my eyes a fountain of tears,
 so that I might weep day and night
 for the slain of the daughter of my people!

*At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 79:1-9

Deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake. (Ps. 79:9)

- ¹ O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have profaned your | holy temple;
they have made Jerusalem a | heap of rubble.
- ² **They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds | of the air,
and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts | of the field.**
- ³ They have shed their blood like water on every side | of Jerusalem,
and there was no one to | bury them.
- ⁴ **We have become a reproach | to our neighbors,
an object of scorn and derision to | those around us.**
- ⁵ How long will you be an- | gry, O LORD?
Will your fury blaze like | fire forever?
- ⁶ **Pour out your wrath upon the nations who | have not known you
and upon the kingdoms that have not called up- | on your name.**
- ⁷ For they have de- | voured Jacob
and made his dwell- | ing a ruin.
- ⁸ **Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be | swift to meet us;
for we have been brought | very low.**
- ⁹ Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory | of your name;
deliver us and forgive us our sins, | for your name's sake.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For
there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time.⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle
(I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Acclamation





Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Let Streams of Living Justice" ELW #710

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
 Music: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
 Text © 1989 William Whitla

THAXTED
 13 13 13 13 13 13

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.**

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*Each petition ends with: God of grace, **receive our prayer.***

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig, Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Carmen Falk, Merlin Gandrud, Tom Johnson, Mario Miranda, Lynda, Estie Marnell, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Throughout the month of September the Noisy Offering will go toward Outreach For Hope and their Run/Ride/Walk event that will be held on Saturday, September 27th.



*There are many ways to give to support Redeemer! You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the left with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). **Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song

Refrain



Kwa - ke Ye - su na - si - ma - ma, ndi - ye
 Here on Je - sus Christ I will stand. He's the

mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma. Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -
 sol - id rock of my life. He's the sol - id rock of my

ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.
 life. He's the sol - id rock of my life.

2 It is not the [^]work of my hands that has

washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my *Refrain*

days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966
 Music: KWAKE YESU NASIMAMA, Kenyan melody; adapt. Greg Scheer
 Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBCMunk
 English adapt. and arr. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBCMunk

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Lord of the harvest,

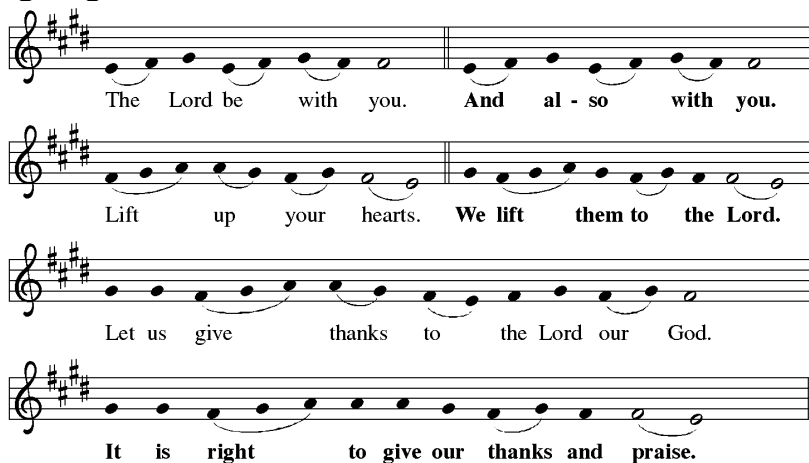
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

**Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
 but on you, who richly provides for us.**

**Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are
 suffering and in need,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

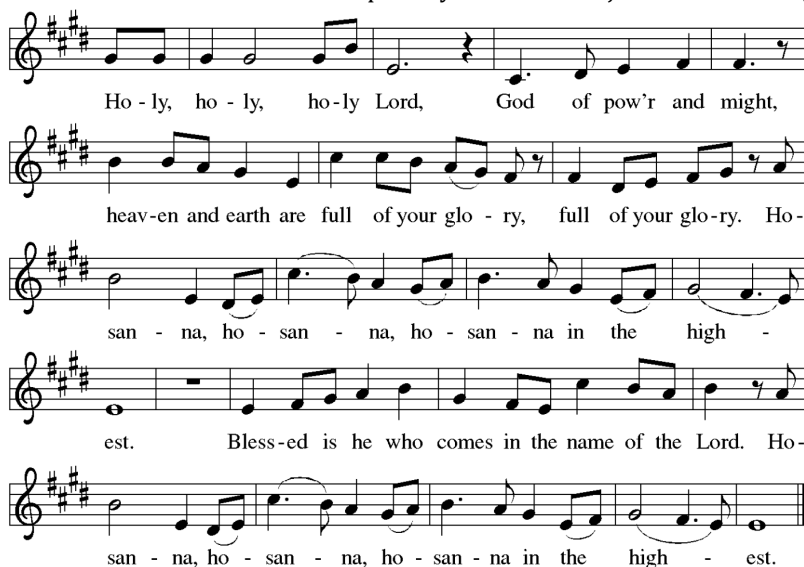
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presiding Minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presiding Minister prays giving thanks to God, for God's saving work throughout history.

The Assembly responds when prompted:

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

*The prayer concludes: **Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Feel free to pray this Ecumenical Lord's Prayer, or the more traditional version, or heck, pray it in a different language if you know it!

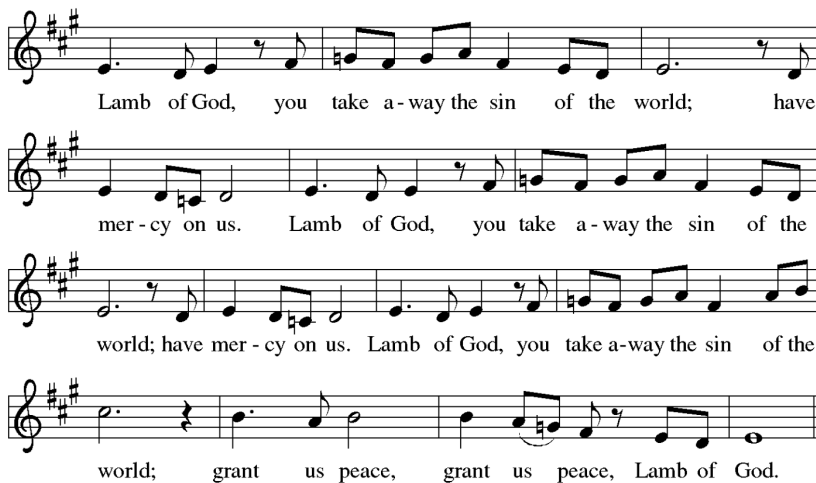
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Distribution of Communion

If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



Distribution Song

"Be Thou My Vision" ELW #793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. **O God,**

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Rise Up, O Saints of God” ELW #669



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	Matt James <i>In Honor of Nancy & Steve Vandewinckel's 34th Wedding Anniversary</i>
Usher:	Jim Kasprovich
Assisting Minister:	Sean Fair
Reader:	Sheila Fair
Altar Guild:	Marilyn Rentz & Nancy Vandewinckel
Musician:	Paul Berge

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
Hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-718548. All rights reserved
Liturgy reprinted from SundaysAndSeasons.com.
Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22091

