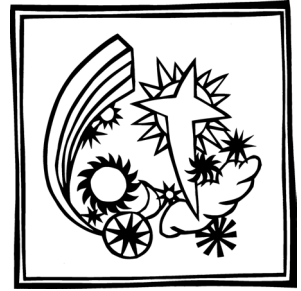


23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025 + 9:00 am



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

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



The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GATHERING

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

Land Acknowledgment*

We gather today on the ancestral lands of the Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ Kickapoo, and, Peoria peoples. We honor and acknowledge the traditional stewards of this land, recognizing their enduring connection to this region. As we come together in worship, let us commit ourselves to respecting their history and culture, and work toward healing and justice for Indigenous communities. May we be mindful of our role in creating a more equitable future for all.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression

and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken,

renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, ✝ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

"Gather Us In" ELW #532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.

1 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.

Final refrain

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
 without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy.
 Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as
 our ruler and guide, we may live through what
 is temporary without losing what is eternal,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 Amen.**



WORD

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

First Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

Addressing the exiles who had returned to Jerusalem from Babylon, the prophet proclaims a vision of a future time of peace and prosperity. Though the returned exiles are experiencing hard times, God is about to do a new thing.

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress.

²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days or an old person who does not live out a lifetime, for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²² They shall not build and another inhabit they shall not plant and another eat, or like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³ They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well.

²⁴ Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

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

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Is. 12:6)

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

³ **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

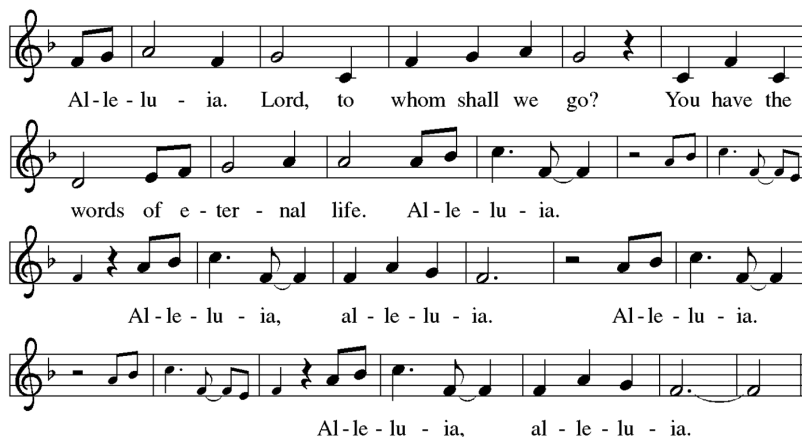
Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they

received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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 25:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to

synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" ELW #597



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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: Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.***

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig, Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Linda Bagley, Carmen Falk, 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.

Stewardship Moment

Offering



*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

1 God of the fer- tile fields, sha- per of
2 We would be stew- ards true, hold- ing in
earth that yields our dai- ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
boun- teous hand, come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
that all in ev- 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo- ple ev- 'ry- where, that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of healing and hope,

you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things.

Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.

Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. 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.**

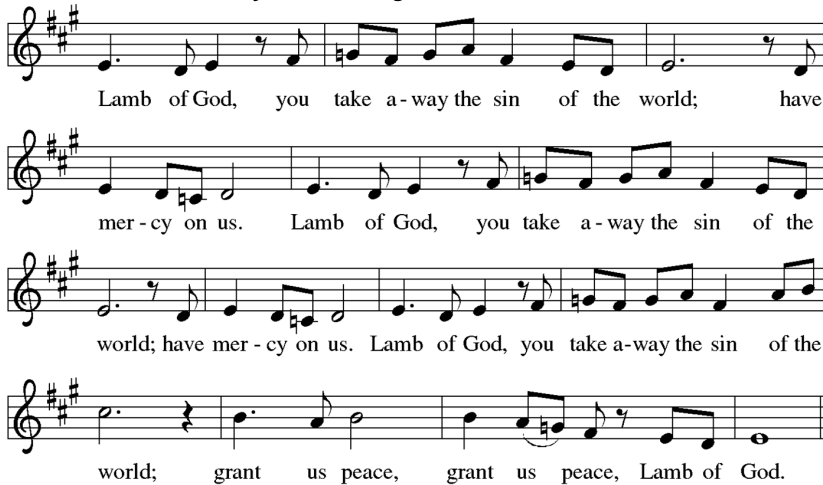
Invitation to Communion

There is a place for you at the table of God.

Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

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

"Abide with Me" ELW #629

Words on page 14.

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's 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

"Soon and Very Soon" ELW #439

1 Soon and ver - y soon
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 3 No more dy - in' there,
 4 Soon and ver - y soon

soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon

soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

VERY SOON
 12 12 12 and refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	Sue Freeze <i>In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received</i>
Usher:	Jim Kasproovich
Assisting Minister:	Sean Fair
Reader:	Sheila Fair
Altar Guild:	Marilyn Rentz & Nancy Vandewinckel
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Steven Wohlfeil

Texts for Next Sunday, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

***What is a Land Acknowledgement?**

A land acknowledgment statement recognizes the original Indigenous stewards of a particular territory, their enduring connection to the land, and the historical and ongoing dispossession they have faced. It is a conscious step toward reconciliation and repairing relationships with Native communities, but should be a starting point for deeper understanding and action, not a solitary, empty gesture.

Key Components of a Land Acknowledgement

- **Acknowledge the Land:** Name the specific Indigenous peoples who are the traditional and ongoing stewards of the land.
 - **Recognize Ongoing Connection:** Emphasize that Indigenous peoples' relationship with their ancestral lands continues, rather than framing it as a past event.
 - **Acknowledge History:** Honestly address the history of colonization and dispossession that led to the current situation.
 - **Center Indigenous Peoples:** Focus on the present-day presence and sovereignty of Native communities.
 - **Honest Reflection and Action:** Acknowledge your own role in the treaty relationship and commit to taking further steps toward equity and reconciliation.
- You can go to native-land.ca or www.elca.org/indigenous to learn more.

© Native Land Digital © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

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

Distribution Song

"Abide with Me" ELW #629



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Stewardship Message

What do you love about Lutheran Church of the Redeemer?

Each of us has our own reasons. Recently, we've heard people talk about how they've been welcomed and accepted here at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. We've heard people talk about they love serving Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, as well as how our church serves other. We've heard people talk about how they consider the people of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer to be family. What are your reasons? What do you love about Lutheran Church of the Redeemer?

**ASK
ME
WHY**



It is time for our annual fall stewardship campaign. During this time we will talk about the good works and mission of our congregation. It is our hope that, as you reflect on this and think about what it is you love about Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, you will prayerfully consider your support for our church. Your support is vital to the ongoing and continued success of our congregation. We are asking that you give, not because you ought to. Give because you can. Give because you are able. Give because of your love for God and Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. We are doing good things here at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. And with your support, we will continue to do good things for years to come.

Did you know?!?

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

If you are at least 70 ½ years old, there is an alternative way to give to your church or your favorite charity. This is called QCD. This is where you withdraw funds from your traditional IRA through your financial advisor and you are not taxed on the distribution of those funds. Check with your financial advisor, but, in most cases, you sign a form and put in a request with the dollar amount and name of the church or charity. A check is made out to the church or your charity and mailed to you for you to give to the church or charity. You can request this each time you want to give whether it be monthly, quarterly, yearly, etc. And, for those who are at least 73 years old, QCD's count toward the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. Just an option for us older folks and you won't be taxed on your withdrawal. Again, check with your financial advisor for more details.

It's that time!

We are now accepting order for poinsettias to beautify our worship space at Christmas!

They are \$15 each order forms are in the Narthex or you can scan the code to place your order online.



Questions?

Please contact Jane Wilson (262.412.6227).