



Risen Christ Lutheran Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021 9:30am



Rev. Rennie Kaufmann – Pastor Eileen Young – Music Leader Karen Kaufmann – Administrator
Miss Esther Kaufmann – Youth Ministries and Worship Arts Assistant
Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Brochures can be found at each door. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – For many people, the time of autumn leaves brings a sense of anxiety or dread as the cycle of the year and of life draws to a close. The prophet Isaiah used this image as he prophesied the demise of the nations and peoples opposed to God: “All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree” (Isaiah 34:4b). Strengthened by the promises of God fulfilled in Jesus, God’s people have a special sense of His mercy. They rejoice in His power made evident in His works that display His goodness. They live out their days demonstrating faith that is truly alive and evident in good works.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,

C **my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; You save me from violence.**

P For You are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness.

C **This God—His way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true;**

P He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.

C **For this I will praise You, O Lord, among the nations, and sing praises to Your name.**

Beautiful Savior

1. Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Confession and Absolution

P Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C **Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We know that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have daily done things we should not have done, and have not done that which we are to do as Your faithful servants. We deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins, and lead us to renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P God is gracious and merciful and hears our supplications. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:4–7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 146 (antiphon: v. 2)

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

⁵Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

⁷who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

**⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

Epistle

James 2:1–10, 14–18

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it...

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Verse

Psalm 147:2–3

Alleluia. The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia.

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P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

“Hearing God” *a message in preaching and songs...*

I'm Listening

When You speak confusion fades
 Just a word and suddenly I'm not afraid
 'Cause You speak and freedom reigns
 There is hope in every single word You say

***CHORUS: I don't wanna miss one word You speak
 'Cause everything You say is life to me
 I don't wanna miss one word You speak
 Quiet my heart I'm listening***

When sorrows roll and troubles rage
 You whisper peace when I don't have the words to say
 I won't lose hope when storms won't break
 You keep Your word
 And Your promises will keep me safe ***CHORUS***

BRIDGE: Your ways are higher
 You know just what I need
 I trust You Jesus
 You see what I cannot see

His Strength Is Perfect

1. I can do all things through Christ
Who gives me strength
But sometimes I wonder
What He can do through me
No great success to show
No glory on my own
Yet in my weakness
He is there to let me know

2. We can only know
The power that He holds
When we truly see
How deep our weakness goes
His strength in us begins
When ours comes to an end
He hears our humble cry
And proves again

***His strength is perfect
When our strength is gone
He'll carry us
When we can't carry on
Raised in His power
The weak become strong
His strength is perfect
His strength is perfect***

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I Am Not Alone

1. When I walk through deep waters
I know that You will be with me
When I'm standing in the fire
I will not be overcome
Through the valley of the shadow
I will not fear

2. In the midst of deep sorrow
I see Your light is breaking through
The dark of night will not overtake me
I am pressing into You
Lord You fight my ev'ry battle
And I will not fear **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: I am not alone
I am not alone
You will go before me
You will never leave me**

**BRIDGE: You amaze me redeem me
You call me as Your own
You amaze me redeem me
You call me as Your own**

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3. You're my strength You're my defender
You're my refuge in the storm
Through these trials You've always been faithful
You bring healing to my soul **CHORUS**

Blessings

1. We pray for blessings
We pray for peace comfort for family
Protection while we sleep
We pray for healing for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand
To ease our suffering
And all the while You hear each spoken need
Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things

2. We pray for wisdom
Your voice to hear
We cry in anger when we cannot feel You near
We doubt Your goodness
We doubt Your love
As if ev'ry promise from Your Word is not enough
And all the while You hear each desp'rate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe

CHORUS: *'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near
And what if trials of this life
Are Your mercies in disguise*

BRIDGE: When friends betray us
When darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not this is not our home
It's not our home

***'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops
What if Your healing comes through tears
And what if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near
What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is a revealing of a greater thirst
This world can't satisfy
And what if trials of this life
The rain the storms the hardest nights
Are Your mercies in disguise***

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Laura Story
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Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

MEN – We pray for the Church, that God's people may live confidently and may joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

WOMEN – pray for the nations of the world, that the Gospel message may be spread in every land.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

MEN – We pray for our families and for those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship. Help us to never take them for granted, that we would instead encourage the labors in which we work together to the glory of God.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

WOMEN – We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized or shut in, those who are grieving, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill, and all those whose needs are not known to us. Grant that we may bring Your blessing to those in need in all places.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

P Merciful God, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those no longer with us on earth who now share in Your eternal presence. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to walk Your servant way throughout our lives until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.

C Amen.

**C 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.**

Offering – DURING THE OFFERING: Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Because He Lives

1. God sent His Son; they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove
My Savior lives

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and joy he gives
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain days
Because He lives **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives**

3. And then one day we'll cross that river
We'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to vict'ry
We'll see the lights of glory
And we'll know He reigns **CHORUS**

Benediction