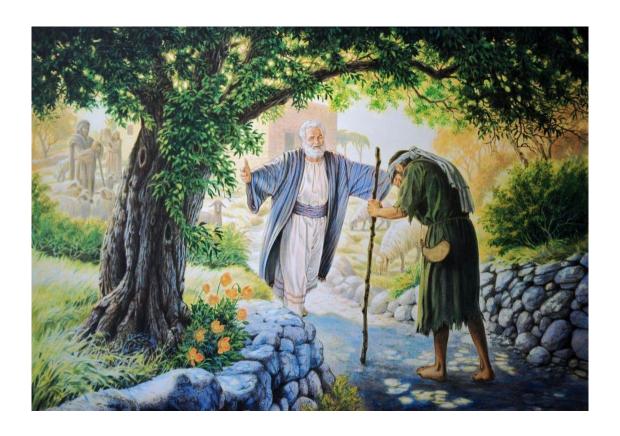


Risen Christ Lutheran Church Sunday Worship March 27, 2022 9:30am



Rev. Rennie Kaufmann – Pastor Eileen Young – Music Leader Karen Kaufmann – Administrator Miss Esther Kaufmann – Student Ministries Coordinator and Worship Arts Assistant

> Risen Christ Lutheran Church 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 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 takin g 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. 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 – No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every Sunday as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.

Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Today is the Lord's Day, a Sunday in Lent, but not part of it—a little Easter. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- in Jesus' name. Amen.
- P O Lord, open my lips,
- and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P Make haste, O God, to deliver me:

make haste to help me, O Lord.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Blessed Be Your Name

1. Blessed Be Your Name in the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name
Every blessing You pour out I'll
turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord still I will say Chorus

CHORUS: Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Beth Redman/Matt Redman CCLI Song # 3798438 © 2002 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI License # 140952 **2.** Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name
Every blessing You pour out I'll
turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord still I will say **CHORUS**

BRIDGE: You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name 2x's CHORUS

Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray.
 - Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning. Though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul.
- Fill us with such thanks, praise, and joy, that we may be Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation in all our daily relationships;
- P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

- L You will say in that day:
- I "I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though You were angry with me,
- Your anger turned away, that You might comfort me.
- I "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;
- ${
 m I\hspace{-.1em}I}$ for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation."
- L With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

- I "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,
- III make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.
- I "Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;
- III let this be made known in all the earth.
- I "Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
- III for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."
- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 32; antiphon: v.11

- **L** Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart! Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
- whose sin is covered.
- L Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
- and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
 my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
 I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!
- L Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found;
- surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.
- L You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- **B**e glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!
- L I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
- I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- L Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
- which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.
- Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
- but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

 Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of

reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

I'm forgiven
Because You were forsaken
I'm accepted
You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died
And rose again

CCLI Song # 2456623 Billy J. Foote © 1996 worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CHORUS: Amazing love
How can it be
That You my King
Would die for me
Amazing love
I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

BRIDGE: You are my King You are my King Jesus You are my King Jesus You are my King

Holy Gospel Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.
- In Jesus' parable, the father represents God; His words will be read by a lector. We are often like the other characters and shall all therefore read those parts.
- P Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying,
- This man receives sinners and eats with them.
- P So He told them this parable: . . .
 - "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father,
- 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.'
- P And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself, he said,

- "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'"
- P And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him,
- (Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."
- **P** But the father said to his servants,
- *Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found."
- P And they began to celebrate.

 Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him,
- "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound."
- P But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father,
- "Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!"
- P And he said to him,
- (Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found."
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to You, O Christ.

Knowing Our Prodigal Heavenly Father and Being Known By Him

- 1. The Prodigal Son really didn't know his Father...
 - he saw it more as a business transactional type relationship
 - repentance wasn't really repentance, but just working out a deal to pay back dad and try to get back into his Dad's favour.
- **2.** His Father never stopped missing and loving his foolish, rebellious son and kept looking for his son to return.
- **3.** The Father ran to his son... a scandalous thought back then... no shaming and I told-you-sos.
 - a. The son didn't really know his own Father as he was trying to offer up this business deal, while his Dad was just lovingly welcoming him...
 - b. His Father blows right past all his son's jibber jabber.

- **4.** The older brother didn't know his father that well, either!
 - He was angry at what he thought was the unfair treatment of his younger brother
 - He was surprised and upset at the mercy and grace his father showed
- **5.** This parable is so appropriate here in this setting with the grumbling, holier-than-thou Scribes and Pharisees.
 - They were oblivious... or maybe some just couldn't accept the fact that grace and mercy could be offered to the not-so-holy-lowly...
 - These holy, religious men did not know God, their Heavenly Father, either!
- **6.** As baptized Believers, we should know our Heavenly Father is not just loving, He IS love... He IS gracious and merciful.
 - Instead of getting what we deserve, He shows mercy.
 - In giving us what we don't deserve, He gives us grace.
- **7.** What the prodigal saw about his Dad and how he interpreted what he saw with his sindistorted reasoning made this foolish son come up with the <u>wrong conclusions about his</u> Dad.
- **8.** If we rely just on our sinful eyesight, and our sin-distorted reasoning that interprets the world, we can make all sorts of wrong conclusions about God, Our Heavenly Father.
- **9.** How deeds/works fit in this life and our faith? To understand that you need to go to the right source that tells you how they fit in.
 - **a.** Our flesh, the world, and the devil, and most religions in this world tell us that all our doing, or deeds can somehow pay for our sins and gain favour with God and earn Heaven... almost as if we can bargain with God. NOT!
 - **b.** As we think how we can bargain with God, we aren't really focused on repentance and recovering God's righteousness and favour in our lives.
- **10.** (A different aspect of Point #8) If we were left to just what we see and hear in life and rely only on our own reasoning to interpret the world and reality ("General/Natural Knowledge"), we would not know God, we would not even be able to know God.
 - Thank God, though, He has revealed His blessings and plans to us through His Word! (The Bible/"Special Revelation"/"Revealed Knowledge")
 - The Holy Spirit accompanies and works through the Word of God, and your eyes and ears, your heart and mind are opened to see, grasp, and trust these incredible, blessed realities.
- **11.** Prodigal also means not withholding anything, lavish, extravagant, sparing no cost... thus, Our Prodigal God and His free gifts of grace and mercy!

Confession and Absolution

P Let us make confession to our heavenly Father.

- P "I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,'
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin."
- P With God's people when Isaiah's prophecy would be fulfilled, we "give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name."
- But we confess that when we are drained in our broken relationships, we do not always remember that God is the source of every blessing, nor do we remember that He is always ready to listen when we call out to Him.
- P With David, we rejoice that "against [us] the Lord counts no iniquity."
- But we confess that we do not always admit all our transgressions to the Lord, groaning instead all day long.
- P With Paul, we rejoice that Christ "gave us the ministry of reconciliation."
- But we confess that we do not always regard one another as His new creations, failing to be reconciled to one another or to God.
- With the prodigal son in Jesus' parable, we have felt our heavenly Father's forgiving embrace, welcoming us home.
- But we confess that at times we are more like the elder brother, feeling sorry for ourselves and seeking tangible blessings for serving our Lord through the years.
- The Pharisees were correct, saying that Jesus "receives sinners and eats with them." Let us therefore confidently go to God, asking His forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

Silence for reflection on the Word of God and for self-examination.

- P Almighty God, heavenly Father,
- we confess that we are by nature sinful. We have failed to love You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have considered ourselves better than others; we have expected You to bless us in all things. For the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son and our Lord, forgive us, and by the power of Your Holy Spirit cleanse our hearts and minds that we might walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Christ Jesus, true man and true God, was obedient to His Father in all things and in our place. By His death, He destroyed death, and by His rising opened eternal life to all who call on Him for forgiveness. Our heavenly Father is therefore ready to welcome us to our heavenly home at the end of our pilgrimage on earth. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit. May God strengthen you in your Lenten journey toward the joys of Easter.
- Amen. The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs. Let us pray for all who, like the people of Isaiah's day, languish under fear and oppression.
- <u>MEN –</u> Reconciling Lord, use police and military people and resources, political powers and courageous leaders, to restore liberty and freedom to all who are displaced or denied justice. Renew in them faith in Your promises and a realization that You are in their midst even in difficult days.
- Let us pray for all who, like David in his earlier days, deny their transgressions, defend their iniquities, and groan in their misery.
- <u>WOMEN -</u> Reconciling Lord, by Your Word of Law and Gospel bring them to true contrition and repentance. Be a hiding place for them, and surround them with Your love. Grant that we may act as Your embracing arms.
- Let us pray for clergy and lay leaders around the world, who, like Paul, are Christ's ambassadors through whom God is making His appeal.
- <u>MEN –</u> Reconciling Lord, strengthen and protect Your Church around the world, all who bring the good news of salvation to the people they meet. Guide us as we carry the ministry of reconciliation in our various relationships. Help us encourage one another on behalf of Christ to be reconciled to You each day.
- Let us pray for all who reflect the family members in Jesus' parable: those who find themselves destitute, those harboring resentment, and those offering compassionate care.
- <u>WOMEN –</u> Reconciling Lord, where generations are at odds, bring understanding. Where families are fractured, bring healing. Where people are forgotten, unseen, and marginalized, bring dignity and new hope. Use us gathered here—as well as emergency personnel, health-care workers, mental health consultants, and social agencies of all sorts—to care for their needs of body, mind, and spirit.
- Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who taught 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.

Lift Up Your Hearts

P The Lord be with youP The Lord be with youC And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

All Sing
We lift them to the Lord
Let us give thanks
To the Lord our God
It is right to give Him
Thanks and praise

CCLI Song # 3433609

Steve Hindlalong Terry Scott Taylor

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, and how marvelous is all You have done for Your people in Jesus Christ, our Lord. We thank You for all of creation and for every good gift with which You bless us. Receive our praise, Lord, and grant that all who partake of Christ's holy body and blood this day be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy. Sanctify us in body, soul, and spirit, and finally grant us our place among Your saints in glory. We ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

Words of Our Lord

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Peace of the Lord

- ightharpoonup The peace of the ightharpoonup Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Communion

Children of the Heavenly Father

- Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
 Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.
- **2.** God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish, From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.

- **3.** Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever; Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- **4.** Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh; His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

Just as I Am, without One Plea

- **1.** Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God. I come. I come.
- **2.** Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
 To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
 O Lamb of God. I come. I come.
 - **3.** Just as I am, though tossed about With many_a conflict, many_a doubt, Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- **4.** Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- **5.** Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God. I come. I come.
 - **6.** Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Closing Prayer

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.**

How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

CHORUS: Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

2. And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin **CHORUS**

3. When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art CHORUS

CCLI Song # 14181

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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Benediction and Dismissal

Psalm 32:7, adapt.

- P God is a hiding place for us; He preserves us from trouble.
- He surrounds us with shouts of deliverance.
- P The Lord bless you and keep you in His welcoming embrace. The Lord make His face shine on you in His reconciling grace. The Lord look upon you as His new creation and → give you peace.
- C Amen.
- **P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

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