



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
14th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
September 3, 2023 9:30am

**YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY.
PLEASE SIT QUIETLY AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



***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 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 Non-Alcoholic Wine 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

“Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart” (Jeremiah 15:16). The prophet Jeremiah did not praise God with such words because his life was super easy. No, Jeremiah rejoiced in the Lord even as his life had plenty of problems. Why such delight in difficulty? Surrounded by evil in this world, like Jeremiah, we cling to the God who is good, learning to trust His Word as the means by which we receive His deliverance from our enemies of sin and death. The living, active, delightful voice of our Savior guarantees His ongoing presence in our life. Because of this, we rejoice! As we gather in the presence of Jesus this day, let us echo Jeremiah’s anthem of praise: “Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart!”

Pre-service and Post-service Music by *Wenzel Schwarz*

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

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

G Amen.

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer
Hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

3. O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy grace Lord like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Confession and Absolution

Jeremiah 15:20b

P Since we are gathered to delight ourselves in the Word of God and to assemble as one family around His Table, let us with repentant hearts confess our sins before our heavenly Father, seeking His forgiveness in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

(We pause for a moment of silent prayer and confession.)

P O Lord our God, hear us as we pray:

C **We confess that we have not walked in Your faithfulness, turning away from You when we should be turning toward You.**

P Father, forgive us.

C **Our love has not been genuine. We have not overcome evil with good.**

P Have mercy upon us, Lord Jesus.

C **The grace You tell us to share with both our friends and our enemies is the mercy we also need.**

P Renew us, Spirit of truth.

C **Remove our transgressions from us so that we may live as those who have been called by Your name, delighting in Your goodness to us in Christ. Amen.**

P "I am with you to save you and deliver you," declares the Lord. Through Jesus Christ—crucified, risen, and coming again—you have been delivered from your enemies of sin, death, and the devil. Keep His saving, steadfast love before your eyes and walk by faith in His promises. As one called to be your pastor and commissioned by Jesus to deliver the delight of His Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Your Love O Lord

Your love O Lord
Reaches to the heavens
Your faithfulness
Stretches to the sky
Your righteousness
Is like the mighty mountains
Your justice flows
Like the ocean's tide

***CHORUS: I will lift my voice
To worship You my King
I will find my strength
In the shadow of Your wings***

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Introit

Psalm 37:5–7; antiphon: v. 4

- P** Delight yourself in the LORD,
C and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- P** Commit your way to the LORD;
C trust in Him, and He will act.
- P** He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
C and your justice as the noonday.
- P** Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him;
C fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!
**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.**
- L** Delight yourself in the LORD,
C and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption.
C Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads.
- P** Delighting in Your goodness to us, we ask for this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

- ¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice;
 I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation.
¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
 Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail?
¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me.
 If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth.
 They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them.
²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
 they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,
 for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD.
²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

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

Psalm

Psalm 26; antiphon: v. 8

L O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house
C **and the place where Your glory dwells.**

L Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
C **Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.**

L For Your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in Your faithfulness.
C **I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.**

L I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.
C **I wash my hands in innocence and go around Your altar, O LORD,**
L proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all Your wondrous deeds.
C **O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

L Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
C **in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

L But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
C **My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.**

L O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house
C **and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

L Fear the LORD, you His saints, **C** **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**

L Many are the afflictions of the righteous, **C** **but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

Epistle

Romans 12:9–21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Take My Life and Let It Be



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
 It shall be no longer mine;
 Take my heart, it is Thine own,
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
 At Thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for Thee.

Apostles' Creed

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life \dagger everlasting. Amen.

Verse

Matthew 16:25

P Alleluia. Whoever would save his life will lose it,
G but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter. **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon "No Cross → No Christ. Know Christ → Know the Cross."

Lead Me to The Cross

Saviour I come quiet my soul
Remember redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom
Ev'rything I once held dear
I count it all as loss

***CHORUS: Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh lead me lead me to the cross***

You were as I tempted and tried human
The word became flesh
Bore my sin and death
Now You're risen ***CHORUS***

Bridge

To Your heart
To Your heart
Lead me to Your heart
Lead me to Your heart ***CHORUS***

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Brooke Ligertwood
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Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – 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.

Prayer of the Church

P Remember the call of God through Paul in Romans 12:12:

C "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

P Rejoicing in God's promise to hear our prayers, we delight ourselves in Him, even in the difficulties of life. Together let us give voice to our constant prayers.

Heavenly Father, You alone have the power to redeem Your enemies and make them friends. In the mercy of Jesus, who has claimed us as His own, enable us to show love to our enemies, heaping Your grace upon them. As You have loved us even though we never deserve it, help us to do the same to others in our lives. In Your love, O Lord, **C** **help us to love as You have first loved us.**

MEN – Lord Jesus, our hearts delight in Your goodness despite the evil of this fallen world. You entered into our midst because of Your mission to seek and save the lost. We join with You in this mission, Lord, commissioned by Your Gospel to make known among the nations what You have done. Restore us, renew us, and lead us! We delight in the new life You have given to all who trust in You. In Your joy, O Lord, **G help us to rejoice in all things.**

WOMEN – Spirit of truth, You resuscitate what is dead, mend what is broken, and overcome what is evil with the goodness found only in You. Turn us again and again to Your mercy that we, having received it from You, may then extend it to others. Work mightily through each of us in our vocations at church, home, work, and society. Fill the hearts and minds of all who need Your wisdom and discernment, equipping them for the challenges they face. Through it all, instill in us Your peace to guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. In Your peace, O Lord, **G help us to be peacemakers.**

P Be near to those who are broken in heart, body, and mind. Comfort the lonely and renew the spirit of those who despair. Clothe the naked and shelter the homeless. Let those who walk through the desert of difficulty discover the oasis of Your living water. Hear the prayers we offer for those in our family of faith who need Your healing mercies, [*including . . .*]. Your caring love for us is genuine and eternal. In Your care, O Lord, **G help us to care for others.**

P To You, gracious Father, be all the glory, honor, and praise, in Christ Jesus and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **G Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**G 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.**

Closing Sentences

Based on Romans 12:9–21

- P** Let your love be genuine. Turn from what is evil and hold fast to what is good.
- G Let us see one another as brothers and sisters in Christ!**
- P** Delight yourself in the Lord even when life is difficult. Hold fast to Jesus. Rejoice in Him!
- G Let us overcome evil with good as we go forth in Jesus' name.**

Your Name

As morning dawns and evening fades
You inspire songs of praise
That rise from earth to touch Your heart
And glorify Your Name

Jesus in Your Name we pray
Come and fill our hearts today
Lord give us strength to live for You
And glorify Your Name

**CHORUS: Your Name is a strong and mighty tower
Your Name is a shelter like no other
Your Name let the nations sing it louder
'Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your Name**

Benediction