



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
20th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
October 15, 2023 9:30am

**YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER,
PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, READ THROUGH YOUR WORSHIP
FOLDER, AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast...”

**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 – “Black tie optional.” “Jacket and tie required.” “No shirt, no shoes, no service.” There are certain standards of dress for different times and places. When formal attire is required, perhaps we wonder if the garments we have in our wardrobe are good enough. But we need not worry when it comes to what to wear at the wedding feast described in today’s Gospel lesson. When our heavenly Father invites us to the wedding feast at which His Son is the Bridegroom, He supplies us with the perfect attire: the righteousness of Jesus given at our Baptism.

Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.

Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace;

Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die. *Lutheran Service Book Hymn #761*

Clothed in Christ, you are ready for the feast!

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – “Build My Life”

1. Worthy of ev’ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev’ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You **CHORUS**

2. Jesus the name above ev’ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev’ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You **CHORUS**

***CHORUS: Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me***

BRIDGE: I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone ... And I will not be shaken

Invocation and Opening Verses *Isaiah 61:10; antiphon: Psalm 146:2*

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

C Amen.

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

Men: *I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God,*

Women: *for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,*

Men: *as a bridegroom decks Himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,*

Women: *and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

**All: 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.**

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

In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

3. There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine -
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

2. In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Confession and Absolution

MEN – Lord God, in Your Word, You instruct us, saying, “Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (*Philippians 4:8*).

WOMEN – However, our thoughts and actions are often far from pure and soiled with sin. We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean from birth and in need of Your forgiveness.

P Thus, we take refuge in Your mercy, seeking Your grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” (*Philippians 4:4*)

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.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord God, gracious host, in Baptism, You clothe us with the robe of Christ’s righteousness that covers all our sin. Grant that we remain firm in the faith anticipating the day we enjoy the eternal banquet that You have prepared for all who believe in Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6–9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,

and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,

“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

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

Psalms 23

L You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

I *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

II *He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.*

I *He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.*

- II *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*
- I *You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*
- II *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–13

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

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

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Oh soul are you weary and troubled?
 No light in the darkness to see
 There's a light for a look at the Savior
 And life more abundant and free **CHORUS**

His words shall not fail you, He promised
 Believe Him and all will be well
 Then go to a world that is dying
 His perfect salvation to tell **CHORUS**

CHORUS: Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Verse Revelation 22:17

- P Alleluia. C **Alleluia.**
- P The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." Let the one who hears say, "Come." Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. Alleluia.
- C **Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:1–14

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
- C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

- Ⓟ And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying,
- Ⓛ *‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’*
- Ⓟ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants,
- Ⓛ *‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’*
- Ⓟ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.
“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him,
- Ⓛ *‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’*
- Ⓟ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants,
- Ⓛ *‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”*
- Ⓟ This is the Gospel of the Lord. **☩ Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon – “The Parable of the Marriage Feast”

This I Believe

1. Our Father everlasting
The all creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Savior

2. Our judge and our defender
Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high **CHORUS**

CHORUS: I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in One
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

BRIDGE (2x): I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

I believe in life eternal
I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the saints' communion
And in Your holy Church
I believe in the resurrection
When Jesus comes again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus **CHORUS**

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 Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are bold to come to our Lord in prayer at His invitation. “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (*Philippians 4:6*).

Lord, our Shepherd, we thank You for Your promise to be with us, even though we may walk through the valley of the shadow of death. Grant us peace in knowing that You never leave nor forsake us.
With thanksgiving,

C we let our request be made known to You.

MEN – Lord, our Shepherd, You prepare a table before us in the presence of our enemies, and so we pray for our enemies. Where our enemy is wrong, work repentance, and grant that we may be of one mind and heart. With thanksgiving,

C we let our request be made known to You.

WOMEN – Lord, our Shepherd, we pray that You would raise up individuals to proclaim Christ—the one who is the Good Shepherd. Provide pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers to faithfully share Your Word with Your people, that faith would be created and faith strengthened by the power of Your Spirit. With thanksgiving,

C we let our request be made known to You.

MEN – Lord, our Shepherd, In Your wisdom, You have given different vocations to Your people. Grant us the gifts with which to faithfully and joyfully fulfill the callings You have given us. In living out our vocations, may we be a witness to the world and a blessing to our neighbor. With thanksgiving,

C we let our request be made known to You.

WOMEN – Lord, our Shepherd, we ask that You would be merciful to those who are suffering. Where there is physical or mental illness, we ask that You would grant healing and restoration according to Your gracious will. Grant to them Your peace which surpasses all understanding. With thanksgiving,

C we let our request be made known to You. 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.

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

***CHORUS: Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope***

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa ***CHORUS***

ENDING: Jesus Christ my living hope... Oh God You are my living hope

CCU Song # 7106807

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Benediction

P Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
C and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (*Psalms 23:6*)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

C Amen.

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