



Risen Christ Lutheran Church

6th Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2024 9:30am

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

*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies
never come to an end; they are new every morning; great
is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my
soul, "therefore I will hope in him."*

Lamentations 3:22–24 (ESV)



*Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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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. 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 – The Lord’s mercies are endless and are renewed toward His people every morning. The sure and unchanging love of God never stops. How great is God’s faithfulness! This divine generosity is exemplified in the person of Jesus as He goes with Jairus to visit and heal his sick little girl. Along the way a woman who had been infirm for twelve years touched the Lord’s garment; power went out of Him and healed her! God in Christ is so gracious that healing generosity brushes off Him as He walks through the crowd. His healing generosity and steadfast love are present and poured out among His gathered people still today through His Word and Sacrament. So filled by God, we are empowered to live generous lives toward others.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Lamentations 3:22–24

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

C Amen.

In the Secret

In the secret, in the quiet place,
In the stillness You are there;
In the secret, in the quiet hour
I wait, only for You,
Cause I want to know You more.

***CHORUS: I want to know You, I want to hear Your voice,
I want to know You more.
I want to touch You, I want to see Your face,
I want to know You more.***

I am reaching, for the highest goal,
That I might receive the prize.
Pressing onward, pushing every hindrance aside,
Out of my way, cause I want to know You more. ***CHORUS:***

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- P** The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
- C** **His mercies never come to an end;**
- P** they are new every morning;
- C** **great is Your faithfulness.**
- P** "The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
- C** **"therefore I will hope in Him."**

The Steadfast Love

The steadfast love
Of the Lord never ceases
His mercies never come to an end
They are new every morning
New every morning
Great is Thy faithfulness O Lord
Great is Thy faithfulness

Confession and Absolution

- P** Generous God, loving Lord,
- C** **We, Your wayward children, confess that we are naturally selfish, greedy, and lustful. Thinking first of ourselves, we neglect to love and serve others, and we actively harm them by our self-centered choices. You promise in Your Word that You love sinners. So forgive us for Jesus' sake, we pray. Fill us with Your generous Spirit that Your love for us would overflow into the lives of others.**
- P** Beloved in Christ, the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, and His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning, and great is His faithfulness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Lamentations 3:22–33

- ²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
²⁴“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”
²⁵The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.
²⁶It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.
²⁷It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.
²⁸Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him;
²⁹let him put his mouth in the dust— there may yet be hope;
³⁰let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults.
³¹For the Lord will not cast off forever,
³²but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
³³for he does not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36

L Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C **How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**

L For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C **To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

Epistle

2 Corinthians 8:1–9, 13–15

¹We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ⁶Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.

⁸I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine.

⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich...¹³I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness ¹⁴your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. ¹⁵As it is written, “Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Lamentations 3:25

Alleluia. The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. Alleluia.

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

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

²¹ When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea.

²² Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet ²³ and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴ And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. ²⁵ And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." ²⁹ And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

³⁵ While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" ³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." ³⁷ And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. ³⁸ They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." ⁴⁰ And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³ And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

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

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***

Sermon – “Believers’ Lives of Hope are Guided by God’s Faithfulness”

based on Lamentations 3:22–33

1. The Book of Lamentations is born out of lament that came out of all Israel’s suffering – suffering they brought upon themselves – as they suffered God’s judgment. Yet, hope emerges and is expressed in the midst of turmoil and suffering.
2. Hope that the world gives is a shadow that can’t last.
 - Hope isn’t earned.
 - We can’t generate hope or build it for ourselves.
 - Hope can’t be won or taken.
 - Hope is a gift that comes with grace from our Great and Faithful God.
 - Hope that the world gives is just wishful thinking.
 - Christian Hope is rooted in the historical fact of God in Flesh, Jesus... His life, death, and resurrection.
3. Believers’ lives of hope are guided by God’s faithfulness.
 - a. The prophet who was speaking TO God, ends up speaking ABOUT God.
 - b. But in the midst of the grief, pain, and suffering, this prophet begins to remember God and God’s faithfulness... God’s mercies and steadfast love. He had known these truths and words by heart. He’d spoken these words before from Scripture.
 - c. “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.” (Exodus 34:6) God does not renege on His promises and love.
4. It is typical for us sinful humans to view God through the distorted lens of our life experiences, and many sadly use those experiences as that distorted lens to measure God’s love. This is but one colossal reason to know God through His Word, and especially make sure the ones whom you love know Him and His Word, too, placing that at the top of all priorities in life!
5. Lamentations really is a call not only for Israel, but for all believers to return to God.
 - So instead of viewing God from “the inside out” – in other words, trying to understand God according to the circumstances and happenings of our lives and our own understanding, our encounter with God is from “the outside in”, an encounter that reveals to us our God of enduring love and unfailing promises.
 - You must learn His words of promise!
 - “For the Lord will not cast off forever, but, though he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love.” You can rely on Him now!
6. In Jesus’ life, death on a cross, an instrument of immense torture, and His resurrection we see God’s revealed, perfect, unconditional love for all time.
 - This amazing love was shown as Christ took on the judgement of sin that was ours... a powerful love that depopulates hell as He promises eternal life to those who repent and believe.

- Hope is ultimately empty and pointless if it is not founded upon and connected to the cross of the Resurrected Christ!
- 7. We will have suffering in this temporary world, yet we still have hope because Jesus is with us and for us!
- 8. The prophet remembers God's faithfulness and now speaks TO God of the hope he has because of God's faithfulness, which guides his life.
 - To live in hope doesn't mean suffering will be removed.
 - But now, when he recalls his suffering, he recalls with hope, too!
- 9. Believers don't get the spoils of the battle ("portion" of the bounty was what soldiers got after winning battles).
 - They get the One who wins the battles for them! Thus, the prophet's exclamation, the "Lord is my portion." He is the portion for all His children.
 - When the Lord is your portion, you can live in hope!
- 10. Lamentations 3:25-27 - God is good, so life is good!
- 11. "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world". (Jn 16:33).
- 12. Believers' lives of hope are guided by God's faithfulness.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
 Thou changest not,
 Thy compassions, they fail not
 As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
 Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

CHORUS: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Apostles' Creed

- ☩ 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 ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

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

- ☩** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need.

Generous God, You have forgiven our sins for Christ's sake and have poured Your love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit You have given us. Grant that we may widen our own hearts that the generosity You have shared with us may overflow from our lives into the lives of people around us who are in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

P Loving Lord, You healed many who were sick and restored them to life before You. Today, we pray for all who have requested our prayers. Sustain them by Your love during their affliction, and according to Your gracious will, heal them whether here or in Your nearer presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Generous God, You have provided peaceful order for our lives through the civil servants You have placed in positions of authority in our land. Grant that they may serve the good of the people and seek in all things to do Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

P Loving Lord, grant us repentant hearts, a sincere faith, and abundant joy as we depart from here having heard your life giving, transforming words. Help give us opportunities to be able to share our saving faith with others this week. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who taught us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, 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.**

How Great Is Our God

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in Light and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice, trembles at His voice

***CHORUS: How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God***

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One, Father Spirit Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb ***CHORUS***

***BRIDGE: Name above all names, worthy of our praise
My heart will sing how great is our God ***CHORUS******

Chris Tomlin/Ed Cash/Jesse Reeves CCLI Song # 4348399
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Benediction

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