



# Risen Christ Lutheran Church

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 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.**



*Risen Christ Lutheran Church*  
46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170  
734.453.5252 [www.risenchrist.info](http://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](http://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.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Invocation and Opening Sentences**

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

**G** Amen.

### **“King of Kings”**

1. In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

**CHORUS: Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings**

2. To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died **CHORUS**

3. And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored

4. And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me **CHORUS**

CCLI Song # 7127647

Brooke Ligertwood | Jason Ingram | Scott Ligertwood

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- P** The Lord is our righteous Shepherd.
- C** **He does not scatter us, but gathers us together.**
- P** He makes us lie down in green pastures
- C** **and feeds us with the bread of life.**
- P** He leads us in paths of righteousness
- C** **by breaking down our dividing walls of hostility.**

## Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

## Confession and Absolution Ephesians 2:12–13, alt.

- P** Remember that you were once separated from Christ, having no hope and without God in the world.  
**C** **But now in Christ Jesus we who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace.**

*Silence for reflection.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You have commanded us to confess our sins and yet have promised Your forgiveness. We therefore confess our sins, even those we are not aware of, those we have done and all that we have failed to do. By Your divine command, grant us Your forgiveness for the sake of the blood of our crucified and risen Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, for You have commanded Your called ministers of Christ to absolve those who repent of their sins. Therefore, upon this, your confession, 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## Introit Psalm 147:7–11; antiphon: Psalm 145:16

You open your hand;

**you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;

**make melody to our God on the lyre!**

He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth;

**he makes grass grow on the hills.**

He gives to the beasts their food,

**and to the young ravens that cry.**

His delight is not in the strength of the horse,

**nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,**

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,

**in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

**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.**

You open your hand;

**you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 23:1–6

<sup>1</sup>“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

<sup>5</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>**He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**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.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>**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 Ephesians 2:11–22

<sup>11</sup>Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse Psalm 78:25

**Alleluia. Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance. Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel Mark 6:30–44

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

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

<sup>30</sup>The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup>And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. <sup>36</sup>Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." <sup>37</sup>But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." <sup>39</sup>Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup>So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. <sup>41</sup>And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup>And they all ate and were satisfied. <sup>43</sup>And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup>And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **This I Believe (The Creed)**

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

#### ***CHORUS 1: 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***

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 1***

**BRIDGE:** 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***

***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***

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## **SERMON – “Jesus Destroyed Unhealthy Walls – In Him We Unite”**

Theme: Walls – Some walls can be good and necessary (physically and figuratively). Some Christians have unhealthy walls, even in church. Jesus is able to tear down unhealthy walls that separate. Christians should detest unhealthy walls, for in Christ, He builds us into a temple.

1. “Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility.”
  - In other words, sin was a “wall of hostility” between man and God which was impossible for man to surmount.
  - That ultimate wall was torn down by Jesus on the cross.
  - Although the ultimate wall is torn down by Jesus, sinful unrepentance, and lack of trust in Him keeps a “man-made wall of hostility” up... even in the church!
2. Man-made “walls of hostility” then and now.
  - a. Then – a wall of hostility put up by Christian Jews who told Gentiles that in order to become Christian non-Jews had to convert to be a Jew first (a false teaching). New non-Jewish Christians were treated like 2<sup>nd</sup> class Christians.



- b. Now – cliques in churches can make people feel a wall is up. People who serve, who don't reach out to others to come alongside them can come across as territorial, making people feel a wall is up! WHEREVER THIS IS GOING ON, THIS NEEDS TO STOP!
- 3. Although these things happen, Believers have never been excluded from citizenship in God's Kingdom, i.e. they've never been considered "strangers to the covenants of promise."
  - a. The old wall included Jewish traditions, beliefs, and laws that kept them separated for a time until the Messiah came.
  - b. When Messiah came, His purpose for God's Chosen People was fulfilled – done. The temple (which pointed to Jesus) fulfilled its purpose – no more sacrifices needed. The Holy Spirit is available to all Believers. Look at Ephesians 2:15-20
  - c. Jesus made two groups into one group – the Human Temple. We do not believe in "Replacement Theology." This is Fulfilled/Completed Theology – The Abrahamic Covenant and everything that the Temple pointed to has been fulfilled by Jesus the Messiah.
- 4. Today within the church people still are prone to building unhealthy walls. Sin does this. Friends, unity is not based on common fears. Unity is not based on people who look like us. Unity should not be based on the same old members serving. Unity is not based on congregational voters' meetings. These types of things build walls where they shouldn't be. No. Peace, unity, harmony, and security is not found in building or maintaining walls based on these things. In Jesus is our peace and unity. We don't need a vote for that. He is the cornerstone, His apostles, prophets and our confession of faith is the foundation – not for a wall, but for the temple we believers are all to be! We need to get love right, right here, so we can give it out there!
- 5. Friends, unity is not based on common fears. Unity is not based on people who look like us. Unity should not be based on the same old members serving who chose not to reach out to others to come alongside them. Unity is not based on congregational voters' meetings. These types of things build walls where they shouldn't be. No. Peace, unity, harmony, and security is not found in building or maintaining walls based on these things. In Jesus is our peace and unity. We don't need a vote for that. He is the cornerstone, His apostles, prophets and our confession of faith is the foundation – not for a wall, but for the temple we believers are all to be! We need to get love right, right here, so we can give it out there!
- 6. Humility and repentance is at the core of keeping the walls down that Jesus has torn down and does not want up. Jesus is the answer to all these issues. We need to turn to Him, repent, and receive forgiveness and healing, because in Him we find renewal, our unity and the solutions for our problems.

7. St. Paul urges believer to be "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." He's not saying to eliminate differences between people – Equality does not mean "same-ness." Differences can be celebrated... different cultures, skin colours, social and economic status, strengths, being male or female, etc. Paul isn't saying just try to be better at getting along with each other. We are to subject all differences to God's Word... ultimately to Jesus... because if certain differences really don't matter to Jesus, why should they matter to us believers!
8. Believing = Be Living In. Belief isn't a passive thing that happens in the mind. The Holy Spirit empowers us to blow past walls that create fake and unhealthy division and enables us to believe and live out our beliefs.

**Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at [www.RisenChrist.info](http://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** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For all families and family relationships, especially those that are strained by division, that God would break down the dividing walls of hostility and reconcile people to one another, let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**MEN** – For the nations of the world, that there be peace among all people, let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**WOMEN** – For all immigrants and refugees, that they be welcomed to their new homes and not treated with hatred and hostility, let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**MEN** – For all pastors who shepherd their congregations, that they not scatter their flock, but serve faithfully under our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**WOMEN** – For those who mourn the death of loved ones, that they find hope in the resurrection and return of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**G** **Lord, have mercy.**

**MEN** – For those who celebrate special occasions and answered prayers, that their joy be a witness to the goodness of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**WOMEN** – For those who are sick and recovering, that they rely on the peace of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your promises.

**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.**

### **The Blessing**

The Lord bless you  
And keep you  
Make his face shine upon you  
And be gracious to you  
The Lord turn his  
Face toward you  
And give you peace

### **CHORUS**

**Amen**

**Amen**

**Amen**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Bridge**

May his favor  
Be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
And your family  
And your children  
And their children  
And their children

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Bridge**

May his presence  
Go before you  
And behind you  
And beside you  
All around you  
And within you  
He is with you  
He is with you

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Bridge**

In the morning  
In the evening  
In your coming  
And your going  
In your weeping  
And rejoicing  
He is for you  
He is for you

### **Tag**

He is for you  
He is for you

### **CHORUS**

**Amen**

**Amen**

**Amen**

Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

CCLI Song #7147007

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## **Benediction**

**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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**G** **Amen.**

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