



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
6th Sunday in Epiphany
February 16, 2025

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTURARY, 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**

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted 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 and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the 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 through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and 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 Word of God provides us with great promises as well as warnings. The greatest blessing is saving faith in our hearts—faith in Jesus. But as we live by faith in this sinful world, we need to be warned against being concerned only with the things of this world. So we focus on Jesus and His main goal, that by His suffering, death, and resurrection we receive forgiveness of our sins and live in the hope of our resurrection to eternal life. Our Lord’s words of blessings and warnings of woes seek to guide us to that heavenly goal.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Psalm 1:1a, 2; Jeremiah 17:7

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

G Amen.

P Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

G but his delight is in the law of the Lord.

P Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,

G whose trust is the Lord.

Confession and Absolution

P Brothers and sisters, as we gather to hear the words and teaching of our Lord today, let us prepare by confessing our need to hear Him.

C Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess the sins of our minds, our speech, our actions, and even our inactions. We beg Your mercy and forgiveness. We ask for Your grace to fill us with faith in Your Son, our Lord, to lead and guide us through all our days that we rejoice in the new, eternal life He has won for us by His cross and resurrection. Amen.

P In His mercy, God has given His Son to die for you and to give you the forgiveness of all your sins. Upon this your confession, 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** 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

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***

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Introit

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

Blessèd are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!

Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart.

You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.

Oh that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!

**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.**

Ps. 119:1–2, 4–5; antiphon: Ps. 119:7

I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.

Father in heaven, by Your mighty Word grant to us every spiritual blessing in Christ, Your Son, that He guide us through our days, keeping us safe from everything that would distract us from His constant guiding and care; 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

Jeremiah 17:5–8

⁵Thus says the LORD:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come.
He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

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

Psalm 1

**C Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

I but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.

II He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

C The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

I Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

II for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:1–20

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of

God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

Jesus Draw Me Close

Jesus draw me close
Closer Lord to You
Let the world around me fade away
Jesus draw me close
Closer Lord to You
For I desire to worship and obey

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The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed (On Sanctification)

G **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.**

P *What does this mean?*

G **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

Verse

Luke 6:23a

Alleluia. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:17–26

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

¹⁷And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²²"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

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

The Two Paths – One Leads to Blessing and Life. One Leads to Woe and Death.

1. Leading a spiritually deceptive life has both consequences here in this life and will carry on into eternity!
2. The Beatitudes that Jesus taught do not teach what so many people think they teach!
3. Jesus is teaching about becoming poor SPIRITUALLY – our spiritual portfolios.
4. Those who are spiritually hungry and poor
 - Those who are spiritually persecuted and mourning and how they really, honestly stand before God
 - These people see and acknowledge their spiritual poverty and related issues that have to do with the fact that there is nothing they can do and there is nothing they have of any value that can bring salvation.
 - These people hunger and thirst for Him
 - These Believers humbly weep over their sins as they understand the curse sin has brought us.
 - It is God, The Holy Spirit who has brought them to this point where they can actually be spiritually honest. What do YOU hunger for??
5. Our Almighty, Triune God desires to give exactly what is lacking in those who humbly respond in spiritual honesty!
6. Those who desire and live in spiritual honesty have the greatest gratification in and through God's Work and Sacraments here and now in this life and eternally in Heaven!
7. The world looks for so many other spiritual paths that ultimately lead to emptiness and life without the One True and Only, Triune God.
8. Jesus teaches and urges His followers to rejoice and leap for joy in the midst of persecution and hate:
 - the everyday struggles and hassles of life that are just part of this fallen world are not what Jesus talked about here. These are all resulting from sin.
 - We Believers have targets on us because of our faith.
 - Jesus teaches that anything bad that comes at us as a result of our faith and trust in Him.

9. The Believer's eternal reward after the struggles of this temporary life is bigger and more awesome than we can imagine. There is a promise that when persecution comes because of our faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit enables us to endure it, and even triumph over it.
10. Deceivers sometimes will think and teach that **they** somehow serve God. They believe that they and others are rich in what they have done and rely on their own good works and false beliefs for salvation – which will never be.
11. The end result of those following the deceptive path is eternally sad and tragic, because what they will have this side of eternity is tragically all they'll ever really have. There is no eternal value.
12. The path of blessing depends only on Jesus. Jesus Himself fulfilled ALL of the Beatitudes FOR US.

Lord I Need You

1. Lord I come I confess
 Bowing here I find my rest
 And without You I fall apart
 You're the one that guides my heart

***CHORUS 1: Lord I need You oh I need You
 Ev'ry hour I need You
 My one defense my righteousness
 Oh God how I need You***

2. Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
 Where grace is found is where You are
 And where You are Lord I am free
 Holiness is Christ in me
 Where You are Lord I am free
 Holiness is Christ in me

BRIDGE: So teach my song to rise to You
 When temptation comes my way
 And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
 Jesus You're my hope and stay
 And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
 Jesus You're my hope and stay

***CHORUS 2: Lord I need You oh I need You
 Ev'ry hour I need You
 My one defense my righteousness
 Oh God how I need You
 My one defense my righteousness
 Oh God how I need You***

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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 Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Thanks and praise to You, almighty God, for all the blessings of Your good creation, and especially the blessings of Your mercy and grace by which we know Your promise of forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Keep us, we pray, in the one true faith, and grant true unity of faith in Your whole Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Bless the preaching of Your Word and the administration of Your Sacraments that many come in repentance and faith to receive Your blessings and be delivered from sin and unbelief. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Grant peace and unity in our nation and around the world that Your Word have free course calling all people to the blessing of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – By Your blessing, strengthen and enable all who labor, especially those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and keep in safety all who travel. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, for the sick, for the dying and those who care for them, surround them with Your blessing of health and healing. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Blessed are those who die in the Lord and rest from their labors. Keep us in unity with all who have gone before us with the sign of faith. 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, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.**

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

CHORUS: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

2. You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

CHORUS

3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

CHORUS

ENDING: Jesus, I'll worship Your holy name
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Jesus, I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

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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 ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

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