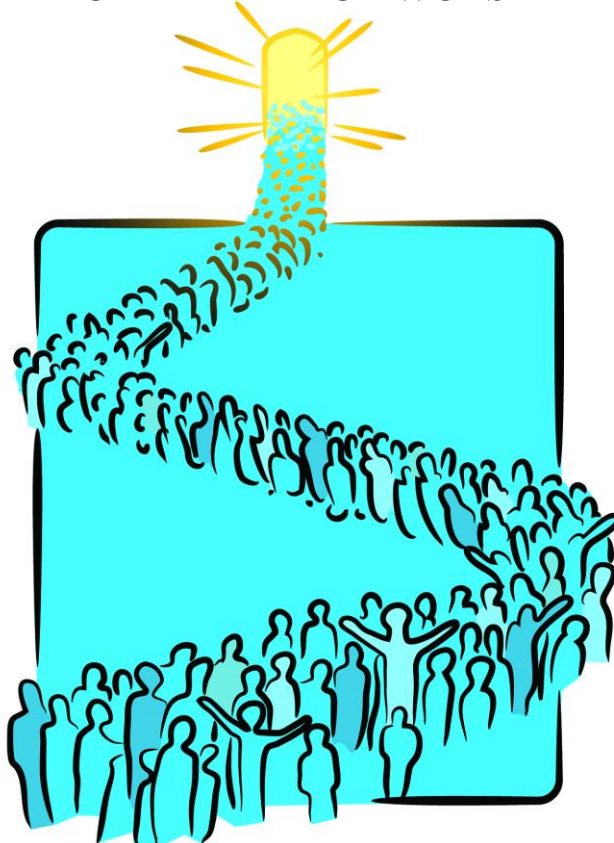




Risen Christ Lutheran Church
11th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
August 24, 2025 9:30am

**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 PREPARE FOR WORSHIP TODAY – The Gospel of Christ is God’s invitation to salvation and eternal life. Cards or letters of invitation occasionally end with the eloquent phrase from the French language abbreviated only with the letters RSVP, signaling that the sender wishes to know for how many to plan in attendance. (Of course, we may presume God already knows that final number!) But to receive an RSVP invitation requires a response. Today, Jesus issues the invitation to the Kingdom asking all to “strive to enter.” Surprisingly, the response or effort required is simply to receive the benefit of our Lord’s own work on our behalf. You enter the open, narrow door through Baptism into the death of Christ. The baptismal life is a striving to die and rise daily by faith in the way of the cross of Christ. Through the door of the His Word (taught, preached, studied) and His Eucharist we are nourished, and faith is strengthened and sustained by Christ’s body and blood and His Word. This regular being in His Word and receiving Communion (His Body and Blood) is necessary for the struggle of faith. Here today you continue your RSVP, entering the door who is Christ by the power of your Holy Baptism.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – I Will Follow

Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow
(Oh oh oh)

1. All Your ways are good
All Your ways are sure
I will trust in You alone
Higher than my sight
High above my life
I will trust in You alone

***CHORUS: Where You go I'll go
Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love
How You serve I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow (You)***

Yeah I will follow You yeah

2. Light into the world
Light into my life
I will live for You alone
You're the One I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone
In You alone

BRIDGE In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy unending joy
And I will follow ***CHORUS***

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Invocation

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

C Amen.

P Splendor and majesty are before Him;

C we will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

P Praise the Lord, all nations!

C Extol Him, all peoples!

P For great is His steadfast love toward us,

C and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

***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.***

A Splendor and majesty are before Him;

C we will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

All People That on Earth Do Dwell



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our
 3 O en - ter then His gates with praise; Ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mer - cy
 △ 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, His
 aid He did us make. We are His folk, He
 joy His courts un - to. Praise, laud, and bless His
 is for - ev - er sure. His truth at all times
 heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the



praise forth - tell; Come ye be - fore Him and re - jice.
 doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.
 name al - ways, For it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood And shall from age to age en - dure.
 an - gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Verses (Adapted from Psalm 32 and 1 John 1:9)

P We confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ALL – Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Confession and Absolution

P Loving Father,

C we are by nature sinful and unclean. Though we deserve nothing but death for our sins, in Your mercy, You have given Your Son to die for us. For Jesus' sake, please forgive us. Open our hearts to the freedom of life in Your Holy Spirit.

P Beloved in the Lord, we are not consumed, because the Lord's compassion never fails. His mercies are new every morning, and great is God's faithfulness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus 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.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 66:18–23

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.

²³From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalms 50:1–15

¹The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

³Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.

⁴He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

⁵“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

⁶The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge!

⁷Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

⁸Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.

⁹I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

¹⁰For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

¹²If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.

¹³Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

¹⁵and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

Epistle

Hebrews 12:4–29

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”

²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,

²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,

²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Jesus Paid It All

1. I hear the Sa - vior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,
2. Lord, now in - deed I find your pow'r and yours a - lone,
3. For noth - ing good have I, where - by your grace to claim—
4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,

child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."
can change the le - per's spots and melt the heart of stone.
I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
"Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re - peat.

Refrain

Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;

sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:22–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.
²³And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, ²⁴"Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' ²⁶Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God.

³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon – "Jesus, The Narrow Door"

1. "**Strive** to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."
2. **Ἀγωνίζεσθε (agonidzesthe)** – translated as "strive" encompasses struggling with difficulties and danger, contending for a prize, contending with an adversary.

3. Jesus isn't stating this as if your working earns you salvation.
 - The Narrow Door is JESUS Himself! He did all the necessary struggling/agonizing/contending for us when I suffered, died, and resurrected!
 - He is with you in your struggles against sin, your flesh, the devil, and the world.
4. Jesus' use of "strive" doesn't mean having to live a perfect, holy life. And He isn't talking about the kind of life Christians will be entering into when we go to Heaven.
5. Jesus taught here about repentance and justification
 - Repentance – Agreeing with God about sin and our sinfulness and His cure, and a lifetime practicing facing the right direction as we fail daily, clinging to His promises.
 - Justification – Declared "not guilty"/just
6. Jesus said, "No one comes to the Father except through me."
7. There is no need for a Believer to worry about getting to Heaven. As we cling to God's promises, don't fall into the false thought of "when I die I hope I get into Heaven." Believers can be sure. Christian hope is not wishful thinking as the world thinks hope means. Christian hope is a certainty based on our God who doesn't lie and the fact that Jesus rose from the dead!

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 Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness, and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, for Your Holy Church, for the Means of Grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to remain constant in the struggle of faith empowered by the cross of Christ, filled with hope and confidence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Save and defend Your whole Church and strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the Holy Sacraments, establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold offices of service in Your Church that by their work and example faith may abound and Your kingdom increase into all the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Preserve our nation in justice and honor, and grant health and favor to all who bear the offices of government in our land. Guard and protect also all who serve in the armed forces of our country. Give them faithfulness and success in their service and grant that their homecomings be joyful. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity. Be with those also who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on all to whom death draws near. Sustain and bless all who care for those who suffer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

ALL – We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. 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:

C **Amen.**

Lift Up Your Hearts

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

All Sing

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks

To the Lord our God

It is right to give Him

Thanks and praise

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Communion

Grace Flows Down

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
Amazing love now flowing down
From hands and feet
that were nailed to the tree
Grace flows down and covers me

*It covers me
It covers me
It covers me
And covers me*

David E. Bell, Louie Giglio, Rod Padgett
CCLI Song #1223050

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You Are My King (Amazing Love)

I'm forgiven, because You were forsaken,
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me,
Because you died and rose again.

***CHORUS: Amazing love, how can it be
That You my king would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true;
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do, I honor You.***

Bridge: You are my king, Jesus, You are my king! ***CHORUS***

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Here I Am to Worship

1. Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

2. King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor ***CHORUS***

***CHORUS: So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me***

BRIDGE: And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross ***CHORUS***

CCLI Song # 3266032

Tim Hughes

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Closing Prayer

This I Believe

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

***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***

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***

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

CHORUS 2: 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***

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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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