



Risen Christ Lutheran Church  
Mission Sunday Worship  
August 31, 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**



**Please welcome our Guest Preacher today,  
Rev. Paul Arndt**

*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. 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.

**About Our Guest Preacher Today** – Rev. Paul Arndt is a called “Missionary At Large” pastor through East Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Detroit. He serves the Tri-County Metro Detroit Area and, as needed, the mission organization called Lutherans In Africa and their Lutheran School of Theology in Kenya, Africa.

For more information about the work of Rev. Arndt you can go to ...

paulwarndt.com  
TheReceptiveLife.com  
LutheransInAfrica.com

**Pre-Service Music – “Give Me Jesus” and “Hills and Valleys”**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Invocation**

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

## Lift High the Cross

*Refrain*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,  
2 Led on their way by this tri-um-phant sign,  
3 All new-born sol-diers of the Cru-ci-fied  
4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,



Our king vic-tor-ious, Christ, the Son of God.  
The hosts of God in con-quer-ing ranks com-bine.  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
As Thou hast prom-ised, draw us all to Thee.

*Refrain*

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. **Refrain**

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbott, 1874-1956, alt.  
Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947  
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## Confession and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

## Introit

- Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;  
**make known his deeds among the peoples!**  
I will give thanks to you, O LORD, among the peoples;  
**I will sing praises to you among the nations.**  
For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;  
**your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**  
Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
**Let your glory be over all the earth!**  
**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.**  
Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;  
**make known his deeds among the peoples!**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.  
Almighty and everlasting God, You desire that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Strengthen us to bear witness to Your Son, that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading      Isaiah 52:13—53:12

- <sup>13</sup>Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.  
<sup>14</sup>As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—  
<sup>15</sup>so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.  
<sup>1</sup>Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
<sup>2</sup>For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.  
<sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.  
<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.  
<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.  
<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;

and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

<sup>9</sup>And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death,  
although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

<sup>11</sup>Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 66:1–5

<sup>1</sup>Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

<sup>2</sup>**sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**

<sup>3</sup>Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

<sup>4</sup>**All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."**

<sup>5</sup>Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

## Second Reading Acts 8:26–39

<sup>26</sup>Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

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

## **Alleluia and Verse**

C **Alleluia. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. Alleluia.**

## **Holy Gospel John 1:29–51**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

<sup>35</sup>The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup>and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup>The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup>Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup>He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup>One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup>He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## O Christ, Who Called the Twelve



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -  
2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose  
3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And  
4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To  
5 O Christ, th'a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:  
words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:  
broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:  
serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:  
cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,  
In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True  
Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And  
Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where  
Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.  
teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.  
help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.  
love in - forms and hope sus - tains Both life and min - is - try.  
hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

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**Sermon – explain it** by Rev. Paul Arndt (See his Bio on Page 2)

**The Bible: It's a book about ...**



**Jesus opens ...** the Scriptures, our minds, our mouths

## Luke 24:13-35: The Emmaus Road

But we had hoped ...  
It is written ...

**Luke 24:25-27:** He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with **Moses and all the Prophets**, he explained to them what was said in **all the Scriptures** concerning himself.

OT Bible study

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy  
Psalms  
The Prophets ... Isaiah 53

## Luke 24:36-49: Jesus Appears to the Disciples

**24:44-45:** He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he **opened their minds** so they could understand the Scriptures.

**24:46-ff:** He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations."

**The Bible: It's a book about ...**



**When you have the forgiveness of sins,  
you have ... everything.**

## Acts 8:26-35/Isaiah 53 (Philip and the Ethiopian)

**Acts 8:30-31:** Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

e<sup>℞</sup>plain it™

**Acts 8:32-35:** The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

### **Isaiah 53**

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

### **Lutherans in Africa: Forming African Christians to Be Teachers of the Faith**

**Jesus still opens ...** the Scriptures, our minds, our mouths

**John 1:35-39:** The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus.

**John 1:40-ff:** Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.

### **we have found THE Messiah ("Christ") (the Law and the Prophets)**

<sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." <sup>46</sup>"Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

**Jesus still opens ...** the Scriptures, our minds, our mouths

**Special Offering for Missionary Work** (*see special enclosed envelope in your bulletin*)

## **“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***

## Apostles' Creed

- C **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.**

**Regular 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:  
Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Servant, our Lord Jesus Christ, who was despised and rejected, wounded for our transgressions, and crushed for our iniquities. By His stripes we are healed. Keep us always in the comfort of His cross and make us bold to proclaim Christ crucified to the nations.
- C **Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.**
- P Lord of the Church, as You sent Philip to meet the Ethiopian with the good news of Jesus, send us into the paths of those who do not yet know You. Open our mouths to speak Your Word faithfully, that by the power of Your Spirit many may hear and believe.
- C **Guide us by Your Spirit as Your Word brings life, salvation, hope, and joy.**
- P Gracious Savior, You called Your first disciples with the words, "Follow Me," and promised that they would see heaven opened. Grant that we, too, may follow You in faith, and that through our witness others may come and see the Savior of the world.
- C **Grant us courage to follow You and to invite others to come and see.**
- P Merciful Father, bless the work of missionaries, pastors, teachers, and all who proclaim Your saving name. Strengthen them in faith, provide for their needs, and make their labors fruitful, that the nations may be gathered into Your Church.
- C **Use us in Your harvest Work, O Lord of the harvest.**
- P Compassionate Lord, You are near to the brokenhearted and You save the crushed in spirit. Look with mercy upon the sick, the suffering, the grieving, and all who carry heavy burdens [especially...]. Give them healing according to Your will, comfort in their sorrow, and the hope of eternal life in Christ.
- C **Be our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**

- P Into Your hands, O Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

## 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.**

## Mighty to Save

1. Everyone needs compassion  
A love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness  
The kindness of a Savior  
The hope of nations

2. So take me as you find me  
All my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: Savior, He can move the mountains**

***Our God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave***

**BRIDGE: Shine your light and  
let the whole world see  
We're singing  
for the glory of the risen king Jesus **CHORUS****

**ENDING: Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen king - Jesus  
Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen king**

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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 T give you peace.
- C **Amen.**