



Risen Christ Lutheran Church  
Sunday Worship  
Oct 26, 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**



"The Pharisee

and

the Tax Collector"

*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 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](http://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 Pharisee vividly demonstrates arrogance as he prays to God, “I thank You that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes.” Before we laugh at the Pharisee, we all ought to take a look at our own lives and recognize the ways in which we have demonstrated arrogance as well. Arrogance is a beguiling temptation for anyone absolutely certain of their rightness. It often comes from forgetting what the Gospel actually is and arises from the mistaken idea that Christianity consists of doing good things so that God will be merciful. The least likely person in the parable—the tax collector—gives a vivid demonstration of the opposite of arrogance. Standing far off, not even looking to heaven, he beats his breast, and says, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” Recognizing his distance from God, he humbly pleads for mercy. True Christianity consists of receiving the mercy of God and then doing good things out of thanks and gratitude.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Invocation**

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

**C** Amen.

## Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

## Confession and Absolution

- P** Today God's mercy calls us:
- C** **to confess our sins,**
- P** to receive forgiveness,
- C** **to thank Him,**
- P** to live with gratitude,
- C** **to give others the mercy we ourselves receive,**
- P** and to walk humbly with God in all we say and do. Let us confess our sins to God and to one another.

*A time of silence is observed.*

- P** We have sinned against You, O God, in thought, word, and deed.
- C** **God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**
- P** We have not loved You with our whole heart.
- C** **God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**
- P** We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**G** God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**P** We have been arrogant in attitude and action.

**G** God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**P** Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted. 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.

**G** Amen.

## Introit

Psalm 56:10–13; antiphon: v. 3

**P** When I am afraid, I put my trust in You.

**G** In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise,

**P** in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**G** I must perform my vows to You, O God; I will render thank offerings to You.

**P** For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

**G** that I may walk before God in the light of life.

**G** 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.

**P** When I am afraid, I put my trust in You.

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, You show mercy to all who come to You with humble and repentant hearts.

**G** Deliver us from all forms of arrogance and pride. By the cross of Jesus, empower us to demonstrate Your mercy to others and to live in gratitude for Your mercy;

**P** 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

Genesis 4:1–15

<sup>1</sup>Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." <sup>2</sup>And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. <sup>3</sup>In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup>and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup>but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. <sup>6</sup>The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? <sup>7</sup>If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

<sup>8</sup>Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" <sup>10</sup>And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup>And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup>When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." <sup>13</sup>Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup>Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 5

<sup>1</sup>Give ear to my words, O LORD; consider my groaning.

**<sup>2</sup>Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray.**

<sup>3</sup>O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

**<sup>4</sup>For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.**

<sup>5</sup>The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

**<sup>6</sup>You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

<sup>7</sup>But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

**<sup>8</sup>Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.**

<sup>9</sup>For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction; their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.

**<sup>10</sup>Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you.**

<sup>11</sup>But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.

**<sup>12</sup>For you bless the righteous, O LORD; you cover him with favor as with a shield.**

## Epistle

2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

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

### Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine  
O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation purchase of God  
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

***CHORUS: This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long***

Perfect submission perfect delight  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy whispers of love ***CHORUS***

Perfect submission all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting looking above  
Filled with His goodness lost in His love ***CHORUS***

## Verse

Luke 18:16b

**P** Alleluia! Alleluia!

**C** **Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them,**

**P** for to such belongs the kingdom of God.

**C** **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Holy Gospel

Luke 18:9–17

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

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

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt:

<sup>10</sup>Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

<sup>15</sup>Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup>But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. <sup>17</sup>Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."

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

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

## Message – “The Pharisee and the Tax Collector”

### Nicene Creed

**G** **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.**

**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.

### **Offertory – “Give Thanks”**

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He’s given  
Jesus Christ His Son. (2x)

***And now let the weak say “I am strong,”  
Let the poor say “I am rich,”  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.***

Give thanks, give thanks.

### **Prayer of the Church**

- P** As God’s beloved children, invited by Jesus to come to Him without hindrance, let us pray for the Church, the world, and ourselves, trusting the mighty mercy of our Lord. God of mercy,  
**G** **hear our prayer.**

**MEN** – For the Church, that the Lord deliver us from arrogance and instead turn our hearts toward the mercy of Jesus, so that the Church becomes increasingly an agent of God’s mercy in the lives of people in our community. For our Synod—our president, district presidents, pastors, teachers, and all servants of the Church—that they not become puffed up with pride or be made timid by weakness, but, relying on the mercy of Jesus, show mercy to one another and to the world. God of mercy,

- G** **hear our prayer.**

**WOMEN** – For this nation in which we live, in thanksgiving for the abundance of life and freedom that we enjoy. For the president and Congress, for our governor and local elected officials, that all work for the common good and serve not themselves, and especially for those who are struggling. That this nation so divided along political lines would repent of our hatred of those who differ from us and, based on our one common humanity, work to resolve our differences with reason and kindness. God of mercy,

- G** **hear our prayer.**

**MEN** – For those in need in our community—the sick, those facing surgery, those with terminal illness, that they receive mercy and healing according to God’s will, that their hearts be opened to receive the love of Christ, and that they find peace in the love of Jesus. God of mercy,

**G** **hear our prayer.**

**WOMEN** – For this congregation, that, having received the mercy of Jesus, we find ways to bring God’s mercy to the people around us—family, co-workers, friends, and strangers alike. We pray especially for children in vulnerable situations—those not yet born, those experiencing family division, and those struggling with poverty. Show us how to extend to these little ones mercy and to open our arms to them as Jesus did. God of mercy,

**G** **hear our prayer.**

**MEN** – In remembrance of and thanksgiving for all those who have gone before us in the faith, for the mercy they showed us, for the examples of faith they gave us, for the joy they brought to our lives, we give thanks. With them, rescue us from every evil and bring us safely into Your heavenly kingdom. God of mercy,

**G** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Let Your Holy Spirit breathe the prayers of our hearts that remain unspoken, and hear these spoken prayers in the mercy You show for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ. To God be the glory forever and ever.

**G** **Amen.**

## Lift Up Your Hearts

**P** The Lord be with you    **G** And also with you  
**P** The Lord be with you    **G** 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

CCU Song # 3493609  
Steve Hindalong Terry Scott Taylor  
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Never Say Never Songs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)  
New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

## 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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  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

### How Deep the Father's Love for Us

1. How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss;  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice,  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that left Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life -  
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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### **The Power of Your Love**

Lord I come to You  
Let my life be changed renewed  
Flowing from the grace that I've found in You  
And Lord I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away by the power of Your love

***CHORUS: Hold me close let Your love surround me  
Bring me near draw me to Your side  
And as I wait I'll rise up like the eagle  
And I will soar with You Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love***

Lord unveil my eyes  
Let me see You face to face  
The knowledge of Your love as You live in me  
And Lord renew my mind as Your will unfolds in my life  
In living every day by the power of Your love ***CHORUS***  
*And I will soar with You  
Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love*

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### **Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

**P** Let us pray.

Mighty God, we thank You for the mercy You have shown us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. For this bread and this cup, which deliver Your mercy into our mouths and into our hearts, we praise You. By Your Spirit, guide us daily in gratitude to You and mercy to our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## 10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

***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***

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***

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***

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***

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

Jonas Myrin/Matt Redman CCLI Song # 6016351

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## Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

**P** The Lord's mercy for you is inexhaustible. Fight the good fight. Finish the race. Keep the faith.

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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