



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
6th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
July 5, 2026 10am

**REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER
HIS SANCTUARY, *PLEASE SIT QUIETLY*, PRAY, AND READ
THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER
TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**THE WAR WITHIN AND
THE REST**
Christ Gives

+

STILL FIGHTING. STILL FORGIVEN.
STILL HELD. STILL HIS.

ROMANS 7:14-25A

Behold, your King
is coming to you;
righteous and
having salvation is He,
humble and
mounted on a donkey.

ZECHARIAH 9:9

"Come to Me, all who labor and
are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

	THE LAW REVEALS THE PROBLEM.		CHRIST DIES FOR SIN.		CHRIST GIVES REST AND GRACE.		STILL SINNERS, NOW SAINTS.
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***Today's service opens with thanks and praise to God
for our Nation and 250 years!***

**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 Christ's body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking, and giving forgiveness, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we do 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 Rennie 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

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.

Welcome and Announcements

As We Gather – This weekend, our nation marks a remarkable milestone: 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We rightly give thanks to God for the blessings of civil freedom, good order, lawful government, and the privilege of gathering openly around His Word. We also pray that God would mend what is broken, forgive what is sinful, guide our leaders, protect those who serve, and teach us to use our freedom in love for our neighbors.

Yet today's readings remind us that there is a deeper bondage no nation can break. St. Paul speaks honestly of the war within: "I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate." Zechariah points us to the humble King who comes "righteous and having salvation," setting prisoners free. The Psalm declares that "the LORD upholds all who are falling." And Jesus says, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

So today we give thanks for our nation, but we place our trust in Christ alone. He is our true freedom, our stronghold, our forgiveness, and our rest.

Praising God for our Nation – Most Americans know the first stanza of the national anthem of the United States of America. That first stanza of the “Star-Spangled Banner” is sung before sporting events, music concerts, and county fair festivities. We may not be as familiar, however, with the fourth stanza of this song:

O! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand,
Between their loved home, and the war’s desolation,
Blest with vict’ry and peace, may the heav’n-rescued land,
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto—“In God is our trust”
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave,
O’er the land of the free, and the home of the brave!

Francis Scott Key includes the words “In God is our trust.” As America celebrates its Independence Day, we recall similar words of the Psalms. “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!” (Psalm 33:12). “It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man” (Psalm 118:8). May our trust be in God for safety, salvation, and all things!

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain
America America God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness
America America God mend thine every flaw
Confirm thy soul in self control thy liberty in law

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life
America America may God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears
America America God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea

Invocation

- P** 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***

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 103:10

P He does not deal with us according to our sins,
C **nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P Holy and gracious God,
C **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver according to Your mercy and grant peace to my heart so that I may serve You with all my mind, body, and soul.**

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.
C **And also with you. Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 91:2, 9–10; antiphon: v. 1

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”
Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.
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.
He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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

Zechariah 9:9–12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms for Pentecost 6

Psalms 145:1–14

¹I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

⁴**One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.**

⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

⁶**They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.**

⁷They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

**¹²to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.

¹⁴The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

Epistle

Romans 7:14–25a

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Matthew 11:28

P Alleluia. Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

C and I will give you rest. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:25–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Still, My Soul



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
 3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
 fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
 dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
 be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Sermon – “The War Within and the Rest Christ Gives” based on Romans 7:14–25a

1. The War Within Is Real

- “I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.”
- The problem is not God’s Law. The problem is sin still at work in us.

2. Saint and Sinner at the Same Time

- In Christ, we are truly forgiven and truly God’s children.
- Yet the old Adam still clings to us and must be drowned daily through repentance.

3. The Masks Must Come Off

- Pride says, "At least I am not like them."
- Shame says, "If people knew the real me, I would not belong."
- Christ calls sinners out of hiding and into mercy.

4. The Law Diagnoses, but Christ Delivers

- The Law exposes sin, but it cannot forgive sin or create a clean heart.
- Paul asks, "Who will deliver me?"
- The answer is Christ.

5. The Humble King Gives Rest

- Zechariah points to the King who comes with salvation.
- Jesus says, "Come to Me...and I will give you rest."
- Christ gives that rest through His Word, Baptism, Absolution, and His Supper.

6. Still Fighting, Still Forgiveness

- The struggle is real, but Christ is greater.
- Still fighting, yes. But still forgiven.
- Still weak, yes. But still held.
- Still sinner according to the flesh, yes. But truly saint in Christ.

Prayer of the Church

- P** As we pray for our nation and all nations of the world, we bow before our Lord in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the nations.

Before You, Lord, We Bow

1 Be - fore You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns a - bove

And rules the world be - low, Bound-less in pow'r and love. Our thanks

we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!

P As we come before You in prayer, we do so with thanksgiving. As Ruler of all, You provide for our needs of both body and spirit. Lord Jesus, You invite all who labor and are heavy laden to come to You for rest. Have mercy on all who are weary in body, mind, or spirit; all who are burdened by sin, shame, fear, grief, temptation, sickness, or loneliness; and all who struggle silently with the war within. Uphold all who are falling, raise up all who are bowed down, and give them the comfort of Your forgiveness and the peace of Your presence. In the name of the Savior of the nations,

C hear our prayer.

Before You, Lord, We Bow

2 The na - tion You have blest May well Your love de - clare,
From foes and fears at rest, Pro - tect - ed by Your care. For this
bright day, For this fair land—Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.

P Protect our land with Your almighty arm. Defend and watch over the men and women who serve in the armed forces of our land. In the name of the Savior of the nations,

C hear our prayer.

Before You, Lord, We Bow

3 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, Each vale and for - est green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen! May ev -
'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grate - ful song.

P Work through Your Church that the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ may go forth in our land. Grant that the light of Christ shines bright in our nation through us. In the name of the Savior of the nations,

C hear our prayer.

Before You, Lord, We Bow

4 Earth, hear your Mak - er's voice; Your great Re - deem - er own;
Be - lieve, o - bey, re - joice, And wor-ship Him a - lone. Cast down
your pride, Your sin de - plore, And bow be - fore The Cru - ci - fied.

The musical notation is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a '4' indicating a four-measure rest. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with a key signature change to one sharp (F#) indicated by a sharp sign on the F line. The third staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

P Bless the work of world missions so that Your name is proclaimed in all nations. Raise up new workers in Your harvest, for the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. In the name of the Savior of the nations,

C hear our prayer.

Before You, Lord, We Bow

5 And when in pow'r He comes,
Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs
Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng,
With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King
Salvation's song!

P As we anticipate our Savior's return, give us a sense of urgency as we proclaim Christ. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, make us always ready for Jesus' second advent in glory. In the name of the Savior of the nations,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy,

C Amen.

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

P As our final hymn, we sing this prayer for our country, asking God to preserve our land and keep our trust in Him alone.

God Bless Our Native Land

1 God bless our na - tive land; Firm may she ev - er stand
2 So shall our prayers a - rise To God a - bove the skies;

Through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
On Him we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, Guard - ing with

wind and wave, Do Thou our coun - try save By Thy great might.
watch - ful eye, To Thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.
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