



Risen Christ Lutheran Church

July 12, 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**



***Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170
734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info***

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – We believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. Scripture also teaches that we are to examine ourselves before receiving, so that we do not receive the body and blood of Christ in an unworthy manner and thereby bring spiritual harm or judgment upon ourselves. Therefore, God calls us to sincere confession of sin, ongoing repentance, faith in Christ's death and resurrection, and forgiving love toward one another. If you are a baptized believer who trusts in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, believes that Christ's body and blood are truly given in this Sacrament, and has 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.

As We Gather – Fear can make us forget who we are. Even as we hear God's Word, the worries of life, the wounds of suffering, and the weakness of sin may trouble our hearts. Yet the Lord does not stop speaking. His Word, like rain and snow from heaven, does not return empty. Through that Word and by His Spirit, God calls us out of slavery and fear and teaches us to cry, "Abba! Father!" In Holy Baptism, He has placed His name upon us. At His Table, He feeds us as His forgiven children. In Christ, we are not strangers, slaves, or orphans; we are children of God, heirs with Christ, and recipients of the Father's mercy. Today the Sower keeps sowing, the Spirit keeps bearing witness, and the Father keeps receiving His children by grace.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Isaiah 60:21; Psalm 92:13; Jeremiah 32:41

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**
- P** Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever,
C the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, that I might be glorified.
- P** They are planted in the house of the LORD;
C they flourish in the courts of our God.
- P** I will rejoice in doing them good,
C and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness.

Call to Worship – “Build My Life”

1. Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You **CHORUS**

2. Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You **CHORUS**

CHORUS: *Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me*

BRIDGE: I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

CCLI Song # 7070345
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Confession and Absolution

Colossians 1:13–14

- P** The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness
C and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- P** Almighty God and Father,
C we confess, as Your people, our need for Your merciful kindness. We confess that we have fallen back into fear and lived as though we were still slaves to our own wants, our own fears, and our own inborn sinfulness. Our actions and interactions often fail as reflections of Your kingdom. Our thoughts, desires, and actions are often borne out of love for ourselves, rather than our love for others or for You. Forgive us and free us, Lord, to love what You love and go where You lead, all by the grace of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word 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.

Introit

Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

As for man, his days are like grass;

he flourishes like a flower of the field;

for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

and his righteousness to children's children,

to those who keep his covenant

and remember to do his commandments.

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

and his kingdom rules over 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.

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse — Isaiah 40:8

P Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades,

C **but the word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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

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

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

No Longer Slaves

1. You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

CHORUS: I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

2. From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins

BRIDGE: You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God

Brian Johnson, Joel Case, Jonathan David Helser
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Sermon – “No Longer Slaves, But Children” *based on Romans 8:12–17*

Main Theme: Because Christ has made us children of God, we do not have to fall back into fear.

1. Fear tries to tell us who we are. Fear says:
 - “You are alone.”
 - “You have ruined too much.”
 - “God must be disappointed with you.”
 - “You had better fix this yourself.”
 - But fear is a terrible preacher. God’s Word tells the truth.
2. We are no longer debtors to the flesh. Paul says, “We are debtors, not to the flesh.”
 - Our sinful nature is no longer our master.
 - Our shame is not our name.
 - Our past is not our owner.
 - Death is not our final inheritance.

3. The Spirit makes us children of God.
 - We did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear.
 - We have received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry: "Abba! Father!"
 - In Christ, men and women, young and old, weak and strong, all who belong to Him receive the full family inheritance.

4. Baptism tells us who we are.
 - In Holy Baptism, God put His name on us: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 - When fear says, "You do not belong," Baptism says, "You are clothed with Christ."
 - When the flesh says, "You are still mine," Baptism says, "You have been buried and raised with Jesus."
 - When the devil says, "God cannot love you," Baptism says, "The Father has named you His own."

5. God's Word does not return empty.
 - The Sower keeps sowing.
 - God keeps speaking.
 - His Word forgives, claims, feeds, strengthens, and gives what it promises.
 - Our hope is not finally in the condition of our hearts.
 - Our hope is in Christ crucified and risen.

6. Children still suffer, but not as slaves.
 - Being God's child does not mean there will be no suffering.
 - But suffering no longer means God has abandoned us.
 - If we suffer with Christ, we will also be glorified with Him.

Take-Home Truth

- I am not a slave trying to earn a name.
- I am a baptized child of God, adopted in Christ, led by the Spirit, and heir of eternal life.

For Review This Week – When fear rises, answer fear's sermon with the Father's Word: "I did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. I have received the Spirit of adoption. I am God's child in Christ."

Nicene Creed

- ☐ 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 $\pm$ of the world to come. Amen.**

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** With one voice, the church cries out,

C **“Abba! Father!”**
- P** Heavenly, holy Father, we praise You for Your unending mercies, shown in Your loving faithfulness. Give us grateful hearts that seek to praise You for Your fatherly goodness.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**
- P** Kind, compassionate Father, You made a place for us within Your family through the sending of Your Son. May our hearts, likewise, resemble Yours, mercifully caring for one another in our fellowship.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**
- P** Sending, seeking Father, who received us through the Spirit of adoption, we pray with urgency for those who have yet to hear the Gospel, and for those who have ignored or rejected Your Word, that souls would be saved and the harvest might increase.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**
- P** Lavish, loving Father, for those given to share Your Word, we give You thanks. Bless all pastors and all those who faithfully teach Your truth, and grant that the garden of Your church produce abundant workers who will join You in Your mission.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**
- P** Father of mercy, comfort all who have fallen back into fear: those burdened by guilt, grief, sickness, uncertainty, family struggles, or fear of the future. By Your Spirit, bear witness again that they are Your children in Christ.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

- P** Forever faithful Father, secure us in hope and faithfulness, that we might flourish in the places You have planted us, until the harvest that comes with the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

Preface

- 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.
- C We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Almighty God and Father, You offer the gifts of salvation to those who would trust in Your Son, Jesus Christ. We praise You for extending Your salvation to the souls who gather around this Table, that You would make us called to saving faith worthy to receive the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus. Feed us with true food, that we might always crave Your truth. Heal us by Your true Word, that we might always yearn for Your life. Send us by Your true Spirit, that we might always declare our gratitude and Your glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

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

I Am Not Alone

When I walk through deep waters
I know that You will be with me
When I'm standing in the fire
I will not be overcome
Through the valley of the shadow
I will not fear

CHORUS: I am not alone

I am not alone

You will go before me

You will never leave me

In the midst of deep sorrow
I see Your light is breaking through
The dark of night will not overtake me
I am pressing into You
Lord You fight my ev'ry battle
And I will not fear

BRIDGE: You amaze me redeem me

You call me as Your own
You amaze me redeem me
You call me as Your own
You're my strength You're my defender
You're my refuge in the storm
Through these trials You've always been faithful
You bring healing to my soul

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy

sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,

Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
 How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er

glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine

ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Who You Say I Am

1. Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

**CHORUS 1: Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

2. Free at last
He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

**CHORUS 2: Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

**In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

**BRIDGE: I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am **CHORUS 2****

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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.

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