

God

... is not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:27, NRSV



**“Lord, Fill Us with Your Love to
Speak What Needs to be Spoken!”**

May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday in Easter

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am
Christian Education: 11:00 am

OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

James N. Proeber, Pastor
Wisconsin Synod

Welcome to Our Redeemer

As disciples of our risen and victorious Savior, we have been entrusted with a powerful and effective message. We have also been given a command to take this message to all people. Although there have always been obstacles, throughout every generation the good news of Jesus has resounded. It is our fervent prayer and sincerest desire that the good news still resounds from us. We ask the Lord to make us faithful disciples and effective witnesses—to the glory of his name!

For Parents with Small Children

There are children’s service folders available in the basket by the front door. Please pick one up as you enter. There is also a “cry room” and rest rooms in the fellowship hall. After you go through the doors of the church, turn left. In addition, you may watch the service on the monitor in the fellowship hall.

The Order of Worship

Pre-Service Music and Welcome

Opening Hymn

“Welcome, Happy Morning”
Christian Worship 163

“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;

“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”
Lo, the Dead is living, God forever more!
Him, their true Creator, all his works adore.
“Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”

Maker and Redeemer, Life and Health of all,
God from heav’n beholding human nature’s fall,
Of the Father’s Godhead, you, the only Son,
Mankind to deliver manhood did put on.
“Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”

He, of life the author, death did undergo,
Trod the path of darkness saving strength to show.
Come, then, True and Faithful, now fulfill your word;
This is your third morning—rise, O buried Lord!
“Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”

Free the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan’s chain;
All that now is fallen raise to life again.
Show your face in brightness; shine in ev’ry land.
As in Eden’s garden when the world began.
“Welcome, happy morning!” Age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”

Invocation

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God the Father; and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit—be with you always.

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed

him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen!

Song of Praise

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



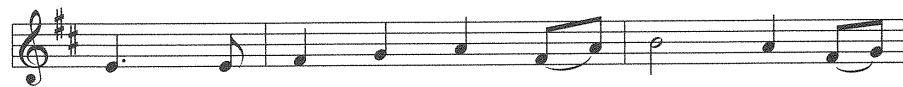
C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



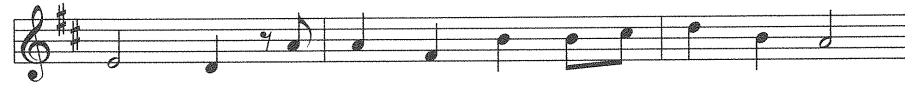
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e—



ter — nal; it stands firm in the heav —



ens. Your faith — ful — ness con — tin — ues for -



ev — er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless — ed are they who take ref — uge in him.

Prayer for the Day

P: O gracious God and Father, you have revealed yourself in wondrous ways. The most amazing is the revelation of Jesus as your Son and the Savior. Give us the faith we need to trust what you have shown us. Remove any doubt or fear which would distract us from praising you. Fill us with an unshakable confidence to not only live for you, but to proclaim all the good things you have done. Continue to bless us, guide us, and keep us ever in your love until we reach your heavenly kingdom. There we will praise you together with your Son and the Spirit for every good and perfect gift.



C: A — — — — men.

The Lessons from God’s Word

“Lord, Open My Lips and My Mouth will Declare Your Praise!”

The Power of the Resurrection

Acts 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, ‘To an unknown god.’ Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. ²⁵Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life and breath and everything they have. ²⁶From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. ²⁷He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘Indeed, we are also his offspring.’

²⁹“Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. ³⁰Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Psalm for the Day

Psalm 66, selected verses

P: Shout praise to God, all the earth! Make music to the glory of his name! Make his praise glorious! Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!” Because of your great power your enemies must cower before you. All the earth bows down to you. They make music to you. They make music to your name.

Congregation responds “Praise the Almighty; My Soul Adore”
Christian Worship 235 st. 1

Praise the Almighty; my soul, adore him!
Yes, I will laud him until death.
With songs and anthems I’ll come before him
As long as he allows me breath.
From him my life and all things came;
Bless, O my soul, his holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Epistle*1 Peter 3:13–22*

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. ¹⁵But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you. ¹⁶But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

¹⁷Indeed, it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, ¹⁸because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, ¹⁹in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. ²⁰These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God’s patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. ²¹And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. ²²He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Psalm for the Day*Psalm 66, selected verses*

P: Come and see the works of God. How awesome his deeds for all people! He is the one who has preserved our lives. He did not let our feet slip. Indeed, you tested us, God. You refined us as silver is refined.

“Come, listen, all you who fear God, and let me tell what he has done to save my life. To him I cried out with my mouth.

God has surely listened. He has paid attention to the sound of my prayer. Blessed be God, who has not turned aside my prayer or turned aside his mercy from me!

Congregation responds “Praise the Almighty; My Soul Adore”

Praise, all you people, the name so holy
Of him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise him solely,
With happy heart its Amen sings!
Children of God, with angel host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel

John 14:15-21

¹⁵“If you love me, hold on to my commands. ¹⁶I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him.”

P: This is the Word of our God! These things are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we have life in his name.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”
Christian Worship 154

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth; He is the King of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth;

Jesus has died and has risen.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

We have been crucified with Christ;

Now we shall live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

God has proclaimed his gracious gift;

Life eternal for all who believe.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Come, let us praise the living God;

Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Sermon

Acts 17:22-31

“Let Me Tell You About the True God!”

The God who holds all power

The God who calls for repentance

The God who offers underserved love

The Confession of Faith

(we unite in the words of the Apostles' Creed)

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there 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.**

Prayer, Praise and Give Thanks!

Prayers for the Lord's Blessing

Special Prayers and Requests

The Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn

“Lord, Speak to Us that We May Speak”

Christian Worship 561

Lord, speak to us that we may speak
In living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let us seek
Your straying children, lost and lone.

Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
The wand’ring and the wav’ring feet.
Oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
Your hung’ring ones with manna sweet.

Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
The precious truths which you impart,
And wing our words that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,
Until our very hearts o’erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word
Your love to tell, your praise to show.

Closing Prayer

P: O gracious Lord and victorious Savior, you have blessed us with an awesome truth by showing us the path to eternal life. So fill us with joy in our rescue that we praise you daily with our words and actions. Never allow a moment to go by where your praise does not flow from our hearts. We also ask you to make us bold and confident in our proclamation of your love. You are not only our Savior, you are the Savior of all. Make our words powerful and effective. Give us a never-failing endurance to proclaim the good news we have received. Never let an opportunity escape our desire to seize it. Be with us. Bless us. Be our ever-present help and guide until we join you in heaven. There we will praise you as the God of our Rescue—Father, Son and Spirit—throughout endless ages.



C: A — men.

The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

The Lord look on you with his favor; and

give you peace.



C: A — men. A — men. A — men.

Closing Hymn

“I Love to Tell the Story”

Christian Worship 562

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Till be the old, old story that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Today—In the name of our blessed Savior, who gives us every reason to tell of him and his love, welcome! May the grace he has shown us fill our hearts, our lives, and our words. If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book or a visitor card. Come back and worship with us again, soon!

- Everyone is invited to enjoy a cup of coffee, and the gift of fellowship after the service.
- Bible Class will start around 11:00 am. This morning we will look at the words of the Epistle lesson, Peter’s encouragement to every Christian to always be ready to give the reason for the hope they have.

Monday—Handbell choir practice at 7:00 pm. Please note the change of date from Thursday.

Tuesday—Outreach & Fellowship Planning meeting at 7:00 pm. All are invited to come and bring ideas to make this part of our ministry as effective as possible. Plans are coming together for summer activities.

Wednesday—Bible Class at 7:00 pm. We continue with the study of the Holy Spirit. This evening we will look at the divine work he does for us and the whole Christian Church on earth.

Friday—Office Hours from 10:30 am—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Clean—J. Schueler

- Mowing beginning May 14th—A. Todd

Sunday, May 21st—Sunday Worship and Live Streaming at 9:30 am. During the service we will turn our attention to the Ascension of our Savior. While he returned to heaven to show his work was complete, he left specific directions to his church on earth—keep proclaiming the good news I have established. As we recall that lesson, we need to recommit ourselves to that precious work.

- Bible Study will review Paul’s lesson and encouragement to the Christians in Ephesus when he wrote: “I pray you may know how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe.”



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

770 Vala Drive

Santa Barbara, California 93111

www.orlcsb.net

For more information, contact

pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com

James N. Proeber, Pastor

805.967.1128 – Office & 805.967.3570 – Home
