



Service Focus:

Undivided Attention: On the One Thing Needed

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church | Santa Barbara, California
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost | July 20, 2025



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Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today! You have joined us for the most important time we spend together. Each time we gather as a family of faith, we make the gospel (or good news) of Jesus our central focus. It is not just about information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, our service proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Many of the elements of this service have ancient roots in the Christian church. Some are very recent. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). **If you are a guest today**, know that we are thankful you have joined us, pray that you are blessed through the service this morning, and invite you to come back again in the future. Before you leave, please take a moment to sign our guest book in the entryway or fill out a Connection Card found in a card holder in your row. Cards can be handed to Pastor Schroeder before you leave. You can also let us know you were here by scanning this QR code.



For Your Convenience

- **The order of service** is printed in this folder. If a song is not printed in this service folder, it can be found in the red hymnal in front of your seat. The pastor will speak the words in normal print. **The congregation is invited to speak those printed in bold.** Please participate as you are comfortable today.
- **Restrooms** are located in the fellowship hall building to the left as you exit church.
- Please reserve the rows in the back of the church for families with small children.
- If you are in need of any other assistance, any one of our members will be happy to assist you.

Participation & Children

Sometimes parents (and even churches) think that worship is not a place for children. At Our Redeemer, we're convinced that nothing could be further from the truth. We want children in church worshipping with their families and learning about Jesus' love for them. Why?

- Even from the earliest of ages, **children are models of faith** from which we can all learn (Luke 18:16,17). Similarly, they learn how to "do church" by watching mom and dad.
- Our worship format not only encourages families to be together, but is ideally suited for activer worship engagement and participation by all, including children, balancing new service elements each week with regular repetition for learning and memorization.
- The **sights and sounds of active children** within our congregation are a great joy to us and **evidence that God is blessing our future even now!**

We realize that, especially at first, having children in church can be a challenge for parents. To help, we offer the following:

- If your child needs a moment, an area in the fellowship hall building is open. It is located just to the left as you exit church. A broadcast of the service is also in this room.
- Other families are willing and ready to help. Let us know if we can offer a hand with your little ones.
- Activity sheets that kids can work on throughout the service are available on the stand in the back.

Current Series: Undivided Attention

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. As a result, we often talk about the importance of being “free from distraction.” But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be **freed** from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers power and focus. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants those gifts to his disciples.

June 29	Pentecost 3	On Christ’s Call for Commitment
July 6	Pentecost 4	On the Want for Workers
July 13	Pentecost 5	On a Neighbor in Need
July 20	Pentecost 6	On the One Thing Needed
July 27	Pentecost 7	On the Privilege and Purpose of Prayer
August 3	Pentecost 8	On Useful Resources
August 10	Pentecost 9	On Heavenly Treasure

Service Focus

Most would agree with Jesus’ teaching that “Few things are needed” (Luke 10:42). We understand that people often confuse their wants with needs. We might want many things; but in reality, we only need a few things. So, we would agree with Jesus. “Few things are needed.” However, Jesus said more. “Few things are needed—or indeed only one.” Yes, we need water, food, clothing, shelter, friendship, etc. Yet, what Jesus said is true. Because only one thing—the gospel—can create and sustain the faith that makes one God’s dear child and an heir of the everlasting kingdom. If you didn’t have water, you would die in a few days; without oxygen, in a few minutes. But without Jesus speaking to us through his Word, there is no hope for eternal life in heaven. We literally need the gospel more than water or oxygen. So, let us listen to Jesus speak, giving him our undivided attention.

Prayer before the Service

O Lord, we, like Jesus’ friend Martha, are indeed worried and upset about many things. Calm our troubled hearts and minds. Soothe us with your words of hope and promise. And give to us a spirit that is willing to set all that is bothering us at your feet, so that we may find rest. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.

Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Daniel Schroeder
Hymnsoft Operator: Al Todd
Audio/Visual Booth: Josh Schueler

The Service

Welcome

Opening Dialogue

Matthew 28:19

In the name of the Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Psalms 119:97-99, 103

Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.

Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,
for they are ever with me.

I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Written in Germany in the 1600's, this hymn has endured through the centuries, remaining a beloved choice in Christian worship as a prayer for God to enlighten us with his Word, and a declaration of our need for a heart receptive to the Word of God.

Opening Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word
Christian Worship 221 (st. 1-3)

**1 Blessed Jesus, at your Word
we are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you,
by your teachings, sweet and holy,
drawn from earth to love you solely.**

**2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks our night
with the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
you must work all good within us.**

Stand

**3 Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light from Light, from God proceeding,
open now our heart and mind;
help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your Church now raises;
hear and bless our prayers and praises.**

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8,9

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you
in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

The confession emphasizes the themes of original and actual sins and the overriding need for the Lord's mercy.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

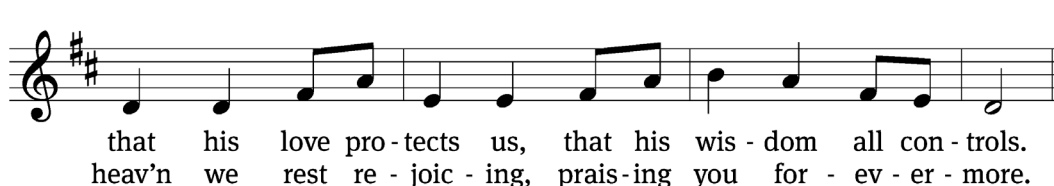
The pastor announces forgiveness to the penitent congregation. He appeals to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the basis for the full and free forgiveness of sins.

Song of Praise

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly
Christian Worship 484 (st. 2,3)

2 By his mer - cy, by his boun - ty, by the gift of Christ, his
3 Gra - cious Lord, ac - cept our ser - vice for the sake of Christ, your
Son, what great good - ness he has shown us, what high
Son; lo, our hope a - bides now on - ly in the
mar - vels he has done! Let us to him prompt - ly,
right - eous - ness he won. Bless and save us, help and
free - ly, yield our bod - ies and our souls, thank - ful
guide us, watch to com - fort and re - store, till in

This song reminds us that the Christian, forgiven through Christ, wants to serve him with body and soul. We pray for lives that live in Jesus' holiness with him as our guide. The author of this mid-19th-century hymn was a timber merchant who wrote quite a lot of poetry and hymns for children.



The Word

Ruth 2:4

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

*The Prayer of the Day
helps the worshipers
focus on a central
theme drawn from the
readings of the day.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy and bring forth fruits in faith, hope, and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

Children's Devotion

*With his gracious visit
and gracious words,
the Lord gives Sarah
exactly what she needs
most—a strengthened
faith in God's promise
of a child.*

First Reading

Genesis 18:1-14

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

³ He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵ Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

⁷ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸ He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been

prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

¹⁰Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.

¹¹Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

¹³Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.” (NIV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song Response

Oh, How Good It Is
Christian Worship 21 731

This modern hymn from Getty Music Publishing was inspired by Psalm 133. It celebrates the unity and love within the family of God and highlights the joy and strength found in Christian community.



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -
2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -
3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -

geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the
joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the
fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we

bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the
weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we
live as one we all share in the love of the

fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.



*Through the gospel
Christ gives us what
we need—a faith which
bears fruits in our
individual lives and in
his wider church.*

Second Reading

Colossians 1:1-14

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

² To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

³ We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴ because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— ⁵ the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. ⁷ You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, ¹⁰ so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, ¹² and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (NIV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day

Speak, O Lord
Christian Worship 21 633

Concerning the text of this 21st-century hymn, the composers say, "So incredible is the Word of God's power. It is our prayer that through the power of the Spirit, this hymn will prepare people to humbly listen to the Bible being taught and to respond to the huge consequences it has on their lives."



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights



of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the



deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty.
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.



that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your



fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.
nev - er fail, let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

One sister served Jesus, which was lovely. The other sister wanted to be served by Jesus, which is the one thing needed.

Sermon

Luke 10:38-42

“Only One Thing Is Needed”

⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

⁴¹ “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” (NIV)

My Christian Life - Only One Thing Needed //

Jesus loves to serve me. And I need his service. He serves me by his holy life, his death, his resurrection, and his Word. In thanks, I can ...

- ☐ Carve out time in my busy schedule to read a small portion of Scripture. Before I begin reading, I can pray, “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.” I know Jesus is serving me here.
- ☐ When you are in worship (perhaps even before the sermon), pray this prayer: “Lord, what are you saying to me today?” I’m praying for the Lord to serve me, which is so vital.
- ☐ Help a family member or friend who isn’t seeing worship as an important part of their life by sharing with them how worship helps me. After worship, I can share and ask what was helpful.
- ☐ Other: _____

Stand

As a united body of believers we proclaim what we believe—what the Christian church has always believed. To do that we use the words of the Apostles’ Creed, which the Christian church has used for almost two thousand years.

Apostles’ Creed

**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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

In the Prayer of the Church, the congregation agrees on earth what the Father in heaven may do for it. Petitions and thanksgivings are offered for all in authority and for human need.

As a response of faith, the members of Our Redeemer present gifts of money to the Lord. God's work must be done. God's word of salvation, the word we have just heard, must be preached to all people everywhere. We pray that God use these gifts to accomplish such vital work!

Offering

The members of Our Redeemer have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. **If you are a guest with us this morning**, we are so happy you're here! Please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. For those who wish to give a gift, you can place an offering in the **offering plate** located near the doors where you entered church today. A plate will be there as you depart today. You may also **scan the QR code** to the right with your smartphone's camera to be re-directed to a page where you can give an offering. While the members of Our Redeemer support this ministry with their gifts, we understand that you might want to learn more about us before you choose to the same.



We would greatly appreciate it, however, if you would fill out a **Connection Card** (located in the book rack in front of you) and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Schroeder following the service. You could also let us know you were here today by filling out a card online by **scanning the QR code** to the left.

This 17th-century German Lutheran hymn expresses a prayer that the Lord work in the heart of his people to love his Word and live his Word. Our Savior directs our daily lives through the Bible, and also delivers a message of comforting forgiveness to us when our sins are heavy upon us.

Hymn

Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening
Christian Worship 283 (st. 1-3)

- 1 **Speak, O Savior, I am list'ning, as a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor to your holy, precious Word,
that each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure and my heart's most precious treasure.**
- 2 **Oh, what blessing to be near you and to listen to your voice;
let me ever love and fear you, let your Word still be my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord, flee in terror at your Word;
but to all who feel sin's burden you give peace and words of pardon.**
- 3 **Lord, your words are waters living where I quench my thirsty needs.
Lord, your words are bread life-giving; on your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, your words will be my light thro' death's cold and dreary night;
yes, they are my sword prevailing and my cup of joy unfailing.**

This prayer has its roots in the 7th–8th centuries. It asks for God's grace to engage with Scripture actively so that believers may be strengthened in faith and hope.

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*All of our requests, all
of our prayers, all of our
needs are summed up
in the prayer that our
Savior, Jesus Christ,
taught us to pray. See
Matthew 6:9-13.*

Blessing

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 favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

*The pastor turns to the
holy people of God and
extends to them the
favor of the Lord in the
words of the Aaronic
Blessing (see Numbers
6:22-27).*

Closing Hymn

**God's Word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way,
in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure,
we keep its teachings pure
throughout all generations.**

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage *Christian Worship 293*

*Nikolai Grundtvig, the
author of this hymn,
was a key Danish
Lutheran pastor, hymn-
writer, and educator
who revitalized the
church and championed
the Christian faith
against rationalism and
religious apathy. A prolif-
ic hymnwriter, his 1,400
hymns emphasize the
Word of God, the Holy
Spirit, objective Chris-
tianity, and unwavering
doctrinal clarity.*

Acknowledgments

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Attendance

Sunday Morning Worship (July 13) - 41

Our Redeemer News

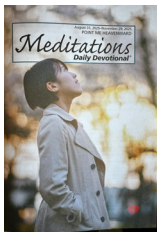
Upcoming Bible Studies at Our Redeemer

August 3, 11:00am - Starting Point - Christianity 101

August 6, 6:30pm - Starting Point - Christianity 101

Home Visits

Pastor Schroeder would like to meet with all the members of Our Redeemer by having home visits. Each visit will be about 30-45 minutes and would be done at your home. If you'd prefer, we could also meet elsewhere (church, coffee shop, etc.). Just state that on the signup sheet if it is different from your home. Signup sheets are located on the stand next to the information table outside.

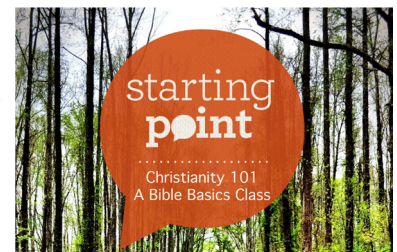


New Copies of Meditations Daily Devotional Available

Have you experienced the power of a daily encounter with God and his Word? The newest edition of *Meditations Daily Devotional* is available on the table in the courtyard. *Meditations* is a personal and inspiring devotional booklet offering a brief yet thought-provoking Bible study every day. Each of the devotions is clearly and accurately written, and the booklet includes daily Bible verses, devotions, and prayers. Through focus on and faith in God's true Word, *Meditations* provides guidance and encouragement for daily living.

New Starting Point - Christianity 101 Course Beginning in August

Getting back to the basics of the Bible always shores up our faith's foundation. Beginning on Sunday morning, August 3, at 11am and Wednesday, August 6, at 6:30pm, we will offer our *Starting Point - Christianity 101* course. Use this course as a review for yourself or bring along a family member or friend to introduce them to your church. This course is also the one we have those interested in joining Our Redeemer to check out what our church teaches and to get questions answered. We hope you can join us!



Managing God's Gifts To Us

Managing God's Gifts to Us

We sometimes think that we are the first generation to ever have been busy—the first generation to ever have to make choices concerning the use and stewardship of our time. It's not true, of course. What Martha wouldn't have given for the use of a time-saving microwave! Mary surely had many things beckoning to her that day, including God-pleasing service to her Lord. But even that paled in comparison to using her time for the one thing needful—the hearing of her Savior's

Word. Yes, there is a need for council meetings, trimming the church's hedges, balancing the congregation's checkbook, and organizing the congregation's potluck, but the best stewardship of our time still comes when we sit with Mary at Jesus' feet. To help be kept informed of finances at Our Redeemer, here is the recent offerings report.

	Last Week	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date
Actual Offerings	\$5,095	\$8,685	\$79,293
Budgeted Offerings	\$2,600	\$5,200	\$77,203
Difference	\$2,495	\$3,485	\$2,090



A look ahead to this week's WELS 68th Biennial Convention

The theme of the 68th Biennial Convention of our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) taking place July 21-24, 2025, at Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, Minn., is "Christ through us." The theme underscores God's blessings to our church body as it celebrates its 175th anniversary this year and points to God's continued work through WELS in the future.

As delegates meet at the convention, they will be receiving reports from every area of ministry, making decisions regarding the synod's work, participating in worship services and devotions, and enjoying Christian fellowship. Our Redeemer member Carl Schueler is serving as a delegate this year for our Arizona-California District. Matt Ampe was asked to serve as a delegate from his congregation in Wisconsin before they moved to Santa Barbara, so he will also be in attendance. We wish them God's blessings on their trip and convention experiences.

One of the first items of business will be elections to replace Conference of Presidents members First Vice President Rev. James Huebner (Grace, Milwaukee, Wis.) and Secretary Rev. Robert Pasbrig (Peace, Hartford, Wis.). Both men have served WELS long and faithfully and are not seeking reelection. Delegates will also elect other men to serve on various boards and commissions.

Delegates will discuss a two-year ministry financial plan and a ten-year, long-range strategic plan for the synod. The strategic plan has the same name as the convention theme, "Christ through us," and outlines how WELS, under God's direction and blessings, desires to carry out its mission in the next ten years.

Rev. Joel Otto, a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., will be delivering an essay on the history of WELS.

Delegates will also have opportunities to hear presentations from home and world missionaries.

A special speaker at this year's convention is Rev. Makisimu Musa, president of the Obadiah Lutheran Synod of Uganda. At the 2023 convention at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Mich., WELS formally declared church fellowship with the Obadiah Lutheran Synod of Uganda, but Musa was unable to be present and address the delegates in person.

Newly elected officers will be installed at the closing worship service.

You can tune in daily for the livestream of the convention at welsconvention.net.

About Us

Our Mission

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church has been serving the Santa Barbara community since 1968. As people who have been redeemed through faith in Jesus Christ, our mission is to: **Grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ; **Encourage** one another; and **Proclaim** what we have seen and heard.



Our Contact Information

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Our Ministry

Sunday Worship: 9:30am
Sunday Online Broadcast available at our YouTube channel.
Bible Study: Sundays at 11:00am (starting Aug. 3); Wednesdays at 6:30pm (starting Aug. 6)

Our Pastor

Pastor Daniel Schroeder
pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com
(619) 852-2440

Our Church Body

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of our Wisconsin Synod and thirty-three other church bodies around the world of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC).



Let us know you were here!

