



Service Focus:

Scripture / Anticipation

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church | Santa Barbara, California
Last Sunday of the Church Year | November 23, 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 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).

Are you visiting with us today? Thank you! We love meeting our neighbors and would be grateful for the opportunity to extend our thanks in a more formal way. **Please consider filling out one of the Welcome/Connect cards in the rack in front of you, or scan the QR code** to the right to help us know you better.

Connect Card



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 blue 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 & dad. Model worship for them.
- Our worship format not only encourages families to be together, but is ideally suited for active 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** during worship isn't bad at all – it's a reminder to the adults that the next generation of church leaders is already among us.

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 some individual attention to calm them down, an area in the fellowship hall, located just to the left as you exit church, is available. Worship can be watched and heard 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: Cause / Effect

“Every why hath a wherefore,” Shakespeare wrote, reminding us that little happens by chance—there is always cause and effect. To live wisely, we must understand both: a healthy heart requires knowing the causes of disease, financial peace demands awareness of spending’s effects. If you want the peace of being close to God, you need to know what causes that effect. Again, to navigate life well, it is vital we understand cause and effect. As we near the end of the Church Year, having reviewed Jesus’ life and teachings, we now focus on key themes that reveal God’s divine cause and effect at work throughout his kingdom. In this final four-week series we will be looking at those themes with the understanding that *“every why hath a wherefore.”* We conclude the year by talking about cause and effect in God’s kingdom.

November 2 Festival of All Saints Sainthood / Stamina

November 9 Pentecost 22 Grace / Joy

November 16 Pentecost 23 Judgment / Peace

November 23 Last Sunday of the Church Year Scripture / Anticipation

Service Focus

As another Church Year closes, we again wait for our Lord’s return. How long must we watch? We do not know. Jesus promised to come “soon,” yet the One without beginning or end measures time differently than we do. Whenever Jesus returns, it will take us by surprise. So how do believers avoid growing lethargic and remain ready and watchful for Christ’s return? Our Savior points us to his Scriptures.

Every promise he spoke this past year—giving comfort, hope, and purpose—he also ensured was written in his Word. As we see in Scripture the promises Christ has already fulfilled, the Spirit works eager anticipation for those still awaiting fulfillment. We may not know when that day will arrive, but we know what it will bring. No matter how many years we must mark, we watch with eager anticipation, and we pray, “Amen! Come, Lord Jesus” (Revelation 22:20).

Prayer before the Service

Lord Jesus, as another Church Year ends, keep me watchful and eager for your return. Your timing is hidden, yet your promises are sure. Let the Scriptures I hear today remind me of every word you have fulfilled and strengthen my hope in what you have yet to complete. Guard my heart from spiritual weariness. Fill me with confidence, purpose, and anticipation as I pray, “Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.” Amen.

Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Daniel Schroeder
Music Operator: Al Todd
Audio/Visual Booth: Jim Everson, Josh Schueler
Usher: John Favuzzi

Communion Assistant: Greg Grunewald
Welcome Table: Margaret Brown
Flowers: Greg & Barb Grunewald
Communion Setup & Cleanup: Linka Schroeder

The Service

Welcome

We need God to speak to us so that the Word may work on our hearts. He did so through prophets long ago; he did so through Jesus, who also has as one of his names the Word; and he does so through his Holy Spirit, who opens our hearts to believe his Word. This mid-20th-century hymn shows us our Triune God's important work of speaking the Word to us.

Opening Hymn

God Has Spoken by His Prophets
Christian Worship 639



1 God has spo - ken by his proph-ets, spo - ken his un - chang - ing Word,
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
3 God is speak - ing by his Spir - it, speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the right - eous Lord.
bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, with the Fa - ther ev - er one;
in the age - less Word de - clar - ing his own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de - spair and tur - moil one firm an - chor holds us fast:
spo - ken by the Word in - car - nate, God from God, be - fore time was;
Thro' the rise and fall of na - tions one sure faith is stand - ing fast:



God is King, his throne e - ter - nal, God the first and God the last.
Light from Light, to earth de - scend - ing, he re - veals our God to us.
God a - bides, his Word un - chang - ing, God the first and God the last.

Stand

Confession

Matthew 28:19

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

Amen.

God's people live in daily repentance. Now, when gathered in God's presence, the pastor invites them to confess their sins and ask God for his forgiveness.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

O God, our Father, we confess to you all our sins, our slowness to learn of Christ, our failure to follow him, our reluctance to bear the cross. Forgive us the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, and our hesitating witness for Christ. Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Forgive us and renew us that we may have the strength of faith to take up our cross and follow Christ, our glorious Lord. Amen.

Hear the Good News! God has given his Son Jesus to die for you to forgive you all your sins. He has heard your confession, and now I, as a called servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The minister speaks forgiveness as Christ's authorized servant, assuring the penitent that these are the Triune God's words.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Christ, have mer - cy on us.

Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.

Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression Lord, have mercy is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

Glory Be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*

Glo - ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the

high - est and peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We wor-ship

you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Glo - ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est and

Sung after the Kyrie in Lutheran services, the Gloria reflects the Gospel's centrality, proclaiming Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the world's sin. It has Trinitarian and creedal elements and connects worshippers to both angels and shepherds.

peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the
 Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of God the Fa - ther: re -
rit.
 ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.
a tempo
 Glo - ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est and
 peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther.



The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Ruth 2:4

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Prayer of the Day teaches the faith through its Christ-centered doctrine, showing that prayer and the Word belong together as we prepare to hear Scripture.

Be seated

Children's Devotion

First Reading

Revelation 22:6-13

⁶The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

⁷"Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

⁸I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me.

⁹But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!"

¹⁰Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the

Christ is coming soon. In the meantime, in eager anticipation, we hold onto and make known what God has revealed in his Word.

time is near. ¹¹ Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”

¹² “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (NIV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song Response

In You Is Gladness
Christian Worship 513

The author of this hymn, Johann Lindemann, was one of the signers of the Formula of Concord, one of the Lutheran confessions, in 1577. He seems to have been a cousin of Martin Luther, since Luther’s mother was Margarete Lindemann, whose brother was Johann Lindemann’s grandfather.

Stand

*Though we cannot
know when Jesus
will return, we can be
certain what will happen
when he does. So, we
watch and wait with
anticipation.*

Gospel

Luke 12:35-40

³⁵ “Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸ It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. ³⁹ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (NIV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

By Faith
Christian Worship 868

This modern hymn is grounded in the biblical narrative of Hebrews 11 and designed to trace the faith of God’s people—from creation and patriarchs to prophets, the church, and today. With its scriptural basis, poetic depth, and stirring melody, the hymn encourages believers to persevere in faith, eyes fixed on God’s promises, even when they cannot see the end.

“Trust That God Knows What He Is Doing”

- ¹The prophecy that Habakkuk the prophet received.
²How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen?
 Or cry out to you, “Violence!” but you do not save?
³Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing?
 Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds.
^{2:1}I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts;
 I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give
 to this complaint.
²Then the LORD replied:
 “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.
³For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end
 and will not prove false.
 Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.
⁴“See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright—
 but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness.” (NIV)

My Christian Life - Trust That God Knows What He Is Doing //

Since Christ has already rescued me and made me righteous by faith, I can face my unanswered “why” questions with confidence. In his grace, God invites me to trust his perfect ways and timing, which means I want to ...

- ☐ Write down one troubling “why” question in my life and lay it honestly before God in prayer. My prayers will include praying specifically for patience and trust rather than for immediate answers.
- ☐ When tempted to interpret God’s silence as indifference, read Romans 8:32 and be reminded how deeply he loves me. The passage says: “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”
- ☐ Choose one source of anxiety-inducing media to reduce this week so I can hear God’s Word more clearly. It’s good to turn things down or off to spend time with my Savior.
- ☐ Other: _____

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is,
 seen and unseen.

Tracing its roots back to 325 AD, Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible’s teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one being with the Father.
 Through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who in unity with the Father and the Son
 is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Spoken by the Pastor

*In offering money as an
 expression of worship,
 we are responding to
 God's claim on our lives
 and giving him a portion
 of what he has in fact
 given us.*

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 do the same.



Connect Card



We would greatly appreciate it, however, if you would fill out a **Welcome/Connect Card** (located in the rack in front of you) and place it in the offering plate 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.

The Sacrament

Our Redeemer practices close communion. We ask, therefore, that only members of this congregation and our fellowship (the Wisconsin Synod) partake of the sacrament. If you are a member of another Lutheran denomination or Christian church and would like to commune with us in the future, please speak with our pastor after the service and he would be delighted to explain what that entails.

The Preface

The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Lamentations 3:41

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 107:1

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Psalm 92:1

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Sanctus means "holy."

Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

"Hosanna" means

"Save now!"

See Isaiah 6:3.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



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.

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.

As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus is God's Lamb (Agnus Dei), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all. See John 1:29 and Isaiah 53:7.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*





Be seated

Distribution

For the distribution, at the direction of the usher, please proceed to the outside aisle of your side of the church. The baptismal font side will proceed first, front to back. The pulpit side will then follow, front to back. Come to the front of church in groups of about 8 people. After your group is dismissed, proceed to the center aisle, dispose of the cup in the basket, and return to your seat.

Questions for Self-Examination before Communion

- Am I sorry for my sins?
- Do I trust Jesus as my Savior?
- Do I believe Jesus' body and blood are truly present to assure me of forgiveness?
- Do I intend, with God's help, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Closing Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Psalms 136:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. See Numbers 6:24-26.

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.

Closing Hymn

All Is Well
Christian Worship 802

The authors wrote that this 21st century song was written "to bring comfort and hope in the midst of trials as we remind ourselves of God's great love."

Acknowledgments

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Attendance

Sunday Morning Worship (November 16) - 45
Sunday Morning Bible Study (November 16) - 20
Wednesday Evening Bible Study (November 19) - 12

Our Redeemer News

Upcoming Bible Studies at Our Redeemer

November 23, 11:00am - Starting Point - Christianity 101
November 30, 11:00am - Starting Point - Christianity 101

Women's Ministry Group Food and Toy Drive

From now until Sunday, December 7, the Women's Ministry Group will have bins available if you would like to drop off non-perishable food items and/or toys to be donated to the Seasons of Hope organization to help those in need in our community this holiday season.

New Advent Worship Series Starts Next Sunday - "Imminent Arrival"

Do you remember the feeling when someone important is about to arrive at your place? It's a mixture of anticipation and excitement and nervousness. Did you make all the correct preparations? Will the person be happy to see you? When and how will the person arrive? Will there be any surprises? During these weeks before Christmas, we anticipate the imminent arrival of Jesus. He's an important person! We are about to celebrate his birth. He could return on judgment day at any time. But in worship we realize that he impacts our lives when the Bible is read and when the sacraments are administered. Suddenly we feel the excitement of an imminent arrival. Join us for a new worship series starting November 30: **Imminent Arrival!**



Managing God's Gifts to Us

While we wait for Jesus to return, it is easy to become preoccupied with using our Lord's blessings to simply purchase a home, raise a family, and enjoy a comfortable retirement. As servants of the master, don't allow earthly possessions to keep us from being ready spiritually for the Son of Man to return. We have the privilege to manage God's blessings by helping others "be ready" for his return. To help be kept informed of finances to carry out our ministry plans at Our Redeemer, here is the recent offerings report.

| | Last Week | Month-to-Date | Year-to-Date |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| Actual Offerings | \$4,415 | \$7,270 | \$135,067 |
| Budgeted Offerings | \$2,600 | \$7,800 | \$124,222 |
| Difference | \$1,815 | \$530 | \$10,845 |

This Week at Our Redeemer

Sunday November 23
 9:30am Sunday Worship (Holy Communion)
 11:00am Sunday Bible Hour

Monday November 24
 7:00pm Handbells' Practice

Wednesday November 26
 9:30am Pastor's Office Hours
 6:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Devotional Bonfire

Thursday November 27
 Thanksgiving Day

Sunday November 30
 9:30am Sunday Worship
 11:00am Sunday Bible Hour



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

770 Vala Drive
Santa Barbara, California 93111
(805) 967-1128
orlcsb.net

Our Ministry

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

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 1,200 plus churches of our Wisconsin Synod and 33 other church bodies around the world of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC).



Let us know you were here!

