



Service Focus:

What's He Worth to You?

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church | Santa Barbara, California
Midweek Lent 2 | February 25, 2026



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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.

Series Focus: "It Is Finished!"

Our midweek Lent series this year explores the prophecies of Zechariah, offering an enriching look at our Savior Jesus, particularly as these prophecies relate to the events of Jesus' Holy Week passion, death, and resurrection.

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|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| February 18 | Ash Wednesday | Return to Me! |
| February 25 | Midweek Lent 2 | What's He Worth to You? |
| March 4 | Midweek Lent 3 | Scattered Sheep |
| March 11 | Midweek Lent 4 | The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth |
| March 18 | Midweek Lent 5 | The Kingly Priest |
| March 25 | Midweek Lent 6 | Look at the One Who Was Pierced |

Service Focus

Centuries before Judas weighed out thirty pieces of silver, Zechariah foretold the price at which God's Shepherd would be valued—and rejected. In tonight's Passion History we see plots forming, Passover fulfilled, and the Lord's Supper given, even as Jesus is betrayed for the price of a slave. As we hear the question, "What's he worth to you?" we marvel instead at what we are worth to him.

Prayer before the Service

Lord Jesus, faithful Shepherd, you were valued at thirty pieces of silver and handed over to suffering and death for us. Forgive us for the times we have treated you as worth little in our thoughts, priorities, and choices. Through your Word tonight, show us again your priceless grace. As we hear of betrayal, Passover, and your holy Supper, deepen our repentance and strengthen our faith in your finished work. Amen.

Serving God and Us Today

Presiding Minister: Pastor Daniel Schroeder
Music Operator: Al Todd
Audio/Visual Booth: Josh Schueler
Usher: Greg Grunewald
Welcome Table: Pam Schueler

The Service

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow
Christian Worship 794

This hymn expresses trust in in God for peace and safety during the evening. The text was written by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676). A native of Wittenberg, Germany, he became a Lutheran minister and served first in Berlin and then in Luben. Baron Bunsen (1830) writes of this hymn: "Ever since its publication this hymn has been one of the most beloved and best-known hymns of devout meditation over the whole of Germany. Experienced and conceived in a truly childlike popular spirit, it unites with a rare naive simplicity of expression, a loftiness of thought, a depth of Christian experience, a grace of poetry, so that for this union of qualities it must rank as an enduring masterpiece among hymns."

Confession of Sins

Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for personal reflection

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

*The Church sings
Psalm 119 in services
that encourage us to
take the Word of God
seriously. Based on the
Hebrew alphabet, it is
the longest psalm and
the longest chapter of
the Bible.*

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 119:65-68,71,72

Do good to your servant
according to your word, LORD.

Teach me knowledge and good judgment,
for I trust your commands.

Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I obey your word.

You are good, and what you do is good;
teach me your decrees.

It was good for me to be afflicted
so that I might learn your decrees.

The law from your mouth is more precious to me
than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.

Psalm Prayer

Lord, your Word is my delight. When I was lost in the darkness of sin, you penetrated my heart with the light of your Word. Let it enlighten my path each day that I may serve you in holiness. Let your Word shine through all I say and do that others may see you and praise your saving name. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Passion History

Matthew 26:1-35

Plot, Passover, and Lord's Supper

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ² "As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴ and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ⁵ "But not during the festival," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

⁶ While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper, ⁷ a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

⁸ When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. "Why this waste?" they asked. ⁹ "This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor."

¹⁰ Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. ¹² When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³ Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

¹⁴ Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

¹⁷ On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹⁸ He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your

house.’ ”¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹ And while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”

²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?”

²³ Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.

²⁴ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

²⁵ Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?”

Jesus answered, “You have said so.”

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus 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.”

²⁷ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

³⁰ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹ Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

“ I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”

³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

³³ Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.”

³⁴ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.”

³⁵ But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the other disciples said the same. (NIV)

Hymn of the Day

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Christian Worship 407

This is one of Isaac Watts’s (1674-1748) most loved hymns. After singing the final stanza of this hymn, it’s reported that Father Ignatius of St. Edmund’s church in London blurted to his congregation: “Well, I’m surprised to hear you sing that. Do you know that altogether you put only 15 shillings in the collection bag this morning?” The final stanza of the hymn reads:

*“Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.”*

This prophecy foretells how the Good Shepherd, offering God's favor and unity through the staffs called Favor and Union, would be rejected and valued at a mere thirty pieces of silver, revealing how cheaply sinful hearts esteem the priceless grace he gives.

“What’s He Worth to You?”

⁷ So I shepherded the flock marked for slaughter, particularly the oppressed of the flock. Then I took two staffs and called one Favor and the other Union, and I shepherded the flock. ⁸ In one month I got rid of the three shepherds.

The flock detested me, and I grew weary of them ⁹ and said, “I will not be your shepherd. Let the dying die, and the perishing perish. Let those who are left eat one another’s flesh.”

¹⁰ Then I took my staff called Favor and broke it, revoking the covenant I had made with all the nations. ¹¹ It was revoked on that day, and so the oppressed of the flock who were watching me knew it was the word of the LORD.

¹² I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

¹³ And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the LORD. (NIV)

Confession of Faith

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.

What does this mean?

... He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

In Lutheranism, the catechism has long been associated with Lent. Martin Luther used the season to review its chief parts, preaching on them and urging parents to go over those same portions with their children throughout the week.

Prayer

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
listen to my cry.

Psalm 17:1

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

Psalm 17:8

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Psalm 17:15

Be present, O Merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer trains our faith, teaching us through its petitions to cling to God's promises and rely on his goodness.

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.

Blessing

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

What Is the World to Me
Christian Worship 717 (st. 4)

Written by a German Lutheran pastor and hymnwriter in the late 1600's, this hymn is a personal declaration that worldly possessions, pleasures, and honors are of no lasting value compared to Christ, who is the believer's eternal treasure.

Acknowledgments

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Offering

For those who wish to give an offering this evening, you can place an offering in the **offering plate** located near the doors where you entered church today. You may also **scan the QR code** to the right with your smartphone's camera to be redirected 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.



Join us each Wednesday in Lent for our devotional worship at 7:00 pm.
Next Wednesday we focus on the theme: "Scattered Sheep"

Let us know you were here!

