

Third Sunday after Pentecost + June 29, 2025 + 10:00 am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2417 Drexel Avenue - Racine, Wisconsin 53403
(262) 634-7998
<https://www.facebook.com/LCRRacine>



WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are so glad you are here!

*Hymns marked as ELW may be found in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal and hymns marked as WOV may be found in the blue With One Voice hymnal. Assembly responses are in **bold typeface**.*

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

"Morning Has Broken" ELW #556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Elijah's ministry is finished as he is taken up into heaven, and a new chapter begins as Elisha inherits the mantle and the spirit of his teacher. Like the great prophet Moses before them, both Elijah and Elisha part a body of water through the power of God.

Now the Lord was going to take Elijah up to heaven in a windstorm, and Elijah and Elisha were leaving Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here because the Lord has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

³ The group of prophets from Bethel came out to Elisha. These prophets said to Elisha, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master away from you today?"

Elisha said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!"

⁴ Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here, because the Lord has sent me to Jericho."

But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵ The group of prophets from Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master away from you today?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!"

⁶ Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, because the Lord has sent me to the Jordan."

But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So both of them went on together. ⁷ Fifty members from the group of prophets also went along, but they stood at a distance. Both Elijah and Elisha stood beside the Jordan River. ⁸ Elijah then took his coat, rolled it up, and hit the water. Then the water was divided in two! Both of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "What do you want me to do for you before I'm taken away from you?"

Elisha said, "Let me have twice your spirit."

¹⁰ Elijah said, "You've made a difficult request. If you can see me when I'm taken from you, then it will be yours. If you don't see me, it won't happen."

¹¹ They were walking along, talking, when suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses appeared and separated the two of them. Then Elijah went to heaven in a windstorm.

¹² Elisha was watching, and he cried out, "Oh, my father, my father! Israel's chariots and its riders!" When he could no longer see him, Elisha took hold of his clothes and ripped them in two

¹³ Then Elisha picked up the coat that had fallen from Elijah. He went back and stood beside the banks of the Jordan River. ¹⁴ He took the coat that had fallen from Elijah and hit the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, Elijah's God?" And when he hit the water, it divided in two! Then Elisha crossed over.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 77:1-2, 11-20

By your strength you have redeemed your people. (Ps. 77:15)

- ¹ I will cry aloud to God; I will cry aloud, and God will hear me.
² **In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; my hand was stretched out by night and did not tire; I refused to be comforted.**
¹¹ I will remember the works of the LORD, and call to mind your wonders of old.
¹² **I will meditate on all your acts and ponder your mighty deeds.**
¹³ Your way, O God, is holy; who is so great a god as our God?
¹⁴ **You are the God who works wonders and have declared your power among the peoples.**
¹⁵ By your strength you have redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.
¹⁶ **The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and trembled; the very depths were shaken.**
¹⁷ The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; your lightning bolts flashed to and fro;
¹⁸ **the sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.**
¹⁹ Your way was in the sea, and your paths in the great waters, yet your footsteps were not seen.
²⁰ **You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

Second Reading

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

Christ has set us free for freedom. Therefore, stand firm and don't submit to the bondage of slavery again.

¹³ You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. ¹⁴ All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: Love your neighbor as yourself. ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other!


¹⁶ I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires. ¹⁷ A person's selfish desires are set against the Spirit, and the Spirit is set against one's selfish desires. They are opposed to each other, so you shouldn't do whatever you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are being led by the Spirit, you aren't under the Law. ¹⁹ The actions that are produced by selfish motives are obvious, since they include sexual immorality, moral corruption, doing whatever feels good, ²⁰ idolatry, drug use and casting spells, hate, fighting, obsession, losing your temper, competitive opposition, conflict, selfishness, group rivalry, ²¹ jealousy, drunkenness, partying, and other things like that. I warn you as I have already warned you, that those who do these kinds of things won't inherit God's kingdom.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. ²⁴ Those who belong to
Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

As the time approached when Jesus was to be taken up into heaven, he determined to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² He sent messengers on ahead of him. Along the way, they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival, ⁵³ but the Samaritan villagers refused to welcome him because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to consume them?" ⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and spoke sternly to them, ⁵⁶ and they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As Jesus and his disciples traveled along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and the birds in the sky have nests, but the Human One has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹ Then Jesus said to someone else, "Follow me."

He replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead. But you go and spread the news of God's kingdom."

⁶¹ Someone else said to Jesus, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those in my house."

⁶² Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand on the plow and looks back is fit for God's kingdom."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Hymn of the Day

"Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons" ELW #798



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*Each petition ends with: God of grace, **receive our prayer.***

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Darlene Sorensen, Erna Joswig Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Marie Miller, Pat Quale, Mario Miranda, Lynda, Estie Marnell, Tim LaPointe, Michelle Haws, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Merlin Gandrud, Chuck Julius, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs, and the families Sandy Monedfelt, Jerry Draeger (friend of Marilyn Rentz) and Jim Weber (nephew of Marilyn Rentz).

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering



*There are many ways to give to support Redeemer! You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the left with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). **Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song

Musical notation for the Offering Song, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff.

Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;

light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is

ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is

ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931
Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949
Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.
Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Offertory Prayer

The assembly may rise in body or spirit.

Let us pray. Creator God,

**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presiding Minister continues:

God of the whirlwind, you created all things out of nothing;
... singing the hymn of your unending praise.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presiding Minister prays giving thanks to God, for God's saving work throughout history.

The Assembly responds when prompted:

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer concludes with: Amen:

The Lord's Prayer

Below is a slightly different version of the Lord's Prayer.

You may recall these are the words we used when we chanted the prayer throughout the Easter season. This version was updated in 1988 by the English Language Liturgical Consultation and is called the Ecumenical Lord's Prayer meant to use more contemporary, familiar words. Feel free to pray this version, or the more traditional version, or heck, pray it in a different language if you know it!

**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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Distribution of Communion


If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



Distribution Song

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" ELW #697

Refrain



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



Refrain

I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional
Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. Mothering God,

you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves

and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing of Neighborhood Camp

Blessing

The love of God abound in you;

the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;

and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Let All Things Now Living" ELW #881

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

Dismissal

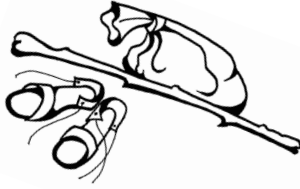
Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	<i>God's Creation</i>
Usher:	Bernie Osborne
Assisting Minister:	Jane Wilson
Readers:	Kevin Rattle
Altar Guild:	Jeanne Schierstedt & Jane Wilson
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James





This Week @ Redeemer

Monday-Thursday:

Neighborhood Camp Continues!!!

Sunday:

Worship – 9am

Celebrations this Week

Birthdays:

Nancy Nelson (6/29), Riley Dustman (07/03), Nancy

Shortess & Marion Julius (07/05),

Wedding Anniversaries:

Sarah & Cheyenne Skenandore (6/30)

Upcoming Commemorations

Peter and Paul, Apostles

Sunday, June 29, 2025

These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.

Catherine Winkworth, died 1878; John Mason Neale, died 1866; hymn translators

Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Neale was an English priest who specialized in the translation of Latin and Greek hymns into English. Winkworth lived in Manchester, England, and devoted herself to translating German hymns. Almost all English-speaking hymnals include many of their translations.

Thomas, Apostle

Thursday, July 3, 2025

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.