

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost + August 17, 2025 + 9:00 am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
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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**.*

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

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

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" ELW #519



- 1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo - ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.
- 2 They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!
God has spo - ken words of wis-dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

Music: YISRAEL V'ORAITA, Hasidic tune

Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings about a beautiful vineyard, carefully planted and cultivated, that nevertheless yields wild grapes. The owner therefore determines to destroy the vineyard, which represents the sinful people of Israel and Judah.

Let me sing for my loved one a love song for his vineyard. My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it, cleared away its stones, planted it with excellent vines, built a tower inside it, and dug out a wine vat in it. He expected it to grow good grapes— but it grew rotten grapes. ³ So now, you who live in Jerusalem, you people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I haven't done for it? When I expected it to grow good grapes, why did it grow rotten grapes? ⁵ Now let me tell you what I'm doing to my vineyard. I'm removing its hedge, so it will be destroyed. I'm breaking down its walls, so it will be trampled. ⁶ I'll turn it into a ruin; it won't be pruned or hoed, and thorns and thistles will grow up. I will command the clouds not to rain on it. ⁷ The vineyard of the Lord of heavenly forces is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are the plantings in which God delighted. God expected justice, but there was bloodshed; righteousness, but there was bloodshed;

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

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

⁸ You have brought a vine | out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and | planted it.

⁹ **You cleared the | ground for it; it took root and | filled the land.**

¹⁰ The mountains were covered | by its shadow and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.

¹¹ **You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea and its branches | to the river.**

¹² Why have you broken | down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?

¹³ **The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.**

¹⁴ Turn now, O | God of hosts, look | down from heaven;

¹⁵ **behold and | tend this vine; preserve what your right | hand has planted.**

¹⁶ They burn it with | fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your countenance | let them perish.

¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.**

¹⁸ And so will we never turn a- | way from you; give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

By faith they crossed the Red Sea as if they were on dry land, but when the Egyptians tried it, they were drowned.

³⁰ By faith Jericho’s walls fell after the people marched around them for seven days.

³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute wasn’t killed with the disobedient because she welcomed the spies in peace.

³² What more can I say? I would run out of time if I told you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. ³³ Through faith they conquered kingdoms, brought about justice, realized promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ put out raging fires, escaped from the edge of the sword, found strength in weakness, were mighty in war, and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured and refused to be released so they could gain a better resurrection.

³⁶ But others experienced public shame by being taunted and whipped; they were even put in chains and in prison. ³⁷ They were stoned to death, they were cut in two, and they died by being murdered with swords. They went around wearing the skins of sheep and goats, needy, oppressed, and mistreated. ³⁸ The world didn’t deserve them. They wandered around in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground. ³⁹ All these people didn’t receive what was promised, though they were given approval for their faith. ⁴⁰ God provided something better for us so they wouldn’t be made perfect without us.

¹² So then, with endurance, let’s also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let’s throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, ² and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith’s pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God’s throne.

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

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly may rise in body or spirit.



Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] "I came to cast fire upon the earth. How I wish that it was already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism I must experience. How I am distressed until it's completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, I have come instead to bring division. ⁵² From now on, a household of five will be divided—three against two and two against three. ⁵³ Father will square off against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud forming in the west, you immediately say, 'It's going to rain.' And indeed it does. ⁵⁵ And when a south wind blows, you say, 'A heat wave is coming.' And it does. ⁵⁶ Hypocrites! You know how to interpret conditions on earth and in the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret the present time?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

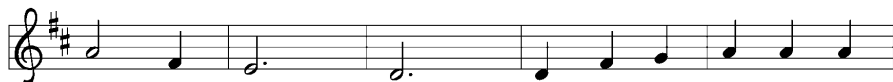
Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ELW #815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great..***

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Mario Miranda, Lynda, Estie Marnell, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Merlin Gandrud, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs, and the family of Darlene Sorensen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

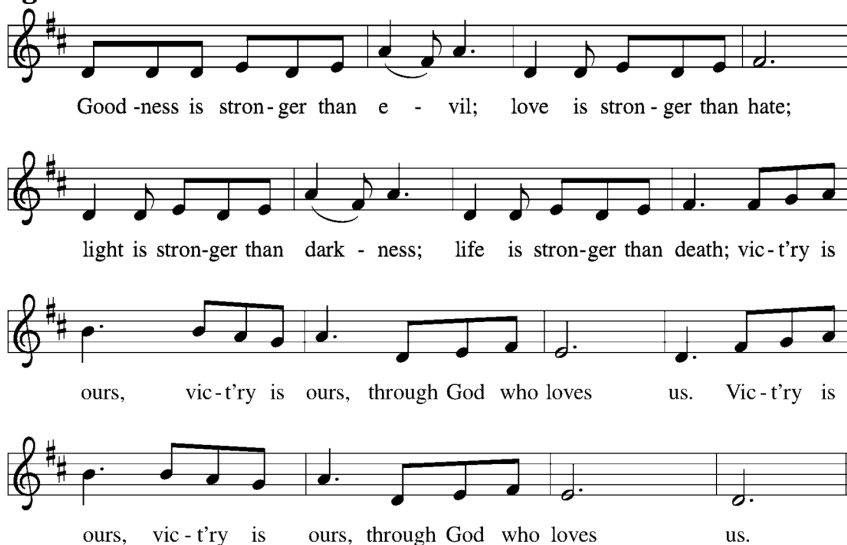
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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



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
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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.

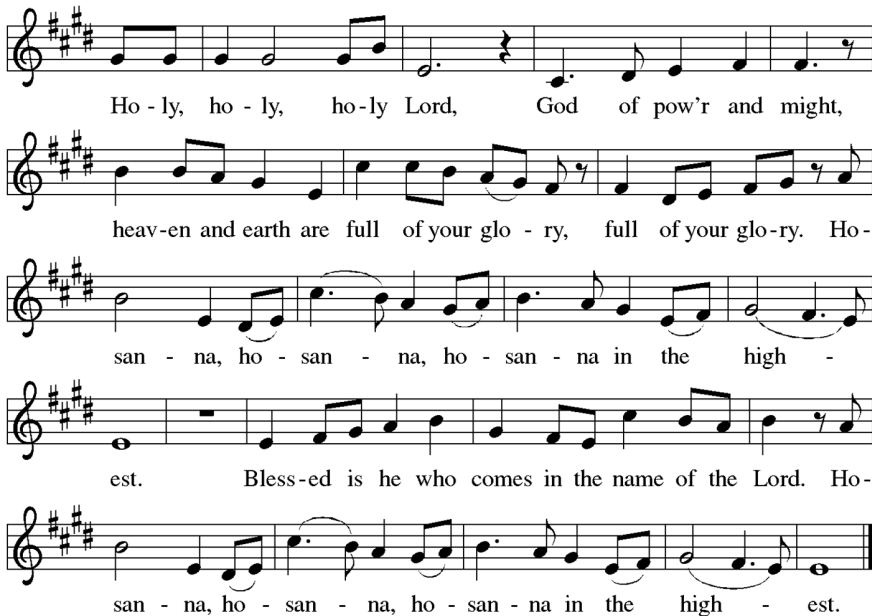
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presiding Minister continues:

It is a good and joyful thing to give our thanks to you,...

.... as we join the unending hymn.



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

Feel free to pray this Ecumenical Lord's Prayer, or the more traditional version, or heck, pray it in a different language if you know it!

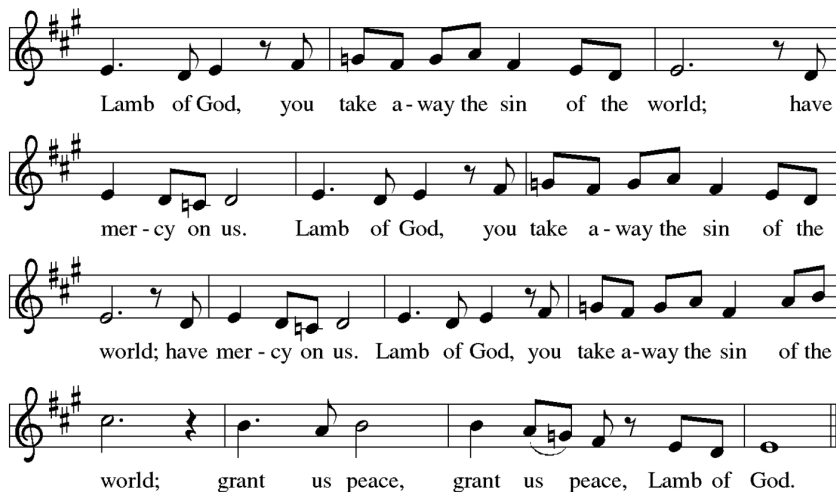
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are 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.



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp, F#) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God."

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution Song

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord" TFF #152



1 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Thou art the
 2 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Search me and
 3 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Wound-ed and
 4 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Hold o'er my



pot - ter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me af - ter thy
 try me, Mas - ter, to - day. Pur - er than snow, Lord, wash me just
 wea - ry, help me, I pray. Pow - er, all pow - er sure - ly is
 be - ing ab - so - lute sway. Fill with thy Spir - it till all shall



will, while I am wait - ing, yield - ed and still.
 now, as in thy pres - ence hum - bly I bow.
 thine. Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine.
 see Christ on - ly, al - ways, liv - ing in me.

Text: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1862–1934
 Music: ADELAIDE, George C. Stebbins, 1846–1945

Table Blessing

The assembly may rise in body or spirit.



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

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

"Lead On, O King Eternal" ELW #805



- 1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
- 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
- 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

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Serving Today

Usher:	Jim Kasproovich
Assisting Minister:	Nancy Vandewinckel
Readers:	Linda Rattle
Altar Guild:	Marilyn Rentz & Nancy Vandewinckel
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

This Week @ Redeemer

Sunday: Worship – 9am

Celebrations this Week

Birthdays: Jessica Meyers (8/20), Beth Peterson & Clara Ritzman (8/21), Stephanie Naegeli (8/22)

Upcoming Commemorations

Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Bernard, a Cistercian monk, was a man of great spirituality who wrote mystical works and criticized those whom he thought took an overly intellectual approach to the faith. He became an abbot, and wrote several hymns that are still beloved today.

