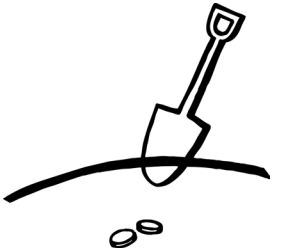
25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 + 9:30am

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



Our readings during November speak of the end times. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

GATHERING

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

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.
A brief silence.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Gathering Song ***"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*** *ELW #632*



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

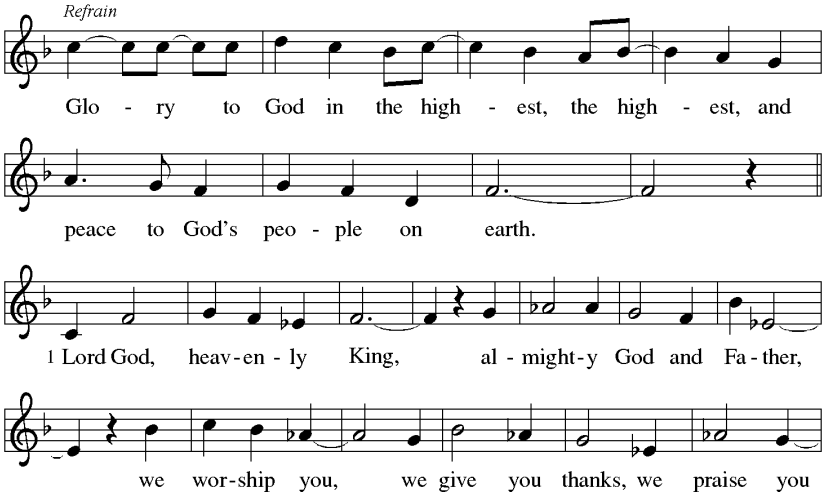
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: St. Anne, William Croft, 1678–1727

Greeting

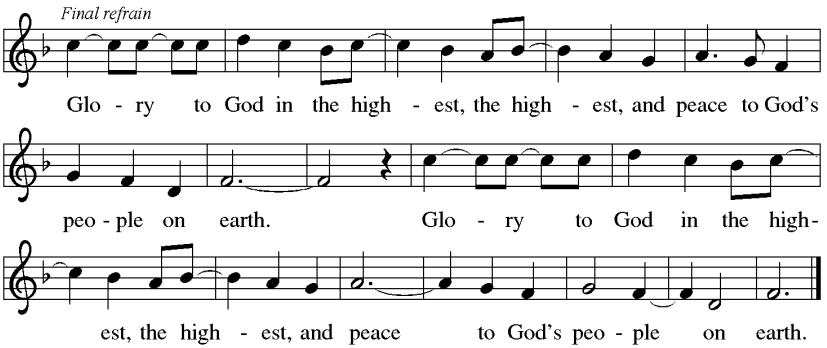
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise




Refrain
for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 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 the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 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.
A - men. A - men. A - men.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Righteous God,

our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading **Judges 4:1-7**

Deborah was a prophet and judge who, with her general, Barak, led a victorious holy war against a stronger Canaanite force from the north.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died.

2So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the
commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. 3Then the Israelites cried
out to the Lord for help, for Sisera had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the
Israelites cruelly twenty years.

4At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. 5She used to sit under the
palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites
came up to her for judgment. 6She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in
Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position yourself at Mount
Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. 7I will draw out
Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his
troops, and I will give him into your hand.' "

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

Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

1 To you I lift | up my eyes, to you enthroned | in the heavens.
2 **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show | us your mercy.**
3 Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough | of contempt,
4 **too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich, and of the derision | of the proud.**

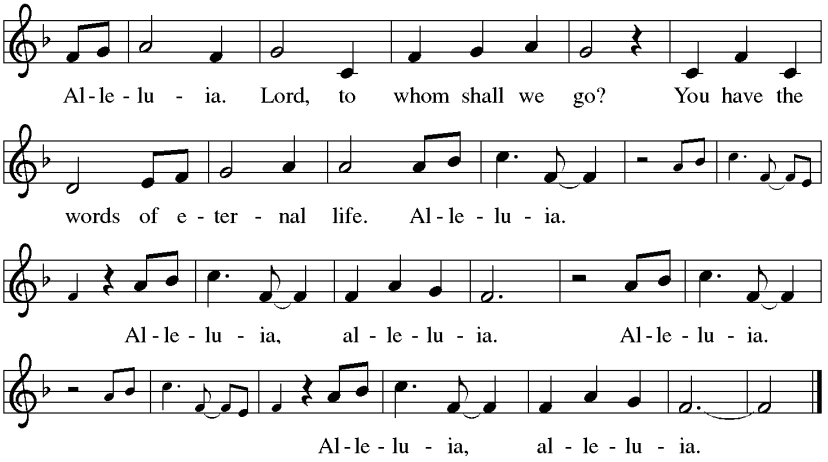
Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, dear family, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord
will come like a thief in the night. 3When they say, "There is peace and security," then
sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant
woman, and there will be no escape! 4But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that
day to surprise you like a thief; 5for you are all children of light and children of the
day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6So, then, let us not fall asleep as others
do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7for those who sleep sleep at night, and those
who are drunk get drunk at night. 8But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and
put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9For
God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ, 10who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with
him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are
doing.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Announcement
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel **Matthew 25:14-30**
Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

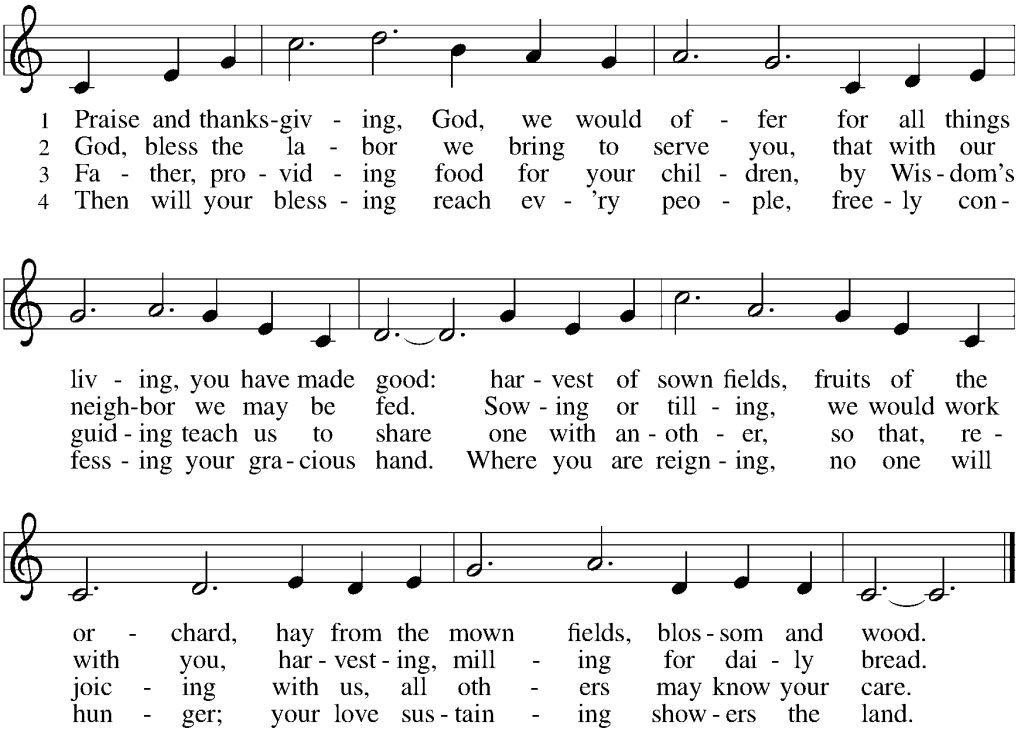
┌Jesus said to the disciples:┐ 14"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. "At once 16the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money. 19"After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24"Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



Sermon

Hymn of the Day ***"Praise and Thanksgiving"*** *ELW #689*



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
**Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need. At the end of each petition the Assembly responds: **receive our prayer.**

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig, Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Pat Fair, Nancy Nelson, William Schultz Jr., John Falk, Carmen Falk, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Aimee and Mark Hooper.

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

Your offering helps us carry on God's mission in our community! 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 right with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). You can also sign up for automatic giving on our website as well! ***Thank you for your generosity!***

Stewardship Moment

Offering Song





Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of creation,

you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

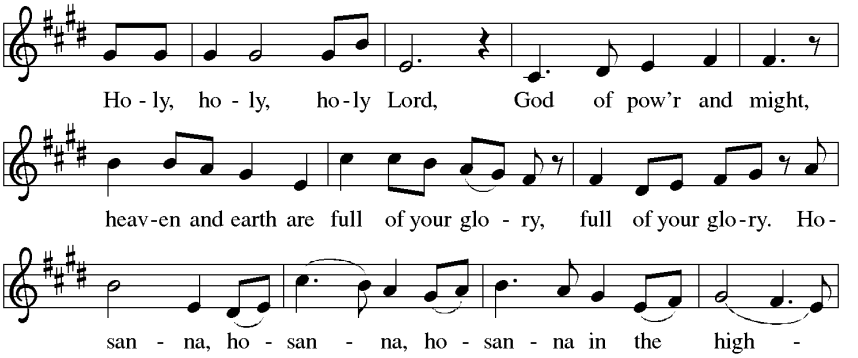
Lift up your hearts.

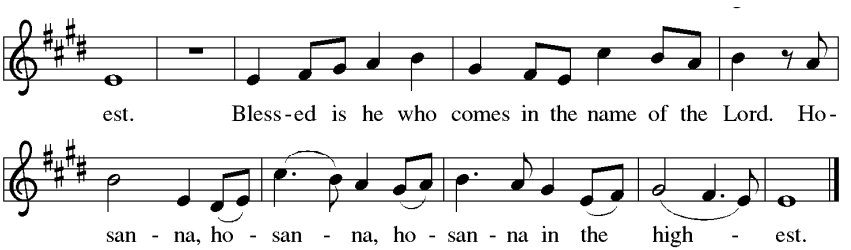
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed, right our duty and our joy….
…. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:.





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

The Assembly responds when prompted:

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

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

… all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. *…*

… sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. *…*

At the conclusion of the prayer, the assembly responds: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

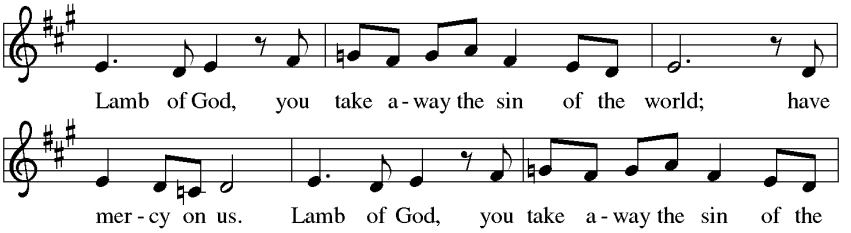
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

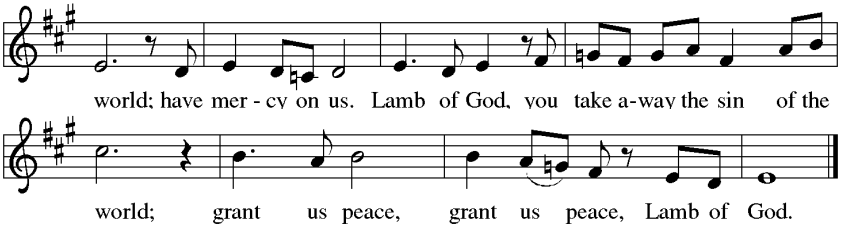
Invitation to Communion

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, come, all who are hungry, come.

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





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



Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion
Let us pray. Sustaining God,

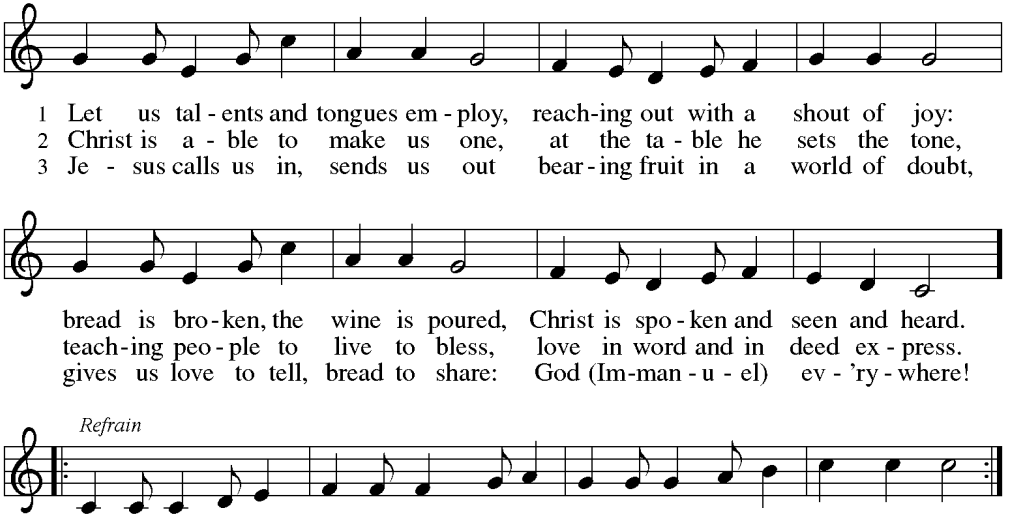
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing
The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and ✢ grant you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ***"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"*** *ELW #674*



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Announcements

Dismissal
Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

We gather today on the ancestral lands of the Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówi, Kickapoo, and Peoria peoples. We honor and acknowledge the traditional stewards of this land, recognizing their enduring connection to this region. As we come together in worship, let us commit ourselves to respecting their history and culture, and work toward healing and justice for Indigenous communities. May we be mindful of our role in creating a more equitable future for all.

Serving Today

Assisting Minister:	Sean Fair
Reader:	Sheila Fair
Usher:	John Wosyk
Altar Guild:	Linda Bagley & Marilyn Rentz
Musician:	Alasdair Ladd
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

This Week @ Redeemer

Monday:	GriefShare – 10—11:30am
Sunday:	Worship – 9:30am

Upcoming Commemorations

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231
Tuesday, November 17, 2026

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

Texts for Next Sunday, November 22nd, Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

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WEEK THREE — THE JOY OF GENEROSITY

THE JOY OF DOING GOD'S WORK TOGETHER

The Good Samaritan was a neighbor to a stranger in need. He gave time and money to care for the victim of a roadside mugging. Can you think of a time when you helped a stranger in need? Be as specific as possible. What were the circumstances? Who was the person? What did you do?

Here at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, we strive to work together to help people in need in our community and around the world. We may not know many of them closely, yet still we call them our neighbors. Jesus commends the Good Samaritan by saying he was a neighbor to the man by the side of the road. Being a neighbor is how we do God's work in the world.

Fred Rogers used to sing, "Won't you be my neighbor?" Imagine someone in need — maybe someone in our community, maybe someone around the world. Next, hear yourself say to that person, "Won't you be my neighbor?" Then see yourself being a neighbor to that person through your actions. Finally, see our congregation, together, being their neighbor.