

**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
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***Holy Communion Service
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 20, 2024***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 423

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Spirit + -- our one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the waters of baptism, in the promises of the Holy Spirit, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives our sins + and gives us new life. May the God of mercy and grace strengthen us in all goodness and keep us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and lead us to desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

The First Lesson is from Isaiah chapter 53 verses 4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 91:9-16

You have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation. (Ps. 91:9)

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.

¹²Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

The Second Lesson is from Hebrews chapter 5 verses 1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people.

⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you";

⁶as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***Congregation:** Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation and the Gospel reading, if you are able.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

(Congregation stands and sings "Alleluia" following the Reading.)

The Gospel Lesson is from Mark chapter 10 verses 35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will "rule" through self-giving service.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

The Rev. Brad Stienstra

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

**the word "catholic" in the creed means "universal." It is the original word used as this profession of faith was adopted by the early Christian Church.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

"You Servants of God"

OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. Bless this Holy Table as you emptied yourself on the cross to give us the riches of your grace. Bless also these gifts and our lives which we offer now to you. Help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW [Green Book] Page 71

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P This is the Lord's table and all is ready. Everyone is welcome.
Taste and see that the Lord is good!

Holy Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited by the ushers to come forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. If you are unable to come to the altar, Holy Communion will be brought to you in the pew. We believe Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice. All baptized and believing Christians are invited to the table. Anyone with any questions can speak to the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains white grape juice.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

C Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with your grace and love at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P God Almighty, God most merciful, Father, Son, and Spirit +
bless you, keep you, and give you peace.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

WOV [Blue Book] # 723

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

DISMISSAL

P Let us go in peace and generosity to follow Jesus.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

played by organist

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Interim Pastor: The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Organist and Choir Director: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *Phyllis Mackey in Honor of Her Anniversary.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

<i>Presider:</i>	The Rev. Brad Stienstra
<i>Organist:</i>	Sharon Heck
<i>Holy Communion Assistant</i>	Carmen Leslie
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sylvia Makus
<i>Reader:</i>	Karren Ford
<i>Prayer Leader:</i>	Kathy Strople
<i>Financial Team:</i>	Wendy Alfageme and Kay Pushman

THIS WEEK

Wednesday: NO Bible Study

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service

Redeemer Finance: October Offering through October 13

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$7,308.00
Offering	<u>\$4,401.00</u>
Need for Budget	\$2,907.00

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Barry, Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Kathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darleen, Sharon, Danuta, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, Sands, Gloria, Tom, Rosalia, Wendy, Elaine, Rachel, Mike, Jesus, Richard, Kelsey, Ginny, Christina, Margaret, Steven, and Dian. Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, (ELCA) and Bishop John Taylor (ECUSA), the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian, Israel/Hamas conflicts, the civil strife in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

- † Welcome to everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors.
- † A special thank you and welcome back to The Rev. Brad Stienstra for presiding at today's Service.
- † Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Visitors, especially, are invited to fill out a card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!
- † Everyone is invited downstairs to the Fellowship Hall for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!). You are encouraged to continue to wear your name tags at fellowship so we can greet one another by name. The basket will be available downstairs so your name tag can be collected and ready to wear next week.
- † **The Bible Study** will **NOT** meet on **October 23rd**, but will reconvene the following Wednesday on October 30th, from 12:00 p.m. to about 1:15 p.m. when we will be continuing our study titled: "*The Decalogue – The Ten Commandments*" looking in-depth at Ten Commandments. Please attend: bring friends, your Bible, and your lunch if you wish!
- † Please let us know if you are having medical issues, so we can offer pastoral care and our prayers during your difficult times. Speak to a member of the Church Council or call the office number: (562) 598-8697.
- † The elevator is working. Please see Kay Pushman, Wendy Alfageme, or Sylvia Makus to use the elevator, even if you have used it before.
- † There are flyers on the bulletin board in the entryway for St. Luke's annual Medieval Brass Rubbing and Docent Talk. Pick one up if you are interested.
- † Call on Tuesdays, after 5:00 pm, for the Leisure World Bus if you are having issues with it in regard to getting to Church on Sundays. (562) 431-6586 extension 2379.

- † Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1 will be November 10th following the 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service.
- † Mark your calendars for November 14 and 15 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. as we will be offering our Fall Bazaar, again! We will be featuring arts and crafts, baked goods, gently used treasures, jewelry, ceramics and more. There is a sign-up sheet if you would like a table to offer your wares. If you have any questions, please call Carmen Leslie, Chairperson at (562) 430-6950.
- † If you are having a little problem with hearing on Sundays, please remember that there are speakers in the ceiling light fixtures so sitting closer to one of those may help. We are looking into improving the sound system for the Church Sanctuary.
- † The Flower Chart is available for sign-ups in the entryway. One bouquet is \$15.00. Both are \$30.00. Please include any dedication for your flower request when signing up or include a note beforehand if there is a dedication. If you take the flowers in the plastic holders, please return the holders. We try to reuse them and are currently out of them.
- † Printed copies of our current newsletter are available in the entryway. It is online on our website at: www.redeemersealbeach.com. It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving the newsletter by email, or the midweek communiqué from the pastor, please put your email address on the attendance sheet in the pew pocket and put it in the collection plate, so we can add you or correct the address we have.

CHURCH COUNCIL

President Kay Pushman, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme,
Secretary Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance**
Chair Doris Weinert
Members at Large, Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero,
 Sylvia Makus, and Michael Vanvales