

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Of Leisure World  
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***Celebration, Worship, and Communion Service  
Reformation Sunday  
October 29, 2023***

## PRELUDE

played by organist

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 229

*“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*

## 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 God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C **Amen.**

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C **Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C **Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**C** Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in your word, protect and comfort us in times of trial, defend us against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED**

### **INTRODUCTION**

*Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.*

## **The First Lesson is from Jeremiah chapter 31 verses 31-34**

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

**C    Thanks be to God**

## **PSALM: Psalm 46**

*The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)*

- <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- <sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.
- <sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- <sup>8</sup>Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
- <sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup>"Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth."
- <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## **The Second Lesson is from Romans chapter 3 verses 19-28**

*Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?”**

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**The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 8 verses 31-36**

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ**

## **SERMON**

Bishop Murray Finck

*“The Word Inscribed Upon Our Hearts”*

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

*“For by Grace You Have Been Saved”*

## **APOSTLES’ CREED**

**L 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**L ... God of grace,  
C hear our prayer.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*“Built On a Rock”*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**C Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

*Communion Distribution (The Congregation is invited to come forward by the ushers to receive Communion. If you are unable to come to the altar, Communion will be brought to you in the pew. 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 grape juice.)*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**C** Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**BLESSING**

**P** The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

**LBW [Green Book] # 233**

*“Thy Strong Word”*

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

**played by organist**

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**Pastor:** Rev. Lisa Rotchford

**Worship Coordinator:** Jerry Brady (714) 534-2673

**Organist:** Sharon Heck

**Flowers are given by:** *Alma Zamzow in Memory of My Husband,  
Lawrence Feldmann, on His 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday and 30  
Years with Our Lord.*

### **THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

***President:*** Bishop Murray Finck

***Communion Assistant*** Carmen Leslie

***Reader / Prayer Leader:*** Kay Pushman

***Financial Team:*** Kay Pushman and Doris Weinert

### **THIS WEEK**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS 2:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**Sunday:** 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Communion Service

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

### **Redeemer Finance: October Offering through October 22, 2023**

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$8,341.00
Offering	<u>\$6,658.03</u>
Needed to meet expenses	\$1,682.97

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Jean, Kathy, Wendy, Beverly, Dena, Nancy, Evelyn, Shirlene, Jerry, Dondi, Carol, Mickey, Evelyn, Gloria, Christa, Alice, Barbara, Cedric, Lucy, Karen, Kelly, Raymond, Dick, Marilyn, Brian, Carl, Jessica, Carol, Rose, Ken, Sandra, Elaine, Carmen, Barbara, Betty, Nancy, Phyllis, Sylvia, Gil, Flo, Eileen, Erich, Leslie, Linda, Ronnie, Kay, Violet, Linda, Ron, Collette, Lisa, Patty, Barbara, Joan, Dee, Susan, Anita, Norma, Lathy, Juanita, Clarence, Debbie, Joan, Anne, Doris, Linda, Bruce, Alma, Martha, Marianne, Robert, Laura, Jim, Loretta, Ray, Patty, Delrie, Bill, Betty, Lorna, M. Teresa, Joan, Mike, Frankie, Donna, Ernie, Eileen, Darlene, Sharon, Danota, Lynne, Ethan, Kurt, Brinly, McCall, Kathy, Nayleen, Nicole, Donald, Maria, Andy, Owen, Tom, Anastasia, Claire, Fran, Chris, Kyle, Michele, Bill, Wes, Sam, Kolt, Maeve, Brigid, Joanna, Dale, Karla, and Sands. *Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, the victims of the Ukrainian/Russian and Israel/Hamas conflicts, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.*

Please contact the church to add people to the prayer list.

*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.*

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

**President** Jerry Brady, **Vice-President** Wendy Alfageme, **Secretary** Nancy Anderson, **Treasurer** Phyllis Mackey, **Finance Chair** Kay Pushman

**Members at Large:** Sandy Langdale, Carmen Leslie, Betty Lucero, Sylvia Makus, Michael Vanvales, and Anne Walshe

## Announcements

- ✝ Welcome everyone this morning, and especially to our guests and visitors.
- ✝ Thank you and welcome back to Bishop Murray Finck for Presiding for today's Service. We are honored that Bishop Finck will be with us for most Sundays through the end of the year.
- ✝ **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 5. Please remember to change your clocks **BACK** one hour before bed on Saturday night [otherwise, you may end up at Church an hour early, but you could always join the choir in practice.]
- ✝ Pastor Lisa is still recovering and it looks like it may be a long road ahead before she is entirely well. They have come closer to a diagnosis and are running yet more tests to confirm. She sends her love to all in the congregation and hopes to return in the new year. We will let you know when we have more information. Please keep her and Collette in prayer.
- ✝ At this time, we are encouraging people to consider wearing a mask again, especially in Church, due to the spike in Covid-19 cases. Initial symptoms are headache and fever. Please consult with your doctor if you are experiencing these or other symptoms. We continue to have masks available in the entryway for your use. We need to join together to keep everyone safe and healthy.
- ✝ Please take a moment and fill out the attendance slip found in the rack in the pews. Please place it in the offertory plate. Thank you!
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ Our current newsletter, if you want a printed copy, is available in the entryway. It is available online on our website at: [www.redeemerasealbeach.com](http://www.redeemerasealbeach.com). It is sent out via email, if we have your email address. If you are not receiving it, please let us know so we can confirm your address in our system.