

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Of Leisure World  
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***Celebration, Worship, and Communion Service  
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 13, 2023***

## PRELUDE

played by organist

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 334

*“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”*

## 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, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

C **Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C **Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**C** O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

### **INTRODUCTION**

*Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.*

### **The First Lesson is from Genesis chapter 37 verses 1-4, 12-28**

*Though Joseph was Jacob's favorite son, his jealous brothers sold him into slavery. Judah, who protected Joseph's life, later gives a moving speech before Joseph in Egypt, indicating that the brothers had changed their ways (44:18-34).*

<sup>1</sup>Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup>This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. <sup>3</sup>Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. <sup>4</sup>But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. <sup>12</sup>Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. <sup>13</sup>And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers

pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." <sup>14</sup>So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, <sup>15</sup>and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" <sup>16</sup>"I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." <sup>17</sup>The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. <sup>18</sup>They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. <sup>19</sup>They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. <sup>20</sup>Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." <sup>21</sup>But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." <sup>22</sup>Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. <sup>23</sup>So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; <sup>24</sup>and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. <sup>25</sup>Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup>Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup>Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. <sup>28</sup>When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

**PSALM: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b**

*Make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples. Hallelujah! (Ps. 105:1, 45)*

- <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.
- <sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, sing praises,  
and speak of all God's marvelous works.
- <sup>3</sup>Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- <sup>4</sup>Search for the strength of the LORD;  
continually seek God's face.
- <sup>5</sup>Remember the marvels God has done,  
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
- <sup>6</sup>O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,  
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.
- <sup>16</sup>Then God called for a famine in the land  
and destroyed the supply of bread.
- <sup>17</sup>The LORD sent a man before them,  
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- <sup>18</sup>They bruised his feet in fetters;  
his neck they put in an iron collar.
- <sup>19</sup>Until his prediction came to pass,  
the word of the LORD tested him.
- <sup>20</sup>The king sent and released him;  
the ruler of the peoples set him free,
- <sup>21</sup>setting him as a master over his household,  
as a ruler over all his possessions,
- <sup>22</sup>to instruct his princes according to his will  
and to teach his elders wisdom. <sup>45b</sup> Hallelujah!

## **The Second Lesson is from Romans chapter 10 verses 5-15**

*A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.*

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." <sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God**

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

### **The Gospel Lesson is from Matthew chapter 14 verses 22-33**

*Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.*

<sup>22</sup>Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

## **DUET**

Kay Pushman and Elaine Lee

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

## **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 ... Hear us, O God.**

**C Your mercy is great.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*



## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, 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** All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

*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**

**P** We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**P** The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**C** **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**LBW [Green Book] # 467**

*“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

**played by organist**



**Pastor:** Rev. Lisa Rotchford, (714) 833-7332

**Organist:** Karen Taylor

**Flowers are given by:** *Linda Peters in Loving Memory of My Husband.*

**THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

*President:* TBD

*Communion Assistant* Carmen Leslie

*Reader / Prayer Leader:* Nancy Anderson

*Financial Team:* Wendy Alfageme and Sylvia Makus

**THIS WEEK**

**Thursday:** 2:30 p.m. Council Meeting

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

**Redeemer Finance: August Offering through August 6, 2023**

Budgeted Monthly Expense \$8,341.00

Offering \$1,743.00

Needed to meet expenses \$6,598.00

## **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, Sands, and Sharon. *Please pray for our Bishop David Nagler, the victims of the Ukrainian crisis, and victims and families of all violence and natural disasters.*

*Please pray for this congregation as we continue to celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. We will be having a special celebration on October 15 for our anniversary.*

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 for joining us.
- † Thank you to Karen Taylor for being our substitute Organist today. Welcome to Redeemer!
- † At this time, we are encouraging people to consider wearing a mask again, especially in Church, due to the spike in Covid-19 cases. This includes our own members who are testing positive. 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!
- † Wendy Alfageme is looking to collect any pictures of Redeemer or of the Congregation that you might be willing to share. Please give them to her or talk to her about what you have and are willing to share.
- † If you are interested in formally joining Redeemer Lutheran Church, please speak with Pastor Lisa. She is starting to plan for an orientation class and a welcome service for new members.
- † 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.

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