

**Redeemer Lutheran Church
Of Leisure World
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***Celebration, Worship, and Communion Service
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 20, 2023***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 359

“In Christ There is no East or West”

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 God of all peoples, **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

The First Lesson is from Genesis chapter 45 verses 1-15

Moved to tears by Judah's plea on behalf of Benjamin, Joseph declares, "I am Joseph!" and asks, "Is my father still alive?" Despite the brothers' evil intent, God used Joseph to preserve many lives at a time of famine.

After Judah offered himself in place of his brother Benjamin, ¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

L ¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

**C ²Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

L ³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

C ⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.

C *Let all the peoples praise you, O God.*

L ⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

C ⁶The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.

L ⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

C *Let all the peoples praise you, O God.*

The Second Lesson is from Romans chapter 11 verses 1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

Paul writes: ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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 15 verses 10-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

¹⁰Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it

to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Kelly Frankiewicz, M.Div.

"She knelt before Him, saying, 'Lord, help me.'"

PIANO DUET

Cedric Elmer and Sharon Heck

"O God Our Help in Ages Past"

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

“Rise, Shine, You People!”

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 accompanied by Cedric Elmer and Sharon Heck
“Do Lord”

Refrain:

Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.

Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.

Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh do remember me.

Look away beyond the blue.

I’ve got a home in Glory Land that outshines the sun.

I’ve got a home in Glory Land that outshines the sun.

I’ve got a home in Glory Land that outshines the sun.

Look away beyond the blue.

Repeat the Refrain.

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: Sharon Heck

Flowers are given by: *Nancy Luebben in Honor of Bruce Young's Birthday.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Presider: Jerry Brady
Preaching: Kelly Frankiewicz, M.Div.
Communion Assistant Carmen Leslie
Reader / Prayer Leader: Nancy Anderson
Financial Team: Phyllis Mackey and Kay Pushman

THIS WEEK

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

Redeemer Finance: August Offering through August 13, 2023

Budgeted Monthly Expense	\$8,341.00
Offering	<u>\$2,926.00</u>
Needed to meet expenses	\$5,415.00

2023 DESIGNATED FUNDS GIFTS

Memorial Gifts

<i>Given By</i>	<i>In Memory Of</i>
Kay Pushman	Jim Pushman
Alma Zamzow	Pastor Lynda Elmer
Wendy Alfageme	Pastor Lynda Elmer
Kay Pushman	Pastor Lynda Elmer
Alma Zamzow	George Koehm
Hiroko Minei	Mother
Susan R. Schenck	Pastor Lynda Elmer

Disaster Relief

Alma Zamzow	Disaster Relief
Sylvia Makus	Wildfires in Maui

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 60th 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 Kelly Frankiewicz for preaching for us today.
- † Choir rehearsal will begin again next Sunday, August 27th, at 9:15 a.m.
- † 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. 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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