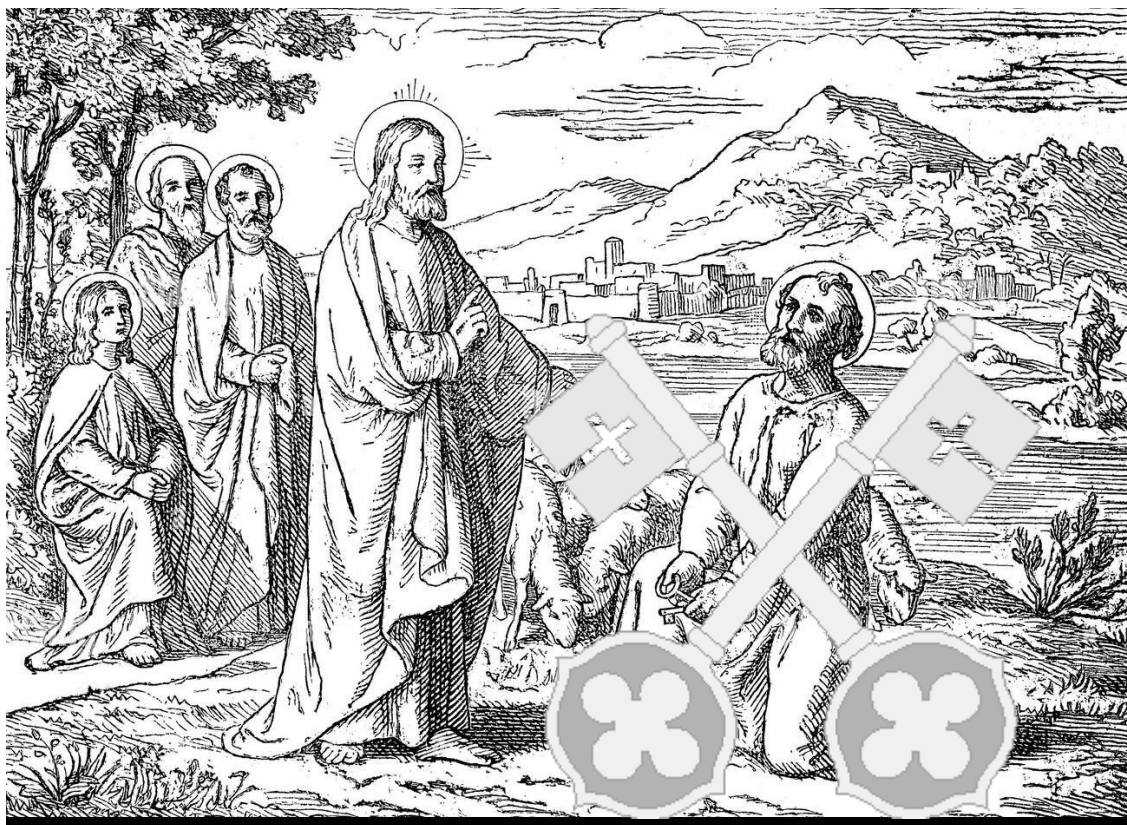


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***Celebration, Worship, and Communion Service
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 365

“Built on a Rock”

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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

The First Lesson is from Exodus chapter 1 verses 8—2:10

The brave Hebrew midwives defied Pharaoh to save many infants from death. When the mother of Moses placed him in a basket in the Nile, the daughter of Pharaoh found him, adopted him, and raised him. Moses' sister and mother also played crucial roles in this drama.

⁸Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. ¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was

named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live. ¹⁷But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. ¹⁸So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" ¹⁹The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." ²⁰So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. ²²Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." ^{2:1}Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 124

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler. (Ps. 124:7)

¹If the LORD had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;
²if the LORD had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us,
³then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
⁴then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;
⁵then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
⁶Blessed be the LORD
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
⁸Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.

The Second Lesson is from Romans chapter 12 verses 1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself

more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16 verses 13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the

Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Jerry Brady

“Keys”

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

“My Hope is Built on by Nothing Less”

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



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Pastor: Rev. Lisa Rotchford, (714) 833-7332
Organist: Sharon Heck
Flowers are given by: *Doris Weinert in Loving Memory of My Parents.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

President: Jerry Brady
Communion Assistant Carmen Leslie
Reader / Prayer Leader: Nancy Anderson
Financial Team: Sylvia Makus 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

There was not a Service on August 20th so there was no offering.

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, and Sands. *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 Jerry Brady for Presiding for today's Service.
- † Choir rehearsal began today, Sunday, August 27th, at 9:15 a.m. If you are interested in joining the choir, please speak to Sharon Heck, our organist.
- † We are in need of help with two important celebrations: Pastor Gil Moore's 70th Anniversary Celebration on September 17 (set-up will be September 16) and our 60th Anniversary Celebration on October 15 (set-up will be October 14). There are sign-up sheets in the entryway. We also need people willing to bring food for both of these events. Sign-up sheets are also available for this.
- † 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!
- † 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.
- † 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.redeemersealbeach.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.