

**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World
and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church
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***Holy Communion Service
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024***

PRELUDE

played by organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 530

“Jesus Shall Reign”

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 forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin and ask God for healing and forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we worship you with our lips, but have at times harmed our neighbors with our tongues. Wanting our way over others we have caused conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we have shown partiality. We have not always lifted up the needs of the poor and the suffering as you have asked of us. In your great mercy, forgive us. Draw near to us with your grace, and help us to always follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God promises to forgive our iniquities and to remember our sin no more. By grace we have been saved and set free from the past. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing and love, our sins are forgiven.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD PROCLAIMED

INTRODUCTION

Today is the final Sunday of our five-week sermon series based upon the appointed readings from the Epistle of James. In the final chapter of this short book, James calls up the followers of Jesus to be a patient and praying people. Our Gospel reading today tells us the story of the time when someone who is not part of Jesus' own circle was casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples protested. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat and welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control.

The First Lesson is from Numbers chapter 11 verses 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and

Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19:7-14

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

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 9 verses 38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

³⁸John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ⁴²If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

C Praise to you, O Christ

Congregation: *Please be seated.*

The Second Lesson is from James chapter 5 verses 13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. ² Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure during the last days. ⁴ Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵ You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have nourished your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the outcome that the Lord brought about, for the Lord is compassionate and merciful. ¹² Above all, brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “Yes” be yes and your “No” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

SERMON

The Rev. Murray D. Finck

“Patience and Prayers... and then What?”

CHOIR ANTHEM

“You Are Holy”

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P Let us pray.

P Merciful God, we thank you for these faithful friends, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making a public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may join in the responses.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you away from God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **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.)

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

C **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

The minister addresses the assembly.

P People of God, do you promise to support these brothers and sisters and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

P Stir up in these, your beloved people, Susan, Annie, and Susan the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us rejoice with these friends in Christ.

C **We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L ... Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

OFFERTORY

“On Eagle’s Wings”

OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. Bless this Holy Table as you open your hands and satisfy the desires of all living beings. Bless also these gifts and our lives which we offer 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 Jesus' table. All is ready and all are always 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. 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. Anyone with any questions may speak with the Pastor. The inside circle of glasses contains grape juice.)

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

C Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with grace and mercy 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 all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

LBW [Green Book] # 526

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. 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: *No Requests.*

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Presider: The Rev. Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

Organist: Sharon Heck

Holy Communion Assistant Carmen Leslie

Acolyte Sylvia Makus

Reader: Carol Costello

Prayer Leader: Elaine Lee

Financial Team: Wendy Alfageme and Doris Weinert

THIS WEEK

Wednesday: 12:00 Noon Bible Study

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

Redeemer Finance: September Offering through September 22

Budgeted Monthly Expense \$7,308.00

Offering \$9,128.00

Needed to meet budget (\$1,820.00)

We thank everyone for their generosity. The memorial tributes have been a blessing.

Memorial Donations

Memorial donations are a lovely way to remember those who have joined the Church Triumphant and rest in the arms of Jesus. Below are those who have donated to our Memorial Fund during this year.

Victoria Louie	Memory of Dondi Buchrucker
Wendy Alfageme	In Memory of Dena Anderson
Wendy Alfageme	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Wendy Alfageme	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Alma Zamzow	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Nancy Anderson	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Flo Nesland	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Cedric Elmer	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Barry Thompsen	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Barry Thompsen	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Doris Weinert	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Kay Pushman	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Kay Pushman	In Memory of Jerry Brady
The Rev. Murray and Rhoda Finck	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
The Rev. Murray and Rhoda Finck	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Ronald and Debra Neustadt	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Walter and Melba Doering	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Linda Peters	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Juanita Townsend	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Alma Zamzow	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Nancy Anderson	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Delbert and Lisa Nunley	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Phyllis Mackey	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Sylvia Makus	In Memory of Jerry Brady
Sylvia Makus	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Sylvia Makus	In Memory of Rev. Nancy Sinclair
Sylvia Makus	In Memory of Dena Anderson
Jerry and Norma Kanoy	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Randy and Jeanne Kanoy	In Memory of Gilbert Moore
Harold Kriesel	In Memory of Gilbert Moore

Doris Weinert
Barbara Schuyler
Gene Vegaly
Joan Williamson
Mary Haas
Nancy Drechsel
Hazel Dohl

In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore
In Memory of Gilbert Moore

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, and Kelsey. 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. We welcome our new members in 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!
- † Happy Birthday to our September Birthdays: *Nancy Anderson, Mike Geesing, Barbara Long, Jim Gilbert, Tee Teclu, Carol Costello, Margo Geesing, and Sylvia Makus.*
- † Everyone is invited downstairs to the Fellowship Hall for coffee, treats, and fellowship (we have tea, too!). We will be celebrating September Birthdays and welcoming our new members. 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.
- † 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.
- † New members will be received into the congregation on September 29th. If you are interested and have not made those intentions known to the pastor or congregational president, Kay Pushman, please do so.
- † The elevator is working. Please see Kay Pushman, Wendy Alfageme, or Sylvis 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.
- † Bible Study will meet on October 2nd from noon to about 1:15 p.m. when we will be continuing our study titled: *“The Decalogue – The Ten Commandments”* looking in-depth at Commandments. Bishop Murray Finck will be leading the discussion. Please attend: bring friends, your Bible, and your lunch if you wish!
- † 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