

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Cross Sunday
September 17, 2023
8:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Church and School

Reaching Out into the Community
To Do What's Best for the Community

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Welcome to worship with the Redeemer family! We are pleased that you joined us for worship today. Our regular worship schedule each Sunday is **8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** Adult and youth Bible classes are held at **9:45 a.m.** as listed in the information page. If infants/toddlers become restless during worship, you are welcome to use the parent's room, located at the right of the narthex as you leave the sanctuary, but please come back. Children's quiet bags for use during church services are available in the narthex.

Order of Worship

*The worshipers are invited to sing or speak the words in **bold print** throughout the worship service.*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

“The Same Love”

Baloche/Rossback

**You choose the humble and raise them high;
You choose the weak and make them strong;
You heal our brokenness inside and give us life.**

(Chorus) **The same love that set the captives free,
the same love that opened eyes to see is calling us all by name;
You are calling us all by name.
The same God that spread the heavens wide,
The same God that was crucified is calling us all by name;
You are calling us all by name.**

**You take the faithless one aside and speak the words, “You are Mine”;
You call the cynic and the proud, “Come to Me now”. *(Chorus)***

**You’re calling, You’re calling, You’re calling us to the cross;
You’re calling, You’re calling, You’re calling us to the cross; *(Chorus)***

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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Lord God Almighty, during this season of growth we come to You in worship seeking Your forgiveness. We have not always read, marked and inwardly digested You Holy Word as You require. We have not been entirely faithful as Your baptized children. We have not kept our eyes fixed on You and the feast of victory that is ours in Your Son. Renew us today, that we might walk with You this week and grow in Your grace. We pray this in Jesus name. Amen.

Forgiveness of Sins

Song of Praise

“Change My Heart, O God”

Eddie Espinosa

**Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God. May I be like You.
You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God. May I be like You.**

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Prayer of the Day

We pray together:

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for my salvation promised through Your sacrifice on the cross. Amen.

Children's Message

Redeemer's 1st Grade Students

Sermon Song of Praise

“Lift High the Cross”

Kitchin/Newbolt/Nicholson

***Chorus:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (*chorus*)**

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. (*chorus*)**

**All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. (*chorus*)**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. (*chorus*)**

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! (*chorus*)**

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The First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9 ESV

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷ And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹ So Moses made a bronze ^[c] serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 ESV

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased

God through the folly of what we preach^[b] to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33 ESV

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. ²⁷ “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

Message

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Gathering of the Tithes and Offerings

(Please stand when the pastor stands and approaches the altar.)

“God So Loved”

Cash

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty. Come to the well that never runs dry.

Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, come find His mercy. Come to the table; He will satisfy.

Taste of His goodness, find what you’re looking for.

(Chorus) **For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.**

Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.

Come lay them down and the foot of the cross.

Jesus is waiting there with open arms. *(Chorus)*

The pow’r of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I’m walking in freedom.

For God so loved, God so loved the world.

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The Offering Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Distribution Songs of Praise

(Holy Communion is a special meal for the baptized followers of Jesus. Jesus is present in the bread and wine. He says, “This is My body...This is My blood.” If you share this belief in His real presence, are repentant of your sins, and are baptized in the Triune God, you are welcome. Children who have not received instruction in the meaning of Holy Communion are invited forward for a blessing; please fold your arms in front of you. Wine is offered via the common cup and individual glass. Non-alcoholic wine is offered in the center of each tray. Hand your connection card to the usher as you go up for communion..) (Please join in singing:)

“Lamb of God”

Wanous

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

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“It Was Finished Upon That Cross”

Robinson/Thompson

How I love the voice of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary.

He declares His work is finished; He has spoken this hope to me.

Though the sun had ceased its shining, though the war appeared as lost,

Christ has triumphed over evil. It was finished upon that Cross.

**Now the curse, it has been broken; Jesus paid the price for me.
Full, the pardon He has offered. Great, the welcome that I receive.
Boldly I approach my Father, clothed in Jesus' righteousness.
There is no more guilt to carry. It was finished upon that Cross.
Death was once my great opponent, fear once had a hold on me.
But the Son who died to save us rose that we would be free indeed.
Death was once my great opponent, fear once had a hold on me.
But the Son who died to save us rose that we would be free indeed!
Yes, He rose that we would be free indeed!
Free from ev'ry plan of darkness, free to live and free to love.
Death is dead and Christ is risen. It was finished upon that Cross.
Onward to eternal glory, to my Savior and my God.
I rejoice in Jesus' vict'ry. It was finished upon that Cross.
It was finished upon that Cross. It was finished upon that Cross.**

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“Creation Sings the Father’s Song”

Getty

**Creation sings the Father’s song; He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day, Till evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow; His breath upon this spinning globe;
He charts the eagle’s flight, Commands the newborn baby’s cry.**

Chorus: **Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing:
Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship,
Tell the wonders of creation’s King.**

**Creation gazed upon His face; The ageless One in time’s embrace,
Unveiled the Father’s plan Of reconciling God and man
A second Adam walked the earth, Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free To live with Him eternally. (*Chorus*)**

**Creation longs for His return, When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky, All heav’n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: The glory of our God and King! (*Chorus*)**

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The Communion Blessing

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Forgiven and fed, you are now entering the mission field.

Here am I, Lord, send me!

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Closing Song of Praise

“Great Things”

Wickham

Come, let us worship our King. Come, let us bow at His feet.

He has done great things.

See what our Savior has done. See how His love overcomes.

He has done great things. He has done great things.

(Chorus) **O Hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave.**

You free ev’ry captive and break ev’ry chain.

O God, You have done great things.

We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive.

O Jesus our Savior, Your name lifted high.

O God, You have done great things.

You’ve been faithful through ev’ry storm. You’ll be faithful forevermore.

You have done great things.

And I know You will do it again for Your promise is Yes and Amen.

You will do great things. God, You do great things. *(Chorus)*

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