



CHURCH OF THE
REDEEMER

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16, 2020

Officiant: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant: Almighty God to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

You may kneel or sit during the prayer of confession

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us;

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

People: As it was in the beginning, is now,

and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Officiant: Praise the Lord.

People: The Lord's name be praised.

ALMIGHTY GOD

Verse 1

Almighty God to you all hearts are open
Searching all our thoughts and anxious fears
Wash us in the fountain of your mercy
Come with your light, we cannot hide from you

Verse 2

Almighty God to you all hearts are open
With gratitude we raise our song to you
Come and fill the praises of your people
In grace and truth, you make us new again

Chorus

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Verse 3

Almighty God to you all hearts are open
We long for more than what this world provides
No shallow spring will ever satisfy us
Your river deep floods over everything

David Leonard | Leslie Jordan | Sandra McCracken

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ACTS 15:1-35

¹ Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: "Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved." ² This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. ³ The church sent them on their way, and as they traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, they told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the believers very glad. ⁴ When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them.

⁵ Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, "The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses."

⁶ The apostles and elders met to consider this question. ⁷ After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. ⁸ God, who

knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. ⁹ He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? ¹¹ No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

¹² The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. ¹³ When they finished, James spoke up. "Brothers," he said, "listen to me. ¹⁴ Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. ¹⁵ The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:

¹⁶ "After this I will return
and rebuild David's fallen tent.

Its ruins I will rebuild,
and I will restore it,

¹⁷ that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord,
even all the Gentiles who bear my name,
says the Lord, who does these things'—

¹⁸ things known from long ago.

¹⁹ "It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. ²⁰ Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. ²¹ For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

²² Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose some of their own men and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They chose Judas (called Barsabbas) and Silas, men who were leaders among the believers. ²³ With them they sent the following letter:

The apostles and elders, your brothers,

To the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia:

Greetings.

²⁴ We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said. ²⁵ So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul— ²⁶ men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷ Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. ²⁸ It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: ²⁹ You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things.

Farewell.

³⁰ So the men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. ³¹ The people read it and were glad for its encouraging message. ³² Judas and Silas, who themselves were prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers. ³³ After spending some time there, they were sent off by the believers with the blessing of peace to return to those who had sent them. ³⁵ But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, where they and many others taught and preached the word of the Lord.

The Holy Bible, ESV

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

JOHN 6:4B-15

^{4b} "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Holy Bible, ESV

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY

Rev. Dawn Lundgren

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

THE COLLECT

Keep your Church, O Lord, by your perpetual mercy; and because without you the frailty of our nature causes us to fall, keep us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable for our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY

In order to support the mission of the church financially, you may send checks to Church of the Redeemer, P.O. Box 130965, St. Paul, MN 55113, or if you wish to give online or set up direct deposit from your bank account, please visit <https://oftheredeemer.org/give/>

Officiant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Celebrant and People: AMEN.

And now, as our savior Christ has taught us we are bold to pray together,

Celebrant and People:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us, once for all upon the cross.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Directions for Communion

All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive communion. However, if you are not able to receive you may remain seated or come forward for a prayer of blessing from one of our ministers. Please indicate your desire for a prayer of blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.

Outdoors: *Greeters will dismiss and direct one representative of each household to receive Holy Communion from the Table at the front or rear of our gathering, depending upon where you are seated. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

Single-person households are welcome to receive and consume at the Table. Household representatives will distribute and consume with their family members at the place where they are seated.

Indoors: *Greeters will dismiss you by row to receive Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Please extend your open palm to receive and wait to consume the bread after you have returned to your pew.*

JESUS THOU JOY OF LOVING HEARTS

Verse 1

Jesus Thou joy of loving hearts
Thou fount of life Thou light of men
From the blest bliss that earth imparts
We turn unfilled to Thee again

Verse 2

Thy truth unchanged has ever stood
Thou savest those that on Thee call
To them that seek Thee Thou art good
To them that find Thee all in all

Chorus

We taste of Thee O living bread
And long to feast upon Thee still
We drink of Thee the Fountainhead
And thirst our souls from Thee to fill

Verse 3

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee
Where'er our changeful lot is cast
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see
Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast

Verse 4

O Jesus ever with us stay
Make all our moments calm and bright
Chase the dark night of sin away
Shed over the world Thy holy light

text: Bernard of Clairvaux

music: verse: Bryan T. Murphy, chorus: Paul Calvin

www.redmountainmusic.com

Celebrant and People:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out into the world to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

If you are unable to receive Communion today, you may participate in worship with this prayer below:

A Prayer When Unable to Receive Communion

Heavenly Father, I now join my heart and mind with all my brothers and sisters in Holy Mother Church throughout the world who gather at your holy table this day to remember your death and proclaim your resurrection. Accept my soul and body as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you, through the merits of your dear son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Hasten the day when I may once more draw near with them to receive the most precious sacrament of your body and blood. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrant: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Deacon: Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are blessed by your participation with us. If you would like to be contacted by one of our clergy or added to our weekly email communication, please enter your information [using this link](#). Thank you!

Childrens' Drawing Prompts

- Draw a picture of how you think the Jerusalem council meeting looked (Acts 15).
- Draw a cross with lots of people gathered around it.

Sermon Reflection Question

- Imagine a national or international church council today. What elements from the Jerusalem council do you think carry-over into 21st century decision making?
- What were the two big issues at the Jerusalem council and how do those issues matter to the church today?
- What is the source of our power, strength, hope, life, peace, wisdom...? How do any of us obtain them?

HOLY IMAGINATIONS

As we make our way through the Book of Acts this summer, let's engage our imaginations. Kids, youth and adults are all invited to share artwork based on the Sunday Acts passage. No deadlines, and you are welcome to return to earlier passages and prompts anytime.

[Upload your work here.](#)

Today's Preacher - Deacon Dawn Lundgren

Dawn grew up in a pastor's family and received a degree in nursing in 1975. She earned her M. Div. in 2008 and was ordained to the diaconate in 2017. She has served as a missionary in Japan, and as a volunteer for international students, neighborhood schools, and ministries such as Alpha and All Things New prayer ministry. She serves Church of the Redeemer in ministries of prayer, pastoral care, missions and outreach. She and her husband, John, have four adult children and 13 grandchildren and live in Roseville.

RACE AND JUSTICE TASK FORCE UPDATE

In June, a task force of Church of the Redeemer was assembled to identify ways that we can more effectively show forth God's praise in issues of race and justice. One of the initiatives of the task force has been to seek ways to nurture our relationship with St. John's Karen Anglican Church, an Anglican church made up of first generation refugees from Burma (Myanmar).



This coming **Saturday, Aug. 22, 11 a.m.**, Church of the Redeemer and St. John's will meet together at Tony Schmidt park in Arden Hills. Following a brief program of worship, testimony, and prayer between our two churches, we'll join in a one-mile fundraising walk around the park.

Our fundraiser will support St. Paul's dormitory in the Mae Ra Moe refugee camp in Thailand, a ministry of the Anglican Church in the camp which provides shelter and education to Karen orphans. 100% of registration funds will be directed to the support of the dormitory.

Please follow the link below to register for the walk:

<https://oftheredeemer.breezechms.com/form/88b5ca>

OUTDOOR GATHERED WORSHIP



We look forward to worshipping with you this month!

- Preparations are being made to gather outdoors in the field south of the church building with capacity for 150 people.
- Use of masks is expected of adults and children who are able.
- Online participation will continue to be offered and facilitated.
- [View this linked video explanation](#) for our protocols for gathering.
- Please RSVP below if you have not done so already.

[Please RSVP for the outdoor gathered services using this link.](#)

Indoor Contingency

In the event of rain or excessive heat, a cancellation notice for our outdoor service will be sent out day-of. Please view [this linked video explanation of our protocols for gathered worship indoors](#). We have space in the sanctuary for 75 people to gather for worship indoors and online participation will be offered for households and Better Together groups. Use of masks is expected of adults and children who are able. A separate RSVP for the indoor worship service will be sent out via email in the preceding week.

MORNING PRAYER

Join us in worship on Wednesdays, 8 a.m. each week. You may participate by dial-in or via internet with audio and video. Morning Prayer follows a brief order of service lasting approximately 30 minutes that includes musical worship, scripture readings, a brief reflection on the day's scripture passage, and prayer. Login information and a downloadable orders of service is available at:

<https://ofthedeemer.org/events/wednesday-worship-prayer/>

PASTORAL CARE & BENEVOLENCE

Please contact [Fr. Paul](#), [Deacon Liz](#), or [Deacon Dawn](#) if you are in need or are aware of someone who has immediate needs for food, transportation, housing, or healthcare.

READING OF ACTS 17 & 18

This summer we're studying the book of Acts together as a church. For the context around today's sermon, enjoy [this reading of Acts chapters 17 & 18](#) by the Noble family.



FAMILIES TOGETHER - CHURCHES TOGETHER



CHURCH OF THE CROSS
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
RESTORATION ANGLICAN
TWIN CITIES, MN

WE ARE THE CHURCH

Copies of *We Are The Church*, a devotional guide for families with children and youth, are available from [Deacon Liz](#). Let's dig in together during the months of July and August and ask the Spirit to grow us more fully into that joyful, grateful, generous community - the Church - that we are reading about in the Book of Acts!