

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

8th Sunday after Pentecost Worship - July 26, 2020

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION (Communion schedule of the 2nd and 4th Sundays resumes today, Sunday, July 26, 2020): We believe: that Christ's body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the "individual" cups of wine. (Note: White wine and diluted red wine are in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING: Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! OFFERING PLATES will be available as after the Benediction, as you depart.

About the Offering For those who are unable to attend our services in person, we miss you and look forward to the time we can worship with you, again! Remember, too, the church does still have bills to pay and still needs the support of our members. You can send your offering to the church thru the mail or you can set up a automate deposit using the website link: <https://www.risenchrist.info/giving/>

May God who hears our prayers, knows are needs, be with you all, and give you peace and comfort.

Regarding Bulletins: PDF and Word Doc versions of Bulletins are available for you to print out at home prior to you coming to church (or for use as you participate in our Online Services). **NOTE:** For those of you who are comfortable with picking up bulletins here, we have some available already printed out here.

Extra Large Print Bulletins - Available from an usher.

REMINDER: The whole service is also projected onto the chancel walls.

Listening Assistance Devices: Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room: A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area.

Children's Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

Welcome and Announcements

As We Gather – Jesus does not explain the parables in today's Gospel. Although most commentators identify the hidden treasure and pearl of great price as the Kingdom of God, what if we are those treasures? Moses told the people before they entered the Promised Land, "The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession." Then we see Jesus as the one finding us and giving up all that He has for us, as indeed our Lord gave His very life so that we might be with Him forever. These are comforting words for everyone baptized into Christ. We can be sure that nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Call to Worship – God of Wonders

Lord of all creation of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

***CHORUS: God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth***

Early in the morning I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night ***CHORUS***

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth

***God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy holy
Precious Lord reveal Your heart to me
Father hold me hold me
The universe declares Your majesty***

You are holy holy holy holy

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Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences *1 Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:1; Colossians 3:12*

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

C Amen.

P You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession,

C that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

P Now thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel:

C “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine.”

P Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved,

C compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is your health and salvation
Let all who hear now to His temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

2. Praise to the Lord Who o'er all things
Is wondrously reigning
And as on wings of an eagle
Uplifting sustaining
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining

3. Praise to the Lord Who has fearfully
Wondrously made you
Health has bestowed and when
Heedlessly falling has stayed you
What need or grief ever has failed of relief
Wings of His mercy did shade you

4. Praise to the Lord Who will prosper
Your work and defend you
Surely His goodness and mercy
Shall daily attend you
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you

5. Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that has life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the Amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him

CCU Song # 43073 Catherine Winkworth/Joachim Neander
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Introit Psalm 105:2–6; *antiphon*: v. 1

P Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name;
make known His deeds among the peoples!
Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;

C **tell of all His wondrous works!**

P Glory in His holy name;
G **let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!**

P Seek the Lord and His strength;
G **seek His presence continually!**

P Remember the wondrous works that He has done,
G **His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,**

P O offspring of Abraham, His servant,
G **children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**

A **All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the
peoples!**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
G **And also with you.**
P Almighty and everlasting God, who has chosen us to be Your holy people,
G **grant that we may reflect Your great love for us in all that we think, say, and do;**
P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.
G **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

(God chooses His people out of love.)

⁶For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
G **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Romans 8:28–39 (For those who love God, all things work together for good.)

L And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things?

C **If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?**

L Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?

C **It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.**

L Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For Your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

C **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.**

L For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Better Is One Day

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

***CHORUS: Better is one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.***

One thing I ask and I would seek:
To see Your beauty.
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek:
To see Your beauty,
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.

**CHORUS: Better is one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.**

BRIDGE: My heart and flesh cry out
For You, the living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen.
Come once again to me.
I will draw near to You,
I will draw near to You, to You.

Better is one day, better is one day,
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day, better is one day,
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

My heart and flesh cry out
For You, the living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen.
Come once again to me.
I will draw near to You,
I will draw near to You, to You. **CHORUS**

Verse *Matthew 13:35b*

P Alleluia. I will open my mouth in parables;

C I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:44–52

(Three parables of the Kingdom.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Message by Pastor Rennie

Confession and Absolution *Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Heavenly Father, Creator of life and light,

G **we confess that we have not reflected Your great love to us in sending Your Son to give up everything, including life itself, so that You may own us as Your beloved people. We have not loved the people around us as ourselves.**

P Lord Jesus, our Redeemer,

G **we confess that we have not borne Your name to the world. We have not loved You with all our heart, mind, and strength.**

P O Holy Spirit, the Comforter,

G **we confess that we have not shown Your love to the people near and dear to us, nor to those with whom we learn, work, and play.**

P O Holy Trinity,

G **forgive us and comfort us; surround us with Your love so that we may be the treasured possessions You desire us to be. Forgive us for Your name's sake. Amen.**

P Rejoice and be glad! Our Lord Jesus Christ visited this dark world and gave His perfect life in payment for your sins. He has restored You to be fit for the Kingdom of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

Apostles' Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **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.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people in their various needs.

Let us pray for all the baptized. That their lives reflect the great love of Christ, who gave Himself for them, that all pastors be strengthened in their calling, and that all lay leaders be given wisdom to lead their brothers and sisters in areas of cooperation and in places of persecution, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

MEN – We pray for all who are in ill health of body, mind, or spirit, all who are in mourning, those who are unemployed or underemployed, and any who are in conflict with neighbors or coworkers. That our heavenly Father would answer their deepest needs and bring them comfort and relief as fits His gracious plans for them, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – We pray for the nations of the world and our own country. That wars may cease and justice prevail for all people, that those who make, administer, and judge our laws be given wisdom, and that those who protect us deployed abroad or who serve at home be protected by our gracious God and supported by us all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

MEN – We pray for ourselves, our congregation, the people in our neighborhoods, and all whose lives we influence. That the Holy Spirit would use us and all our abilities and resources to spread the news of our Savior and meet each other's needs as we are able, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Amen.**

Lift Up Your Hearts

- P** The Lord be with you **C** And also with you
P The Lord be with you **C** And also with you
P Lift up your hearts

(ALL SING)

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks

To the Lord our God

It is right to give Him

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Steve Hindalong Terry Scott Taylor
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The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Communion

Flow, O Mighty Holy River

Flow, O mighty holy River,
Flow in measure great and strong;
Hold not back Thy generous blessing,
Flood this desert with Thy song.

Parched and arid, hear the crying
Of Thy barren, broken church;
Bring revival to the dying,
Quench the aching of their thirst.

Once again, release Thy floodgate,
Shower heaven's fruitful touch;
Till the earth, appeased, rejoicing,
Rings the message of Thy love.

Jesus is our true salvation,
Came to free us from our sin.
Crucified, He died and was buried,
Risen from death He lives again!

I Want to Be Where You Are

I just want to be where You are,
Dwelling daily in Your presence.
I don't want to worship from afar,
Draw me near to where You are.

I just want to be where You are,
In Your dwelling place forever,
Take me to the place where You are,
'Cause I just want to be with You.

I want to be where You are,
Dwelling in Your presence,
Feasting at Your table
And surrounded by Your glory,
In Your presence
That's where I always want to be,
I just want to be, I just want to be
With You.

I just want to be where You are,
Dwelling daily in Your presence.
I don't want to worship from afar,
Draw me near to where You are.

Oh, my God,
You are my strength and my song,
And when I'm in Your presence,
Though I'm weak, You're always strong.
I just want to be where You are,
In your dwelling place forever,
Take me to the place where You are,
'Cause I just want to be,
I just want to be With You.
I just want to be With You.

Lead On O King Eternal

1. Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong;
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

2. Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords' loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy
The heavenly kingdom comes.

3. Lead on, O King eternal,
We follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted over us,
We journey in its light;
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might.

Closing Prayer

Benediction

P 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.

G **Amen.**

Dismissal – USHERS WILL DISMISS EACH ROW BEGINNING FROM THE REAR OF SANCTUARY

Postlude - Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

***Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name***

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

***CHORUS: Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name***

BRIDGE: You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name ***CHORUS***

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