

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

12th Sunday after Pentecost - August 23, 2020

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION (2nd and 4th Sundays): 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.

As We Gather – "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). With those words, Peter made the good confession. This is the confession of faith alone in Christ alone made possible by God's grace alone. This is the confession made by all who come to peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. This peace from God is an inscrutable mystery, the comfort of the Lord bringing joy and gladness, and the motivation of our grateful self-giving as living sacrifices transformed by the renewal of our minds with God's Word into people who discern and carry out His will with our lives.

Call to Worship – My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **REFRAIN**

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. **REFRAIN**

***REFRAIN: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.***

3. His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **REFRAIN**

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before His throne! **REFRAIN**

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Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences *Isaiah 51:4–6*

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

C Amen.

P Give attention to Me, My people,

C and give ear to Me, My nation;

P My righteousness draws near,

C My salvation has gone out,

P Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

C and look at the earth beneath;

P My salvation will be forever,

C and My righteousness will never be dismayed.

Built on the Rock

1. Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in every land;
Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

2. Surely in temples made with hands
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heaven above
Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

3. We are God's house of living stones,
Built for His own habitation,
He through baptismal grace us owns
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

4. Here stands the font before our eyes,
Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
And evermore, our Redeemer.

5. Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

Confession and Absolution

P Almighty God, merciful Father,

C **We humbly implore Your mercy and ask Your forgiveness. Our lives have not reflected the confession of our lips, and we have failed to marvel at the depth of the riches and wisdom of the knowledge of God. Instead of trusting You, we have relied on our own understanding. We have thought too highly of ourselves instead of presenting ourselves as offerings in gratefulness for Your mercy. Hear and forgive us for Jesus' sake, and fill us with the Holy Spirit that we may seek nothing but to know Your will and the strength to carry it out.**

P God has heard your confession and grants you full and free forgiveness because Jesus died and rose again for you. 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.

C **Amen.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament

Isaiah 51:1 – 6

51 "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.

³ For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ "Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Psalm 138

L ¹ I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

C ² **I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**

L ³ On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

C ⁴ **All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

L ⁵ and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

C ⁶ **For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar.**

L ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

C ⁸ **The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

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

Epistle

Romans 11:33—12:8

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?"

³⁵ "Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?"

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing 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 himself more highly than he 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 the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse/Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19 alt.; Ephesians 2:19b–20*

P Fear the Lord, you His saints,

C **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**

P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C **but the Lord delivers him out of them all.**

P Alleluia! You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone.

C **Alleluia!**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20

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

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

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, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Seek Ye First

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you!
Allelu, alleluia!

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!

3. Man does not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

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Message by Pastor Rennie

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

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

Merciful Father, grant that we may join Peter's good confession and graciously invite others to do the same as we both declare with our mouths that Your Son Jesus is the Messiah and believe in our hearts that You have raised Him from the dead. Lord Jesus, we confess,

☩ You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

MEN – Merciful Father, come among Your people throughout the world as they gather today around Your Word and Sacraments. Be present especially with Your children who suffer physical persecution for following Jesus. Strengthen all pastors, especially our Synod president, our District President, and our Circuit Counselor, that they may hear Your voice in Your Word and speak Your truth in love for the edification of Your people. Lord Jesus, we confess,

G **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

WOMEN – Merciful Father, bless our elected officials, especially our President, our Governor, our local township and city officials, that they with all leaders may carry out Your will in their positions of public trust, and that Your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives in this and every land. Lord Jesus, we confess,

G **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

MEN – Merciful Father, grant healing to the sick, comfort to the suffering, strengthen the injured, and carry the dying. Fill with serenity those who suffer to bear their afflictions patiently. Draw near to those who grieve, and enkindle hope in their hearts toward the day of resurrection. Lord Jesus, we confess,

G **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

P Merciful Father, You have spread before us this Meal of bread and wine and invite us to dine on the Savior’s true body and blood. Have mercy on us, and grant us both Your forgiveness and a worthy partaking of this Eucharist. Lord Jesus, we confess,

G **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

WOMEN – Merciful Father, grant us Your mercy as we walk the pilgrim way, and bring us at last with all Your saints to the day of the resurrection of all flesh where Jesus will be all-in-all. Lord Jesus, we confess,

G **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G **Amen.**

Lift Up Your Hearts

- P** The Lord be with you **G** And also with you
P The Lord be with you **G** 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
Thanks and praise

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

G Amen.

Words of Our Lord and Proclamation of Christ

- 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."
- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- G 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

- G 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.**

The Peace of the Lord

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

Distribution

Beautiful Savior

1. Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Take My Life and Let It Be

1. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

2. Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every power as You choose.

***CHORUS: Here am I, all of me.
Take my life; It's all for Thee.***

3. Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee. ***CHORUS***

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Closing Prayer

The Power of Your Love

Lord I come to You
Let my life be changed, renewed
Flowing from the grace that I found in You.
And Lord I've come to know
The weaknesses I see in me
Will be swept away by the power of Your love.

***CHORUS: Hold me close, let Your love surround me
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle
And I will soar with You
Your Spirit leads me on by the power of Your love.***

Lord unveil my eyes
Let me see You face to face
The knowledge of Your love as You live in me.
Lord renew my mind
As Your will unfolds in my life
In living every day by the power of Your love.

Chorus 2x

*And I will soar with You
Your Spirit leads me on by the power of Your love.*

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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.

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