

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 13, 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 – English poet Alexander Pope wrote, "To err is human; to forgive, divine." This popular saying attributes the acts of erring and forgiving to beings for whom they come naturally. Humans err. God forgives. The opposite is also true. The Sacred Scriptures teach that there is no error in God, nor can there be. On the other hand, forgiveness is unnatural to humanity unless humanity becomes, as Church Father Athanasius once said, "by grace what God is by nature." This grace is given to us through the person and work of Christ Jesus for our salvation and is exemplified for us both in Jesus' teaching and in the lives of such saints as Joseph, who forgave his brothers for the malicious wrongs they did to him.

Call to Worship – 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

**CHORUS: 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**

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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Welcome

Invocation and Opening Sentences *Psalm 103:1, 6, 8*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
P The Lord works righteousness **C** and justice for all who are oppressed.
P The Lord is merciful and gracious, **C** slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
P Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, **C** bless His holy name!

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

**CHORUS: Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name**

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass,
and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

***CHORUS: Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name***

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find
CHORUS

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore
CHORUS

Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Jesus I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

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Introit

Ps. 143:1–2; antiphon: Ps. 143:9

- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge!
C **Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**
- P** Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.
**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.**
- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge!

Kyrie

- P** That we may be quick to forgive others,
C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
- P** That we may let go of the grudges we so easily hold,
C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
- P** That we may always live in the light of Your forgiveness,
C **Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**
- P** Almighty God, how quickly we forget the great love with which You love us and the grace You have freely bestowed upon us through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Grant that our gaze be fixed on Jesus, our hearts overwhelmed by Your love, and that all our relationships may be marked by forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

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

Psalm 103:1–12

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

²Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

⁴who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

⁵who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

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

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

²¹ Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"

²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Change My Heart, Oh God

CHORUS: Change my heart oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart oh God

May I be like You

You are the potter

I am the clay

Mold me and make me

This is what I pray

Message by Pastor Rennie

Confession and Absolution

P Almighty God, merciful Father,

C **We confess to You that we have sinned against You in our thinking, speaking, and acting, by not forgiving the people around us the way You have so graciously forgiven us in Christ. For Christ's sake alone, we boldly ask Your forgiveness. Send the Holy Spirit to empower us to freely forgive others the way we have been forgiven.**

P Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who, for the sake of Christ Jesus, forgives all your iniquity, heals all your diseases, redeems your life from the pit, crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, and satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. 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. *Psalm 103:2-5*

G Amen.

Nicene Creed

G 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 In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

P For faith in the full forgiveness of our sins for Christ's sake and the readiness of Joseph to extend forgiveness to those who have wronged us, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

MEN – For all pastors, teachers, missionaries, and other church workers, that they be filled with the Holy Spirit to proclaim the good news of forgiveness for all through Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

WOMEN – For all who bear authority in the civil realm, that God would grant them wisdom to act for the good of all citizens, for an end to hostilities, and for peace, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

MEN – For the sick, the suffering, and all who love them, that according to God’s good and gracious will, they may prosper and be in health even as their souls prosper, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

WOMEN – For all who all who trust the Lord Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins, that we may be strengthened from such peace with God to seek peace with those of whom we are in conflict, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

MEN – For faithfulness to the end, that we may receive the crown of life with all who wait for the day of Christ’s glorious appearing, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mercy.

P For all these things and whatever else You know that we need, we ask You, dear Father, for the sake of Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever.

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

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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.

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:

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

Lord Have Mercy

Jesus, I've forgotten the words that You have spoken;
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim;
With a doubting heart I follow the paths of earthly wisdom;
Forgive me for my unbelief, renew the fire again.

**CHORUS: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy on me. (Repeat)**

I have built an altar where I've worshipped things of man;
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from You;
Now I am returning to Your mercies ever flowing;
Pardon my transgressions, help me love You again. **CHORUS**

I have longed to know You and all Your tender mercies,
Like a river of forgiveness ever flowing without end;
So I bow my heart before You in the goodness of Your presence,
Your grace forever shining like a beacon in the night. **CHORUS**

ENDING: Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy on us; 4x

Steve Merkel CCLI Song #2989578
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I Give You My Heart

This is my desire to honor You.
Lord, with all my heart, I worship You!
All I have within me, I give You praise!
All that I adore is in You.

**CHORUS: Lord I give You my heart,
I give You my soul,
I live for You alone.
Every breath that I take,
Every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.**

Reuben Morgan CCLI Song # 1866132 CCLI License # 140952
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There Is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

Jesus, my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Hope for sinners slain. **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: Thank You, O my Father,
for giving us Your Son;
And leaving Your Spirit
'til the work on earth is done.**

When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that holy place. **CHORUS**

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Closing Prayer

Your Name

1. As morning dawns and evening fades
You inspire songs of praise
That rise from earth to touch Your heart
And glorify Your Name

2. Jesus, in Your Name we pray
Come and fill our hearts today
Lord, give us strength to live for You
And glorify Your Name **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: Your Name is a strong and mighty tower
Your Name is a shelter like no other
Your Name let the nations sing it louder
Cause nothing has the power to save
But Your Name**

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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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