

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
**April 28, 2024**  
**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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**W**elcome 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.*

### **Pre-Service Music**

“Oh How I Love Jesus”

Geschke – Bells of Praise Too

“Abundant Praise”

Eithun – Bells of Praise Too

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

“Christ Is Risen He Is Risen Indeed”

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**How can it be? The One who died has borne our sin through sacrifice,  
To conquer ev’ry sting of death; Sing, sing hallelujah!  
For joy awakes as dawning light When Christ’s disciples lift their eyes;  
Alive He stands, their Friend and King; Christ, Christ, He is risen.**

*(Chorus)* **Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!**

**Oh, sing hallelujah.**

**Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed.**

**Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!**

**Where doubt and darkness once had been, They saw Him and their hearts believed;  
But blessed are those who have not seen, Yet sing hallelujah!**

**Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, They preached the truth and pow’r of grace;  
And pouring out their lives they gained Life, life everlasting. *(Chorus)***

**The pow’r that raised Him from the grave Now works in us to pow’r’ly save;  
He frees our hearts to live His grace; Go tell of His goodness! *(Chorus twice)***

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### **Invocation, Confession and Forgiveness**

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

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and  
cleans us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.  
For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and  
lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of  
Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I declare you forgiven of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Song of Praise*

“Laudation”

Austin – Bells of Praise

*Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray:

**Lord Jesus, the true and perfect vine, strengthen us so that we will remain faithful to You, and so that we can prosper and bear much fruit for the Father’s Kingdom. In Your name we pray, amen.**

*The First Reading*

Acts 8:26-40 ESV

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south<sup>[d]</sup> to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place.<sup>27</sup> And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship<sup>28</sup> and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.<sup>29</sup> And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”<sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”<sup>31</sup> And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.<sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”<sup>34</sup> And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”<sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.<sup>36</sup> And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”<sup>[e]</sup><sup>38</sup> And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.<sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.<sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

*The Second Reading*

1 John 4:1-11 ESV

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.<sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,<sup>3</sup> and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.<sup>4</sup> Little children, you are from God and have overcome

them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. <sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

### ***The Gospel Reading***

John 15:1-8 ESV

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ!**

### ***Children’s Message***

#### ***Sermon Song of Praise***

“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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## *Message*

### *The 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.**

**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.**

## *Prayers of the People*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

### *Gathering of the Tithes and Offerings*

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

“Scherzo”

Compton - Bells of Praise

### *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”

Marty Haugen

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You are the way of mercy and love:  
Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You broke the bonds of sin and of death:  
Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:  
Grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.**

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“Be Thou My Vision”

Hull

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.  
Be Thou my wisdom be Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.  
Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance now and always;  
Thou and Thou only be first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.  
High King of heaven, when vict’ry is won,  
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

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“Come People of the Risen King”

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**Come people of the Risen King, who delight to bring Him praise;  
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach, to gather children in.**

*Chorus:* **Rejoice, rejoice! Let ev’ry tongue rejoice!**

**One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!**

**Come those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night;**

**Come those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days, with the certain hope of peace. (Chorus)**

**Come young and old from ev'ry land, men and women of the faith;  
Come those with full or empty hands-find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world, His people sing-shore to shore we hear them call  
The truth that cries through ev'ry age, "Our God is all in all." (Chorus twice)**

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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!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### ***Closing Song of Praise***

“Majestic”

Brewster

**O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your Name in all the earth**

**O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your Name in all the earth**

*(Chorus)* **The heavens declare Your greatness**

**The oceans cry out to You**

**The mountains they bow down before You**

**So I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You! (repeat all)**

**I will worship You; I will worship You**

**We will worship You; We will worship You (Chorus)**

**So I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You!**

**So I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You!**

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