



Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Independence Day

July 4th, 2021



HOLY COMMUNION

IS CELEBRATED AT OUR 5:30PM SATURDAY AND 9:00AM SUNDAY SERVICE

Oneness at communion presupposes oneness in doctrine. For this reason we practice close communion, and ask guests desiring to commune to speak with the pastor before the service. To those communicants with dietary needs we offer gluten free wafers.

AS WE GATHER

Today, our nation celebrates its place as the land of the free and the home of the brave. At times, this reality causes us to thump our chest to let the world know how great we are. The apostle Paul, too, could claim his place among the greats. Paul was “circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ” (Philippians 3:5–7). Yet, he was not mightier than the thorn. As Paul followed Jesus, he was plagued by a thorn in the flesh to keep him from becoming conceited. He asked God to take it away, and God said, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9). So, too, God’s grace is sufficient for us no matter where this life takes us, because when we are weak, then we are strong.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

WORDS OF WELCOME

Elder of the Day

OPENING HYMN

“I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”

LSB 651

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.

People: God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Pastor: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

People: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we confess to You our pride, arrogance, and boasting. Forgive us for all our sins in our thoughts, words, and works for the sake of Jesus, who “made Himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us. For Jesus’ sake, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you for all of your sins of thoughts, words, and works in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

LSB 789

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Gracious and ever-loving God, we thank and praise You for the freedom we have in You and also the freedom we celebrate today in our nation.

Pastor: As Your grace has been sufficient for Your people throughout all time, grant that it be sufficient for us as well for Your power is made perfect in our weaknesses;

People: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

† WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 3:19-30

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
People: Praise befits the upright.
Leader: Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
People: make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!
Leader: Sing to him a new song;
People: play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
Leader: For the word of the LORD is upright,
People: and all his work is done in faithfulness.
Leader: He loves righteousness and justice;
People: the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.
Leader: By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
People: and by the breath of his mouth all their host.
Leader: He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;
People: he puts the deeps in storehouses.
Leader: Let all the earth fear the LORD;
People: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!
Leader: For he spoke, and it came to be;
People: he commanded, and it stood firm.
Leader: The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
People: he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
Leader: The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
People: the plans of his heart to all generations.
Leader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
People: the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!
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.

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-15

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-36

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CATECHISM REVIEW

The Fourth Commandment; The Fourth Petition

Pastor: Honor your father and your mother. What does this mean?

People: We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Pastor: Give us this day our daily bread. What does this mean?

People: God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

Pastor: What is meant by daily bread?

People: Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs.

Almighty and most holy God, we thank and praise You for all You provide us freely by Your grace.

People: We are especially thankful for the freedoms we enjoy and celebrate today as we gather to worship You.

Pastor: We pray for the leaders of our nation, state, and community, [*especially . . .*]. We acknowledge that You have placed them in these positions to govern us and all people of this land.

People: Grant them wisdom and lead them to make decisions that are in line with Your will for all people.

Pastor: Amid the thorns of this life, we lean on Your grace, knowing that it is sufficient for us and in our weakness Your strength shines through. We ask for Your grace and healing for those who grieve, [*especially . . .*]. We ask for Your grace and healing for those struggling in body, mind, and spirit, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *(Special petitions that end in, "Lord, in Your mercy")*.

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: We live in a nation and in communities where we are thankful to have brothers and sisters in Christ, yet there are also many who have either disconnected from You and Your Church or who have never known You.

People: Lead us to share Your grace with others. Guide our conversations and grow our relationships with those who do not share the hope we have.

Pastor: No matter where life takes us, we know we are in Your hands. So, we confidently come before You as Your children and place these prayers and all our concerns into Your gracious hands, in Jesus' name.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

HYMN

"God Bless Our Native Land"

LBS 965

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****5:30PM SATURDAY 9:00AM SUNDAY SERVICE****

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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."

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."

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

HYMN

"Song for the Nations"

CCS 86

1. May we be a shining light to the nations, A shining light to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world see the glory of Your name. May Your pure light shine thro' us.
2. May we bring a word of hope to the nations, A word of life to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world knows there's salvation thro' Your name.
May Your mercy flow thro' us.
3. May we be a healing balm to the nations, A healing balm to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world knows the power of Your name. May Your healing flow thro' us.
4. May we sing a song of joy to the nations, A song of praise to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world rings with the praises of Your name.
May Your song be sung thro' us.
5. May Your kingdom come to the nations, Your will be done to the peoples of the earth,
Till the whole world know that Jesus Christ is Lord. May Your kingdom come in us.
May Your kingdom come in us.

CCLI Song No. 443594 CCLI Song No. 443594

HYMN

“This Is My Father’s World”

CCS 80

Text: Babcock Music: Trad. English meoldy; adapt. By Frankline L Sheppard Tune: Terra Beata Public Domain CCLI 84733

1. This is my Father’s world, And to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.
2. This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker’s praise. This is my Father’s world: He shines in all that’s fair; in the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.
3. This is my Father’s world. O let me ne’er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father’s world: Why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King; let the heavens ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad!

HYMN

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

LSB 733

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

People: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **We thank You, Lord, for You have again fed and nourished us on our way through this world to the one to come. Guide us in living out Your grace until that day when we experience it in all of its fullness; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord be with you all. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—abide with you, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966

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OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

5:30PM WORSHIP

Ron Stimpson

Elder

Gretchen Schilling

Organist

9:00AM WORSHIP

Thom Miller

Elder

Alexander Noonan

Camden Pantekoek

Acolytes

Denise Edwards

Organist

Mike Beyer

Congregational Chairman

Rick Melius

Head Elder