

* = Please stand as you are comfortable.

Bold type indicates congregational responses.

- **Welcome! No matter your background, circumstance, or footing in faith your presence is valued and celebrated as a part of the beloved community of God today.**
- *Your generosity is appreciated and encouraged as it makes a difference in the lives of many. Gifts and offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance before, during, or after the service. To give electronically, please visit richfield-lutheran.org/give*
- *We receive Holy Communion as a part of worship today, and you are welcome at Christ's table! Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Children may partake in the meal and/or come forward to receive a blessing as parents choose. Communion is received by intinction today (take the wafer and dip it into the wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, let your usher know and the servers will come to you. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request to the servers.*

As we gather...

The series, "What Does This Mean?," continues with a dive into the Ten Commandments. We explore how they direct our lives with God and our neighbors. If we truly take them seriously, we may find that they convict us, yet also that a promise of God's unwavering faithfulness is hidden in them. You might even learn a fun way to remember them today in worship! We receive Holy Communion as a part of worship, reminded and fed with new sustenance in faith.

I. GATHERING

PRELUDE

Communion Prelude

Bach

(The prelude gathers us in the Lord's presence. You are invited to center through it.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens

In the heart of Christ we find gracious rest

Welcome all who struggle in doubt or grief

God's faithfulness will be our strength and comfort

Welcome all who hunger and thirst for righteousness

In God's word made flesh we are not alone

God, send your Spirit and be our light

Bless this worship and renew us in faith and love.

WELCOME

***CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS**

(The Confession is based upon the 10 Commandments and Martin Luther's explanations in the Small Catechism.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the name in which we are baptized – our Creator, Redeemer, and the One who makes us Holy.

Amen.

As we come into God's presence and with each other, let us proclaim God's good commands.

**The first and greatest of God's commandments is, "You shall have no other gods."
And another is like it. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

What does this mean?

We are to fear, love, and trust God above all things, and we are to fear and love God, so that we neither endanger nor harm the lives of our neighbors, but instead help and support them in all of life's needs, honor and respect all they have, and look upon them in the best possible light.

While we acknowledge these commands, we confess our limits and struggles...

Let us pray...

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may love and serve you and our neighbors as ourselves in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and makes us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sin is forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through God's Holy Spirit that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

ELW #533

*** GREETING**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Beloved God, you know our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Give us the courage

to live out these commands, so that your reconciling love may be known to everyone we meet, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

II. WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

(Writing to believers in Rome, the Apostle Paul articulates the radical news of God's righteousness bestowed as pure gift.)

Then God spoke all these words,

² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p 151

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

*** GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-29**

(A religious lawyer tests Jesus with a theological question about keeping God's commands.)

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Peril and Promise of God's Prescript

Pastor Charlie Ruud

HYMN OF THE DAY

*O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate
(Please stand for the final verse.)*

ELW #722

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE APOSTLES' CREED, ARTICLE 2, WITH EXPLANATION FROM MARTIN LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

(Written in 1529, Luther's Small catechism was provided as a tool for parents to teach the faith to their children. The Second Article "On Redemption" articulates the forgiveness, life, and freedom given in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.)

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned

human being. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

After each petition:

...Merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

*** PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.)

III. THANKSGIVING & MEAL

OFFERING

Gifts in cash or check can be made as the offering plates are passed. To give electronically, scan the QR code to the right or text the desired amount to (612) 688-2798



OFFERING ANTHEM

*** OFFERTORY**

Create in Me

ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

*** WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

Eat This Bread

ELW #472

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.
(sung repeatedly)

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION SONG *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* **ELW #543 v.3**
Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

IV. SENDING

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Triune God.
Amen.

*** SENDING HYMN**

Lead Me, Guide Me
Led by Praise Jam

ELW# 768

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God's word has set you free!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rigaudon

Bach

(The postlude sends us out to be Christ's love in the world. You are invited to savor it.)

(Our service continues with invitation to refreshments in community together in the Fellowship Hall, across the hall; and then in the world with all our neighbors.)

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Mon, July 20. Psalm 75

Thurs, July 23. Psalm 119:129-136

Tues, July 21. Zephaniah 3:1-13

Fri, July 24. Acts 7:44-53

Wed, July 22. John 20:1-2, 11-18

Sat, July 25. Mark 10:35-45

Next week in worship...

The series, "What Does This Mean?," continues with an intro to the Apostles' Creed, specifically looking at God's whole and complete action for us in creation. We'll consider anew how grand and diverse God's creation is and contemplate how far God's provision goes for ourselves. Could

we be inspired to overflow with gratitude and taught to rejoice, praise, and share even more? We'll also host seminarian and friend of the congregation, Sam Maier, as our guest preacher, and thank and bless him as he goes forth to begin his pastoral internship. Show up or tune in next week to be blessed with a word of grace.

COPYRIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress license # SAS003518.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin.

Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Hymns reprinted with permission under One License, license # A-711721. All rights reserved.