



Fifth Sunday After Easter

May 2, 2021 | 11 AM



WELCOME!

Welcome! It is a joy to worship together!

As a community in the model of Christ, we warmly welcome all who have come seeking God in worship at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church. We welcome people of every race, gender, ethnic background, social status, physical ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Together in our diversity and as a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we seek to embrace the love of God offered to us in Jesus Christ. We gather to experience the presence of God in Word and Sacrament and to give praise to God who loves us unconditionally.

ONLINE: Our Redeemer's live streams worship services online using Zoom and Facebook Live. Please join us! Here's how:

- By phone: call 1-206-337-9723. Then enter this number when prompted: 822 691 346. This method will let you listen in, but not view the service.
- By Facebook Live: Go to www.facebook.com/ourredeemers. You don't have to have a facebook account – it's a public channel.
- By Zoom:
Download the Zoom app to your computer, tablet, or cell phone. It's free!
Click this link: [https:// Zoom.us/j/822691346](https://Zoom.us/j/822691346).

Prayers of the People: Following the Hymn of the Day, the Assisting Minister will lead us in praying for the church, the world, and all those in need. To have your prayer requests, concerns or praises included, please post them in the chat window on Facebook or Zoom and the Welcome Minister will confidentially pass them on to the Assisting Minister.

OUR MISSION:

In the model of Christ and for the life of the world, we are an inclusive, devoted, caring and spiritual community that accepts challenges, takes risks and grows.

We are on land created by God and stewarded for generations by the indigenous ancestors of the Duwamish people, who are still here. We honor the Creator's continuing presence in this land, confess our complicity in its brokenness, and awaken to our connectedness with all of creation.

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GATHER

PRELUDE

"Abide with Me" by William H. Monk, arr. by Valerie A. Floeter
"10 Sacred Piano Solos, Volume 6" by Valerie A. Floeter,
published by Floeter Music, Waukesha, Wisconsin

WELCOME

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Bind Us Together" Melody by Gretchen Mertes
Words by Bob Gillman

Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together, bind us together,
With cords that cannot be broken.
(repeat)

There is only one God,
There is only one King,
There is only one body,
Which is why we can sing...

CHORUS

You are the family of God
You are the promise divine,
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine!

CHORUS

CCLI #1228

*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our risen Lord, the love of God and the joy of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

And also with you!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray:

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart
from whom we cannot live.
Nourish our life in his resurrection,
that we may bear the fruit of love
and know the fullness of your joy,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.



WORD

FIRST READING

1 John 4:7-21

Listen for the word of God.

Our ears and hearts are open.

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten of God and has knowledge of God. ⁸ Those who do not love have known nothing of God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: by sending the Only Begotten into the world, that we might have faith through the Anointed One. ¹⁰ Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God, but that God has loved us and has sent the Only Begotten to be an offering for our sins.

¹¹ Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God. Yet if we love one another, God dwells in us, and God's love is brought to perfection in us. ¹³ The way we know that we remain in God and God in us is that we have been given the Spirit. ¹⁴ We have seen for ourselves and can testify that God has sent the Only Begotten as Savior of the world. ¹⁵ When any acknowledge that Jesus is the Only Begotten, God dwells in them, and they in God. ¹⁶ We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God in them.

¹⁷ Love will come to perfection in us when we can face the day of judgment without fear – because our relation to this world is just like Christ's. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, for perfect love drives out fear. To fear is to expect punishment, and anyone who is afraid is still imperfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because God first loved us. ²⁰ If you say you love God, but hate your sister or brother, you are a liar. For you cannot love God, whom you have not seen, if you hate your neighbor, whom you have seen. ²¹ If we love God, we should love our sisters and brothers as well; we have this commandment from God.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.



***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE GOSPEL**

John 15:1-8

The holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vine grower who cuts off every branch in me that doesn't bear fruit, but prunes the fruitful ones to increase their yield. You've been pruned already, thanks to the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, neither can you bear fruit apart from me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them will bear abundant fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. Those who don't live in me are like withered, rejected branches, to be picked up and thrown on the fire and burned. If you live on in me, and my words live on in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Abba will be glorified if you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

KID'S MESSAGE

Pastor Gretchen Mertes & Riley

SERMON

Pastor Gretchen Mertes

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Blessed Spring"



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us
 2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
 3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for

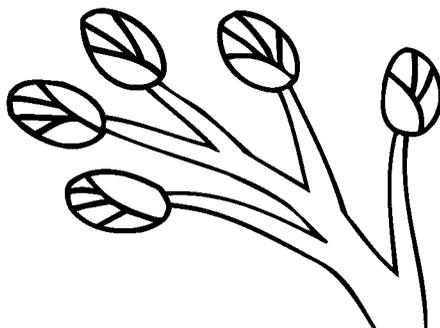


in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

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***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Empower us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that we bear fruit and are witness to your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have created the cosmos and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth the boldness of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are hungry, marginalized, or ill in body, mind or spirit. Provide for the needs of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For what else do the people of God pray?

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

May the peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

We are unmuted and share Christ's peace with each other in greeting or gesture.

MEAL

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

Karen Lee - "Abide with Me" by William H. Monk

Public Domain

*OFFERING PRAYER

God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer
as simple tokens of our commitment
to be on this resurrection journey with you.
Send us in service to
bring new, abundant life for all your creation;
in your risen name we pray.

Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God,
early in the morning,
when the world was young,
you made life in all its beauty and terror;
you gave birth to all we know.

Alleluia! Amen.

continued

Early one night,
the night in which you were betrayed,
you took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to your friends, saying,
Take. Eat. This is my body.
Broken for you.

After supper, you took the cup,
and when you had given thanks,
you gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new and eternal covenant relationship in my blood.
Shed for you and shed for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Early in the morning,
surrounded by blinded religious leaders,
anxious statesmen,
and silent friends,
you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God:
you shouldered and suffered the cross.
Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Early in the morning,
a voice in a guarded graveyard
and footsteps in the dew
proved that you had risen,
that you had come back
to those and for those
who had forgotten, denied and destroyed you.
Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

Breathe your Spirit of new life
upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine.
As the feast we now share becomes part of us,
may we be changed to become part of you,
Creator, Redeemer and Life-Giver,
One God, now and forever.
Amen. God, now and forever.
Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray as Jesus has taught us...

**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.**

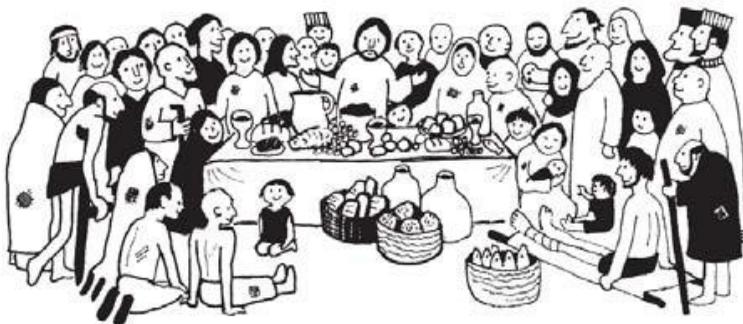
Amen.

All Are Welcome

to participate in communion, including children (as parents permit).

***INVITATION TO THE MEAL**

The risen Christ invites us to this table with the words, "This is for you."
Come, eat and be satisfied.



LAMB OF GOD



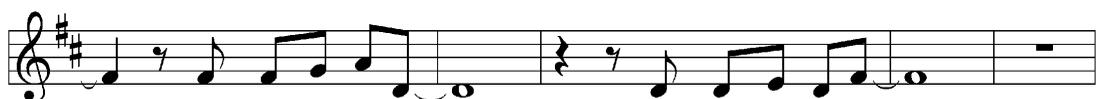
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Abide with Me"
Music: David Crowder

Abide in me, abide in me, abide in me,
Abide in me, abide in me, abide in me,

'Cause I love you, (I love you...) and I need you, (I need you...)
yes I love you (I love you...).

Repeat with these words:

Come rain on me. . .

Come love through me. . .

***TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us,
and keep us always in his grace.

Amen.

SENDING

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

May our glorious God grant us a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,
Creator, + Redeemer, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"We Know that Christ is Raised"



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

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***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR

Our Zoom Coffee Hour features "Breakout Rooms" to help facilitate conversation in smaller groups. Please stay after for conversation!

We Pray for...

Harold & Carol Alley, Katelyn Bjugstad, Sonja Braasch, Anita Dickinson, John Ellingboe, Anna Freyberg, Michael & Margaret Hlastala, Richard & Shirley Holt, Richard (Dick) Labrash, Juanita McBride, Vicky Milner, Patci Mungerson, Mandy Neill, Latife Neu, Barbara Olsen, Jerry Pickering, Linda Ravenhorst, Jennifer Seyler, Deborah Sjoquist, Erik Smith, Garrett Smith, Doug Starup, Elaine Stevens, Julie Vannoy, Charlotte Wallstrom, Eileen Weller, Karen Westley; immigrant families remaining separated; Road2Housing guests.

Grieving the Loss of...

Shirley Anderson; Sheryl McElheny;
Pete Paulson; James Leon Scates

*To include someone in the prayers for 4 weeks,
please email the church.*

IN OUR SERVICE TODAY

Preaching: Pastor Gretchen Mertes
Presiding: Pastor Kathy Hawks
Assisting Minister: John Somm
Lector: Niels Running
Musicians: Karen Lee, Gretchen Mertes

Our Staff

Kathy Hawks
Pastor

kathyh@ourredeemers.net

Gretchen Mertes
Pastor

pastor.gretchen@ourredeemers.net

Elizabeth Dickinson
Social Justice Coordinator

outreach@ourredeemers.net

Karen Lee

Traditional Worship / Music Director
karen@ourredeemers.net

Karie Stearns

Parish Administrator
administrator@ourredeemers.net

Debbie Lematta

Communications Coordinator
communications@ourredeemers.net

Katlin Dickinson-Laurence

Office Coordinator
Welcome Minister
office@ourredeemers.net

www.ourredeemers.net

The fastest way to reach our staff is by email.

Email: office@ourredeemers.net

You can also leave a message at:
206.783.7900.

Temporary mailing address:
5306 Ballard Ave NW, Ste 226
Seattle • 98107

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more details, check the website or current newsletter.



worship sundays 11 am

Zoom Online or via Facebook

Join us each Sunday at 11 am online for fellowship and worship - a blend of our traditional and informal services. All are welcome!

Centering Prayer Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:00 PM

Zoom Link

Join by phone call: +1 (206) 337-9723

Meeting ID: 984 1700 9634

Passcode: 132934

Each Wednesday at 6:30 PM, 30 minutes of quiet prayer is yours. Those who come to prayer remain quiet the whole time. You can view the recording anytime on Facebook, (or view recording on [Facebook](#)).

NEW: Compline Service

Every Thursday, 7 PM, Our Redeemer's Parking Lot

Our first in-person service will be Compline (Evening Prayer) Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 PM outside in Our Redeemer's parking lot. Both pastors will be present. Please join us and bring your own chairs, mask up, and stay socially distant for this new 20 minute service. All are welcome, of course!

Help with Vaccination Appointments

Jennifer Seyler and Valerie Tung are offering their assistance to people having trouble using their computers to set up COVID-19 vaccination appointments. Contact either of them if you need help.

Jennifer: jenniferseyler@mac.com

Valerie: valolin@gmail.com



faith formation

Sunday Adult Forums: "How do I Read the Bible?"

Sundays, 1:00 - 2:30 PM - [Zoom Link](#) Passcode "Adult"

Taught by Dr. Judy Stack

Do I Really Want to Read The Bible? Then, come! Learn how to enjoy curiously explore the Bible. Come, whether you're a seasoned reader, or just beginning, discover how scripture opens up who God is for you, and opens your eyes to where God is moving in today's changing, challenging world.

You're invited to come and curiously explore the Bible. Professor Judy Stack zooms in with years of experience and passion to help us all discover, hear, and be blessed directly by the Bible. Learn more about this ongoing series at this [LINK](#).

Wednesday Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 10:30 AM via Zoom - Passcode: bible

We're looking at The History and Archaeology of the Bible. This

Wednesday's subject is "The Northern Kingdom of Israel". [LEARN MORE](#)

All are welcome! Let Carolyn Swanson know if have questions: cdkswan@gmail.com or call her at 206-390-7732.

Sprouts Class – Sunday morning Zoom classes for 3-5 year olds at 9:30am before church. The class is 25 minutes long. [Contact Pastor Gretchen](#) for Zoom info.

Bible Connections for Families

If you need a tool to help your child grow in faith and stay connected to church without adding yet another Zoom meeting, we've developed a resource for you! You will receive an online guide to help you take 20 minutes to grow in faith as a family. Questions? Contact [Mandy Neill](#).



community

Join Our New Community Engagement Team

We're planning to engage more of the greater Ballard community as we open up the doors of our renovated facility in late Summer. A core team has started the process of considering, "**How do we, as people of faith, best use our building and resources to engage our community?**". Are you interested? Do you have the desire to:

- Do the leg work to actively engage with community organizations?
- Ask questions and be open to new perspectives?
- Be an enthusiastic ally, able to generate productive conversation within our congregation?

If you're interested in being part of this forward-thinking, community-focused team, contact Pastor Kathy: kathyh@ourredeemers.net.



social justice

Social Justice Budget Meeting Sunday, May 2, 3:00 PM [Zoom Link](#)

The Social Justice Team will be meeting on Sunday, May 2 to finalize the social justice benevolence budget for 2020-2021. All are welcome! Join [Zoom Meeting](#). Join by Phone Call: +1 (206) 337-9723 #163970.

Interrogating Privilege in Church and Our Lives

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM, through May 19 [More info/Register](#)

Co-facilitated by Rev. Priscilla Austin and David Hahn

The Racial Justice Committee invites lay leaders of Our Redeemer's to this ongoing course. Please contact Lars Sveum-Hanson at lars@sveum@gmail.com or John-Otto Liljenstolpe at jotto15@gmail.com if you plan to participate.

Ramadan Mubarak!

This month we wish our Muslim neighbors a *Ramadan Mubarak*, or *Blessed Ramadan*. In this sacred month, which this year goes from sundown April 12 to sundown May 12, Muslims celebrate the revelation of the Quran. This is a time for fasting from food and mean-spirited speech, for praying and renewing one's relationship with the Quran and Allah, and for generosity to those in need.

Calling Lutherans to Advocate for the Equality Act

The ELCA's social statement [Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust](#) states that the "dignity of the human being reflects God's deep love and stands against all forms of violence, discrimination, and injustice." The House has passed the bipartisan [Equality Act \(H.R. 5\)](#), a bill that would add sexual orientation and gender identity as protected classes alongside race, gender, religion, national origin, age, and disability. Now we have the opportunity to urge the Senate to introduce and pass an amended version of this legislation too. To learn more and take action, please go to the ELCA Action Center [HERE](#).

Volunteer to Help at Ballard Sunday Dinner

Calling cooks, dishwashers and organizers! Grab the opportunity now to cook with Dave and Sue Schoolcraft and Colin Johnson! Also to help clean up with Ross and Dinah Coble! [SIGN UP HERE](#) for Sunday, May 15. Next opportunity is June 20, and you can also sign up now for June! Questions? Contact Elizabeth at outreach@ourredeemers.net.



This Week at Our Redeemer's

Today, Sunday, May 2

9:30 AM - Sprouts Class

11 AM - Sunday Worship | [Zoom/Facebook](#)

1 PM Adult Forum

3 PM - Social Justice Budget Meeting

Monday, May 3

7 PM - Faith Formation Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

10 AM-1 PM - Pastor Gretchen Virtual Office Hours

Wednesday, May 5

Office Closed for Staff Development

10:30 AM - Bible Study

6:30 PM - Interrogating Privilege Class

6:30 PM - Centering Prayer | [Zoom/Facebook](#)

Thursday, May 6

9 AM-noon - Pastor Kathy Virtual Office Hours

3:45 PM - Staff Meeting

7 PM - Compline Service | Our Redeemer's Parking Lot

Saturday, May 8

10:30 AM - Caring Community Team

Sunday, May 9

9:30 AM - Sprouts Class

11 AM - Sunday Worship | [Zoom/Facebook](#)

1 PM Adult Forum

* Email office@ourredeemers.net if you need Zoom meeting help. Find meeting and Zoom link information in the announcements herein or on the church's [website calendar](#).



www.ourredeemers.net

Our temporary mailing address:
5306 Ballard Ave NW, Ste 226
Seattle, WA 98107