

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

1811 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville, IN

Office: (812) 476-9991 · www.redeemerchurch.org

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 2020

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

VISITORS AND MEMBERS

Welcome! As we join in praising and interacting with the Living God, we are glad to have you with us. There are some precautions that we have taken to help ensure the health of everyone gathering to worship. **1. Please continue to wear a mask, even during the service. If this makes singing too difficult for you, consider simply listening or “singing in your heart”.** **2. We ask that you observe social distancing as best to your ability.** **3. Attendance cards and offerings will be collected at the door as you enter or leave.** If you are new to our online community, please let us know by commenting “new”. We are glad you’re here and look forward to meeting you. If you wish, you may also send an email to pastor@redeemerchurch.org. Please remember to “share” our worship post so that others may worship with us.

AS WE GATHER

The Apostles emphasized the eyewitness testimony of Jesus and His resurrection. At Pentecost, Peter proclaimed, “This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses” (*Acts 2:32*). John writes, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life” (*1 John 1:1*), and in his Gospel, “and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (*John 1:14*).

A THOUGHT FOR DISCIPLES

While faith in Jesus is a gift of the Holy Spirit, the evidence from eyewitness testimony supports that faith.

VERSE OF THE WEEK

“For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!” (Romans 5:10) Meditate on this verse throughout the week. Families can discuss the verse at family devotions, during meals, in the car or at bedtime. How does the verse apply to your life and the things God is doing? Can you have it memorized by the end of the week?

Today's service uses portions of Divine Service IV

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN

"Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"

(LSB 811)



1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my
 2 O all you pow'rs that He im - plant - ed, A - rise, keep
 3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der That dance for
 4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, That throng the



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -
 si - lence now no more; Put forth the strength that God has
 joy in sum - mer air, You mead - ow grass - es, bright and
 earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de -



joic - es, Would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher -
 grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore. O soul and
 slen - der, You flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, You live to
 vo - tion, Help me to sing God's prais - es high. My ut - most



ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me.
 bod - y, join to raise With heart - felt joy our Mak - er's praise.
 show God's praise a - lone. Join me to make His glo - ry known.
 pow'rs can nev - er quite De - clare the won - ders of His might.

- 5 Creator, humbly I implore You
 To listen to my earthly song
 Until that day when I adore You,
 Together with the angel throng
 And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing
 Eternal anthems to my King.

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

Pastor: Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

All: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: 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 announce God's grace to you. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

KYRIE



☩ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



☩ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

(readings from NIV84 pew bibles)

FIRST READING

Acts 2:22–36

²² “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him:

*”I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.*

*²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will live in hope,*

*²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.*

*²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’*

²⁹ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

”The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand

*³⁵ until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.”’*

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

(following the reading ...)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

1 John 1:1–4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

(following the reading ...)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:9–18

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" ¹⁶ From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

(following the reading ...)

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN “Christ, the Word of God Incarnate” (LSB 540 sts. 1–2, 6)



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.

- 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration
And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit
And to You eternally.

Public domain

SERMON

Faith and Proof: "Is Jesus the Real Thing?" (part 3 of 3)

Intro: Were you there?

I. Faith and Proof Recap

- A. Proof does not create faith*
- B. Purpose of Evidence*
 - 1. Remove intellectual obstacles to faith*
 - 2. Encourage and support faith*
 - 3. Embolden witness*
- C. Primary tenets of faith*
 - 1. Creation – Article 1*
 - 2. Resurrection – Article 2*

II. Is our source (i.e. the New Testament) reliable?

- A. Bibliographical Test: Reliable copies of original?*
 - 1. Time gap*
 - 2. Number of copies*
 - 3. Agreement among copies*

B. Internal Evidence Test

1. Historical narrative, not propaganda or legend

2. That...which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life...and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life... that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. – 1 John 1:1–3

3. Motive – Why risk death for a lie?

C. External Evidence Test

III. Evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus

A. Jesus was really killed

B. Jesus was really buried

C. Jesus' body was not stolen

D. Jesus did appear to be alive again

E. This appearance was not a hallucination or confusion of identity

IV. “Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” – Acts 2:36

How important is evidence to you in matters of faith?

How might evidence play a role as you talk to others about Jesus and His resurrection?

RESPONSE OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OFFERING

******To give electronically, visit our website, redeemchurch.org, and click on 'online giving', or text the word GIVE to (812) 362-2848 and follow the link****You can make a one-time gift OR sign up for a recurring donation****Recurring donations can be changed or canceled at any time.******

OFFERTORY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* (LSB 805)

805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Remember us in Your kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

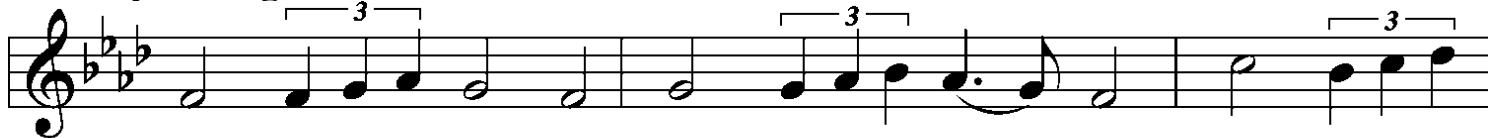
CLOSING HYMN

“Thy Strong Word”

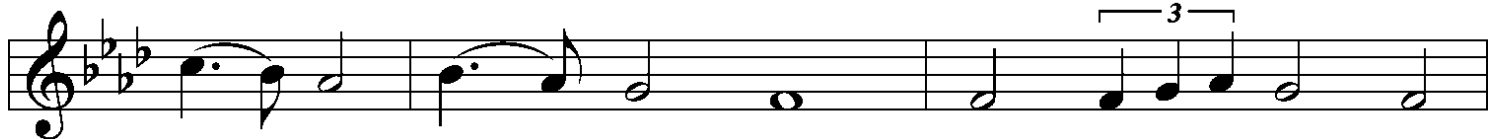
(LSB 578 sts. 1-4)

578 Thy Strong Word

sts. 1-4



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



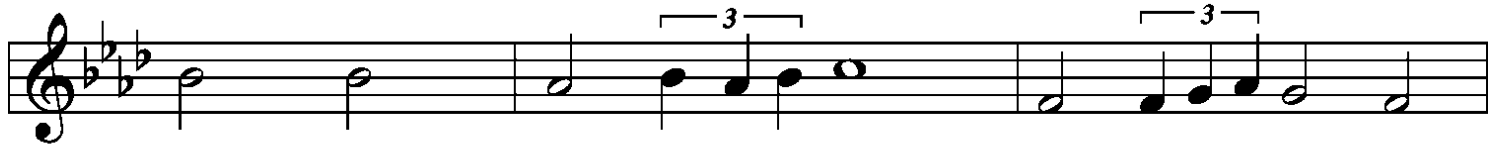
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

Public domain

POSTLUDE

“Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above”

by Forrest

Portions of this worship service are protected by copyrights from Concordia Publishing House License #000012078 and CCLI License #397712. We acknowledge and appreciate their generosity in sharing these items with us as part of our praise and worship of Jesus Christ.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Nell Arbeiter and children in loving memory of Clarence Arbeiter.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK’S 9:15 a.m. ADULT BIBLE STUDY:

- The Book of Luke with Pastor Kurtis

† In Our Prayers †

Illness/Recovery

Linda
Paula
Debra

Liz
Bryce
Diana Jean
Judy

Intercession

For students, parents and teachers and faculty back in school, as well as those using virtual learning programs from home

For peace and patience among us all during these trying times

For our country, military, veterans, president and all those in leadership

For first responders, medical workers and all those in authority

For Redeemer Newburgh and all of our outreach efforts

For Abi, stationed in South Korea

For Cody and Katy, stationed in Italy

Serving Today -

September 20, 2020

10:30 am Traditional Worship:

Worship Assistant: Tim Grunow
Attending Elder: Tim Grunow
Pianist: Molly Wuertz

Serving Next Week -

September 27, 2020

10:30 am Traditional Worship:

Worship Assistants: Pastor Bill Randall, Wendy Menke
Attending Elder: Tom Southwell
Serving Communion: Tony Shull
Organist: Molly Wuertz