

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor
(319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor
(319) 389-5526

Matthew Baker, Vicar
(605) 342-0259

Church Office: 266-2509

Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023

TO OUR VISITORS We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with “Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors’ Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.
- ✘ Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.
- ✘ Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor’s card in the Offering plate.
- ✘ Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION



The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord’s Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning. Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox, Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Baker about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.

THOSE SERVING GOD’S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Ryan Thornton **Service Assistant:** Steven Dekutoski

Organist: Roxann List **Ushers:** Kelly Barber, Tim Koch

Tellers: Chris Fink, James Mishler **Shut-Ins:** Becca Barber



TODAY IS THE 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST On several occasions Jesus’ words shocked, astounded, or surprised His hearers. For example, following His encounter with the rich young man, Jesus said, *“I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”* *When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?”*

In the Gospel appointed for today, Jesus also stuns His hearers with this bombshell, *“I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.”* Jesus was specifically addressing the chief priests and elders of the people but His words apply to all who trust in themselves and their own righteousness!

Is Jesus using hyperbole to get peoples’ attention or does He really mean this? Of course He means what He says, but you must truly understand His words before you reach false conclusions about His message.

Jesus does not here condone sin or suggest some sins are less serious than others. The point is simple – the tax collectors and prostitutes of whom He speaks are those in whom God’s gracious work of repentance and faith has been worked. They stand in stark contrast with those in whom pride and self-righteousness stand as obstacles to childlike faith.

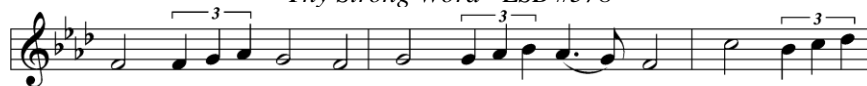
On the earlier occasion, when Jesus had shocked His disciples with His words about the rich entering into the kingdom of God, He also told His disciples, *“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”*

Today, in the Divine Service, Jesus once again opens the gates of heaven to the rich man, the tax collector, the prostitutes, and even the chief priests and elders among us. But you must enter on His terms, namely, through trust in the merits of Christ and Him alone. This same Christ graciously feeds you His body and blood, whereby His righteousness and holiness are once again bestowed upon you. Are you, like the disciples, astonished? Is the question, “How can this be?” on your lips. Of course, and so it should be! But with God even the impossible is possible!

I. THE PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation

“Thy Strong Word” LSB #578



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!

5. Give us lips to sing Thy glory, tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

- △ 6. God the Father, light-creator, to Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001799

Tune: Public domain

Stand/Remain Standing Invocation

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin

P/V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalms 124:8

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Psalms 32:5

P/V: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

P/V: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to be the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit



Cantor: The Lord lifts up the | humble;*

He casts the wicked | to the ground.

Cong: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*

for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

The Lord builds up Je- | rusalem;*

He gathers the outcasts of | Israel.

He heals the broken- | hearted*

and binds | up their wounds.

He determines the number | of the stars;*

He gives to all of | them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*

His understanding is beyond | measure.

Cantor: The Lord lifts up the | humble;*

He casts the wicked | to the ground.

(Psalm 147:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 147:6)

Gloria Patri

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie


Mark 10:47

G Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

P Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Salutation



P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22



C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Be seated

The Old Testament

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual

“Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide” LSB #585



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, with us a - bide, For round us
2 In these last days of great dis - tress Grant us, dear
3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold Speak tongues of
4 May glo - rious truths that we have heard, The bright sword



falls the e - ven - tide. O let Your Word,
Lord, true stead - fast - ness That we keep pure
fire and make us bold To shine Your Word
of Your might - y Word, Spurn Sa - tan that



that sav - ing light, Shine forth un - dimmed in - to the night.
till life is spent Your ho - ly Word and Sac - ra - ment.
of sav - ing grace In - to each dark and love - less place.
Your Church be strong, Bold, u - ni - fied in act and song.

5. Restrain, O Lord, the human pride that seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
6. Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true; preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart’s defense, the Church’s glorious confidence.

Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House.
Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001799
Tune: Public domain

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1–18

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse



☐ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: All authority in heaven | and on earth*
has been giv - | en to me.



☐ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

(Matthew 28:16)

The Holy Gospel

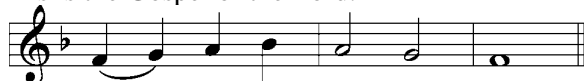
Matthew 21:23–32

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist Matthew, the 21st chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

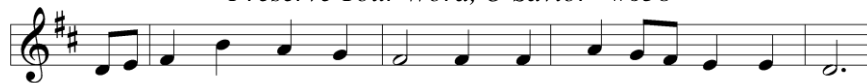
I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

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.

And 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

The Hymn of The Day

“Preserve Your Word, O Savior” #658



1 Pre-serve Your Word, O Sav - ior, To us this lat - ter day,
2 Pre-serve, O Lord, Your hon - or, The bold blas - phem - er smite;
3 Pre-serve, O Lord, Your Zi - on, Bought dear - ly with Your blood;
4 Pre-serve Your Word and preach - ing, The truth that makes us whole,
5 Pre-serve in wave and tem - pest Your storm-tossed lit - tle flock;



And let Your king - dom flour - ish; En - large Your Church, we pray.
Con - vince, con - vert, en - light - en The souls in er - ror's night.
Pro - tect what You have cho - sen A - gainst the hell - ish flood.
The mir - ror of Your glo - ry, The pow'r that saves the soul.
As - sailed by wind and weath - er, May it en - dure each shock.



O keep our faith from fail - ing; Keep hope's bright star a - glow.
Re - veal Your will, dear Sav - ior, To all who dwell be - low,
Be al - ways our de - fend - er When dan - gers gath - er round;
Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, This dew of heav'n - ly grace,
Stand at the helm, our pi - lot, And set the course a - right;



Let noth - ing from truth turn us While liv - ing here be - low.
Great light of all the liv - ing, That all Your name may know.
When all the earth is crum - bling, Safe may Your Church be found.
Sus - tain us while here liv - ing Un - til we see Your face.
Then we will reach the har - bor In Your e - ter - nal light.

The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

Stand

The Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word are now encouraged to pray the Lord's prayer.

**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.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Sun. 10/1 | 9:00 a.m. Divine Service at Our Redeemer |
| | 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class |
| | 11:30 a.m. Men's Choir Rehearsal |
| Wed. 10/3 | 10:00 a.m. Book Club |
| | 11:00 a.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings) |
| | 5:25 p.m. Adult Choir |
| | 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study with Vicar Baker (meal at 6:15) |
| | 6:30 p.m. Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings) <i>(Class will only be held in the morning this week)</i> |
| Sat. 10/7 | 9:00 a.m. Musicians Workshop at College Hill |
| | 6:00 p.m. Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock |
| | 7:00 p.m. Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock |
| Sun. 10/8 | 9:00 a.m. Divine Service at Our Redeemer |
| | 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class |
| | 1:00 p.m. Circuit Youth “Cornhole” Tournament (at Our Redeemer) |

HYMNS/READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sunday, October 8 - The 19th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22)

Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46

Invocation: Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 909

Gradual: With High Delight Let Us Unite..... 483

Hymn of the Day: All Glory Be to God Alone..... 948

Distribution: Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior 619

Distribution: Christ, The Word of God Incarnate 540

Distribution: Thanks To Thee, O Christ, Victorious..... 548

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. This morning we resume the study of Revelation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Children should meet in the Music Room for their opening with Vicar Baker and for music with Mrs. Baker

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to study the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week's Divine Service. *Because of a schedule conflict there will not be evening class on October 4.*

THE VICAR'S BIBLE STUDY This Fall Vicar Baker is leading a Bible Study which looks at the agricultural images and themes in the Bible. This class meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. The class also meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings of the same week at Peace in Shell Rock. During October the class will meet on 10/9 and 10/23 at Our Redeemer; on 10/10 and 10/24 at Peace.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with our Vicar on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:15 and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. (There will be food on Wednesdays at 6:15) On Sunday mornings the youth will be studying 1 Corinthians, comparing the experience of the Christians in largely pagan Corinth with our circumstances today. On Wednesdays the youth will choose topics to discuss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Don Moe and family as they remember their wife, mother and grandmother, Sara Moe, who entered God's glory three years ago. *"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."* - Isaiah 41:10

FLOWER CHART There are a few Sundays remaining in 2023 to sign up for Altar Flowers. The flower chart is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall – or contact Sara Lair for details (319) 266-1163; sjlair@cfu.net.

THE ADULT CHOIR meets to rehearse every Wednesday, from 5:25-6:25. Singers of all voices and abilities, anyone who loves to sing, is welcome. If you have ANY questions, talk to Roxann or Sheryl.

OUR REDEEMER BOOK CLUB – "Good News for Anxious Christians: 10 Practical Things You Don't Have to Do" by Phillip Cary is the next selection for Our Redeemer's Book Club. Discussion on this book begins October 11. We meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. (right before the Midweek Pericopes study). Need a book? Contact Sara Lair (319-266-1163) Or, just drop in and listen to the discussion – we would love to see you!

MEN'S CHOIR We're still looking for men to participate in a men's choir at Our Redeemer. There are no special skills required, and the commitment is minimal. Vicar Baker would like to have the choir sing for Reformation Sunday, so rehearsals will begin today, Sunday October 1. There will be short 30-minute rehearsals following Bible study on Sunday mornings, and Vicar is willing to offer additional rehearsals after choir on select Wednesdays if requested. Please speak with Vicar Baker if you have questions or are interested in joining.

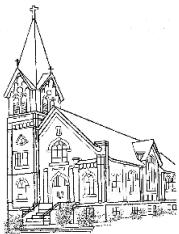
ADULT BIBLE STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION The Sunday morning Bible Study has recently begun a study of the Book of Revelation. It has been more than 20 years since a study of this unique book of the Bible has been offered at Our Redeemer. The study of Revelation will include a study of parts of the book of Daniel from the Old Testament, a book which has similarities with Revelation. Both of these forward-looking books of prophecy give the believer confidence as God reveals the glory of His eternal kingdom and the final victory to be enjoyed by all who trust in Christ.

WEEKLY STUDY OF THE READINGS Reminder: The study of the weekly readings is being offered both on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 a.m. and on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. This is just one more option for the members of Our Redeemer to be those who can pray with the Psalmist, *"You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word."* (Psalm 119:114) *Because of a schedule conflict, the evening option will not be offered this week.*

YOUTH "CORNHOLE" TOURNAMENT On Sunday, October 8th, Our Redeemer is hosting a Youth Group "Cornhole" Tournament. Vicar Baker is looking for "Cornhole" Boards and some volunteers to help with food and snacks that day. If you would like to help, please speak with Vicar Baker soon.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE LWML FALL RALLY at College Hill Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 14. A light breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. followed by opening worship at 9:00 a.m. Daniel Sanchez from Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca will be there to share what Camp is all about: it's mission, what it has to offer, and much more. Ingathering items for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca include: paper towels, napkins, stamps: (forever and postcard), disinfecting wipes, toilet bowl cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, window cleaner, Pine-Sol, Trash bags: Only 13 Gal & 33 Gal, Batteries: AA, AAA. 9V, Kleenex, paper plates, toilet paper rolls, copy paper. *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven."* Matthew 5:16

BENEFIT DINNER FOR MRS. AMANDA L'HEUREUX Amanda is the 1st Grade teacher at Valley Lutheran. The dinner will be served on Monday, October 2nd from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at Valley. A free will donation will be gathered. All proceeds will go to the L'Heureux's family to assist with medical care. Amanda was recently diagnosed with cancer and will be heading into surgery in just a matter of weeks.



CEDAR FALLS HISTORIC CHURCHES TOUR Our Redeemer will be participating in the Cedar Falls Historical Society Churches Tour on October 15 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. It is an open house format. Our Redeemer is one of six churches that were asked to be a part of this event. This is an excellent opportunity to learn of the history and unique attributes of Our Redeemer, along with other Cedar Falls churches. Tickets are \$15 for adults and free for children 12 and under. There is a brief article about the tour in the most recent REPORTER.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

In an effort to keep the members of Our Redeemer aware of our financial condition as a congregation, the following is provided by the Board of Stewardship and the Financial Secretary.

- Giving/income Year to Date \$161,752.16
- Budget Year to Date: \$164,500.00
- Difference: -\$2,747.84