

Then and Now

READINGS YOU'LL HEAR DURING WORSHIP SUNDAY

Numbers 11:24–30

Acts 2:1–21

John 7:37–39

PREACHER:

Wayne Schroeder, Pastor Emeritus

PREPARE YOUR HEART:

Welcome to Pentecost! On this Sunday we celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church. It was on this day that the first disciples, having been hidden away in a room for 50 days, now went forth to share the good news of Jesus with the world. And we, too, having been shut up in our homes these past two months, now are able to go forth more freely, if not hesitantly. Are there any comparisons between then and now? Does that same Holy Spirit that came to them back then still come to us now? If so, what does that mean for us. Let us explore that question together this coming Sunday.

- 1 What are the similarities between what the disciples experienced leading up to Pentecost and what we have been going through as we have dealt with this virus?
- 2 What are the differences?
- 3 We are challenged by Christ to go forth into the world and share His love. How can we do that?

You Belong

Welcome to worship at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church! Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, worship currently looks much different than most are accustomed to but we are still gathered as a body of believers, leaning into God's steadfast love, His mercy, and His promise of enduring faithfulness. We praise God for the modern technology that allows us access to worship even in the face of a global health crisis. The full expression of God's love for you is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for your sins. God sees you.

You Were Made To Know Him

As willing participants in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we believe the only absolute truth is written in God's Word, The Bible. We believe in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Three Persons.

The divine mystery of the Trinity is clearly taught in Scripture and acknowledged by the Christian Church since the Apostolic Age. We believe that God the Father created all things and that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the World, and that no one can believe these truths or be saved without the working of the Holy Spirit in their heart and mind. We believe that a person is given faith as a gift. Born of sin, we are unable to accept God's favor. Only He can give it. This gift is given through Baptism and strengthened through the forgiveness of sins, especially in the Lord's Supper. We believe Christ was clear when He gave the Lord's Supper to His church saying, "Take eat, this is My Body; take drink, this is My Blood poured out for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34).

Service Notes

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is a liturgical church. This means we believe that in worship "God is providing His service for us. In the reading, the preaching, and the proclamation of His Word and in His sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, God comes to us. In worship, God gives His grace and then we respond with thanks and praise."

*(from *Worshipping with Angels and Archangels*. Concordia Publishing House, 2006).*

Today in our **9:00AM Blended Worship Service** we celebrate the Service of the Word using Creative Worship. The full liturgy is printed in the service folder available on our website. Following worship, a live, online Bible study with Pastor will begin at 10:00AM. (Upon the advice of Synod, we are suspending communion during the Covid 19 pandemic. We yearn for a return to face-to-face worship and the celebration of communion as a body of believers.)

Ministry Minute

As restrictions are easing surrounding the Covid 19 crisis, we are making plans to begin offering The Lord's Supper on Sunday, May 31.

On May 31, worship will remain an online event and we will continue to offer our online 10AM Bible study. Following Bible study, the sanctuary will be open for two hours, allowing our church family to receive The Lord's Supper throughout that time. Beginning Saturday, June 6 at 4:30PM, we will hold an in-person (and online) worship service including The Lord's Supper. On Sunday, June 7, our 9AM worship service will be offered in-person as well as online. Following our Sunday morning Bible study, The Lord's Supper will be offered from 10:30AM to 12:30PM in the form of continuous Communion. This weekend worship plan will be offered for the foreseeable future. A detailed email has been sent and those without email will be receiving written communication this week. Because of Him, you belong.