

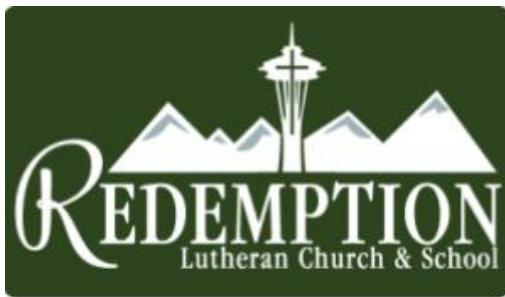
REDEMPTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Quinquagesima Sunday

A large silhouette of a lion standing on the left, facing right, and a smaller silhouette of a lamb standing on the right, facing left. They are positioned in front of a white background.

God chose
what is **weak**
in the world
to shame
the **strong**.

1 Corinthians 1:27, NRSV



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Pre-Service Meditation:

John 11:49-50 ⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish."

Prayer: Dear almighty God, merciful Father, Your grace is a hidden treasure. It is not because You do not want to be found, but because of our sinfulness that pushes You away. We thank You, and praise You for revealing Your grace to us through Your Son, Jesus. Though He lived a perfect, innocent life, yet He was condemned to die so that we might know You and be gathered in as Your children. May we carry this mystery of the Gospel to those who do not yet know Your grace. We pray in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Invocation

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: 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.

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

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

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

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

P: 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: Upon this your confession, I, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit:

Psalm 31

P Be Thou my strong Rock: for an house of defense to save me. Thou art my Rock and my Fortress: therefore for Thy name's sake lead me and guide me. In Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in my righteousness.

Gloria Patri

C 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

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

Hymn of Response: TLH 237

All Glory be to God on high, Who hath mankind befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God sheweth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray... O Lord, we beseech You to hear with favor the prayers of Your people. Having set us free from the bonds of sin by the perfect life and innocent death of Your dear Son, defend us now from all evil, and equip us the power of Your Word to remain faithful until death, for You live and reign with Your Son, our Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, one God forever,

C Amen.

⁴ "You shall say to them, Thus says the LORD: When men fall, do they not rise again? If one turns away, does he not return? ⁵ Why then has this people turned away in perpetual backsliding? They hold fast to deceit; they refuse to return. ⁶ I have paid attention and listened, but they have not spoken rightly; no man relents of his evil, saying, 'What have I done?' Everyone turns to his own course, like a horse plunging headlong into battle. ⁷ Even the stork in the heavens knows her times, and the turtledove, swallow, and crane keep the time of their coming, but my people know not the rules of the LORD. ⁸ "How can you say, 'We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us'? But behold, the lying pen of the scribes has made it into a lie. ⁹ The wise men shall be put to shame; they shall be dismayed and taken; behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD, so what wisdom is in them?

Responsive Reading

Psalm 14 Selected Verses

P The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

C **They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good.**

P The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

C **They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.**

P Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD?

C **There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.**

P Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!

C **When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.**

Epistle Lesson:

1 Corinthians 1:21-31

²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Confession of Faith:

Apostles Creed

**C 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty. From there 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.**

Hymn:

TLH 354 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

⁴⁷ So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

The Fool's Prophecy is Your Greatest Hope

Offertory:**Create In Me**

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Hymn: TLH 353 Lord Jesus Christ, My Savior Blest vs 1-4,6-7

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

**C 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

C Amen.

Hymn:

WS 777 Amazing Grace

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Announcements

WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Upcoming Events:

- **Lent:** Ash Wednesday Service will be held February 18th at 7pm. We will be considering the theme: Who Wants Jesus Dead? We will have a soup supper starting at 6pm.
- **CLC Nominations:** The deadline is March 31 for nominations to CLC offices at our upcoming synod convention, June 25-28, 2026. Pastors, professors, male teachers, and voters of congregations within the Church of the Lutheran Confession are invited to nominate individuals for the following synodical offices: ● CLC President ● CLC Vice-President ● CLC Moderator ● CLC Secretary ● Called Servants for the Board of Trustees, Regents, Missions, and Education ● Lay Members for the Board of Trustees, Regents, Missions, and Education. An online nomination form and accompanying information is available at clclutheran.net/nominations.

Call News:

- Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Sheperd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD ***is considering the call*** to Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ.
- Pastor Ted Barthels of St. Paul's Lutheran in Austin, MN ***has announced his retirement*** as of April 30th, 2026

PRAY FOR LABORERS! This week, the President, Vice-President, and Conference Visitors met to discuss the current ministry needs in the CLC. With Pastors Barthels and Kanzenbach announcing their retirement, we have nine locations that are in need of pastor-trained men:

1. Our Redeemer, Red Wing
2. Living Hope, Appleton
3. Trinity, Spokane
4. Holy Cross, Phoenix
5. St. Paul's, Austin
6. St. Luke's, Lemmon
7. Grace, Fridley
8. Messiah, Eau Claire (3rd pastor)
9. Professor at Immanuel

With one seminary graduate anticipated in the next three years and an aging pastorate, we see how the great need before us. This is not a problem unique to the CLC. 11% of our CLC congregations are calling. This is similar in the WELS. The LC-MS is at 20%. Nor is this a new problem in the Christian church. 2,000 years ago, Jesus told his disciples: "***The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.***" (Luke 10:2)

What can you do? What can we do at Redemption? First, pray! Let us hear and heed the Lord's call to pray earnestly for the Lord to provide for the needs of the ministry. Then, let us consider what we can do and help the needs of our fellow members!

Upcoming Schedule:

Wednesday, February 18th Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm

Sunday, February 22nd Redemption Sunday Service at 9

Wednesday, February 25th Midweek Lenten Service at 7pm

Sunday, March 1st Redemption Sunday Service at 9