

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

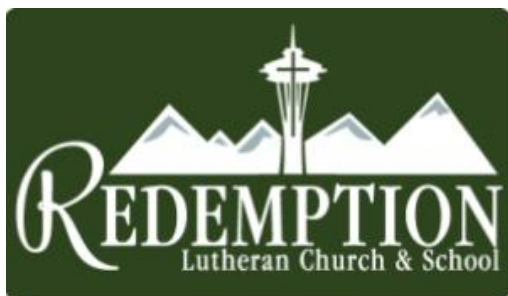
Vol. 3 Issue 64

# REDEMPTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday After Trinity

Which of the two  
did what his  
father  
wanted?

Matthew 21:31



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**Pre-Service Meditation:**

**Matthew 21:31** <sup>31</sup> "Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you

**Prayer:** O Lord Jesus Christ, Holy are You and worthy of our praise! For You have opened the path to glory and eternal life. You have called us by Your grace to not only be members of this Kingdom of Grace, but also to be partakers in it. Lord, we must confess that our sinful flesh lags behind the will of Your Spirit. Forgive us for our slothfulness. But, O Lord Jesus, do not let us remain inactive, but stir us by Your Spirit that we may serve You in the calling to which You call us. In Your saving name, even as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever, Amen.

**Opening:** TLH 1 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty vs 1-3,5

**Invocation**

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

**C** Amen.

**Confession and Absolution**

**P**: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**C**: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**P**: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C**: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P**: Let us pray.

**C**: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

**P**: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence, we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C**: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

**Introit** *Psalm 56:3–4, 10–11; antiphon: v. 13*

**P**: For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling.

**C**: That I may walk before God in the light of life.

**P**: When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

**C**: **In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.**

**P**: What can flesh do to me? In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust;

**C**: **I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me? Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### **Hymn of Response: WS 798 God We Praise You**

God, we praise You, God, we bless You!

God, we name You sov'reign Lord!

Mighty King whom angels worship, Father, by Your Church adored:

All creation shows Your glory; Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne,  
Singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts and God alone!"

True apostles, faithful prophets, Saints who set their world ablaze,

Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, Join one growing song of praise,

While Your Church on earth confesses One majestic Trinity:

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally.

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray... Grant unto us, Lord, we beseech You, the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that we may always think and do such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be empowered to live according to Your will, through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever,

**C** Amen.

### **Old Testament Lesson**

### **Psalms 1**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; <sup>2</sup> But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. <sup>3</sup> He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And

whatever he does shall prosper. <sup>4</sup> The ungodly *are* not so, But *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

**Epistle Lesson:**

**Acts 8:26-39**

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup> And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup> And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. <sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." <sup>34</sup> And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>37</sup> <sup>38</sup> And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

**☩ 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.**

**Hymn:        LSB 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized vs 1-5**

**Sermon****Matthew 21:28-32**

<sup>28</sup> "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' <sup>29</sup> "He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. <sup>30</sup> "Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> "Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup> "For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him.

**The Unequal Sons—In Which One am I Portrayed?**

## **Offertory:**

## **WS 798 God We Praise You**

Jesus Christ, the King of glory, Everlasting Son of God,  
Humble was Your virgin mother, Hard the lonely path You trod:  
By Your cross is sin defeated, Hell confronted face to face,  
Heaven opened to believers, Sinners justified by grace.

Christ, at God's right hand victorious,  
You will judge the world You made;  
Lord, in mercy help Your servants  
For whose freedom You have paid:  
Raise us up from dust to glory; Guard us from all sin today.  
King enthroned above all praises, Save Your people, God, we pray.

Hymn: **TLH 307 Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord**

## **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

## **Order of the Sacrament**

**P** The Lord be with you  
**C** And also with you  
**P** Lift up your hearts  
**C** We lift them up to the Lord  
**P** It is truly right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God... Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company

of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

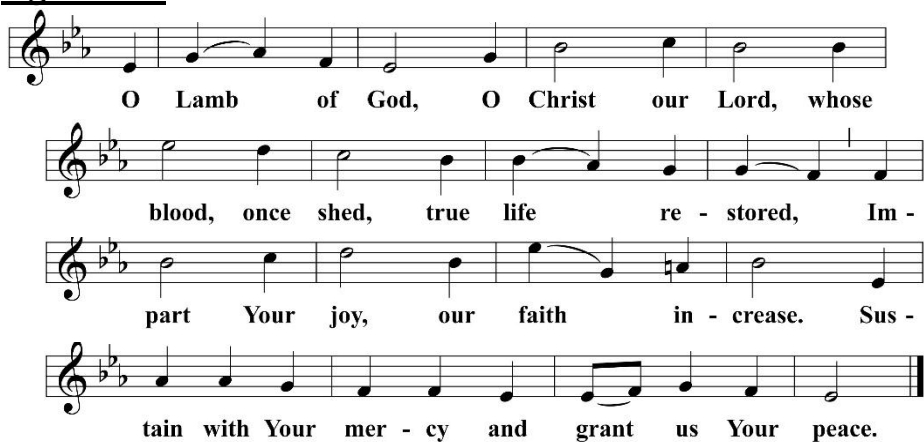
## **Sanctus**



C: Ho - lv. ho - lv. ho - lv Lord. God of Sa - ba - oth. a - dored: Heav'n and  
earth with full ac - claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho -  
san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly  
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## **Words of Institution**

### **Agnus Dei**



O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose  
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -  
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -  
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

## Distribution

### Communion Note:

The Bible tells us to be "*perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*" One way that unity is expressed is by communing together. For that reason, we ask that anyone who has not established this unity through membership in a CLC congregation, speak with the pastor or one of the Elders before coming to the Lord's Table. We hold this position in loving obedience to the Word of God. This is by no means a judgment of anyone's Christian faith, sincerity, or standing before God.

### Nunc Dimittis

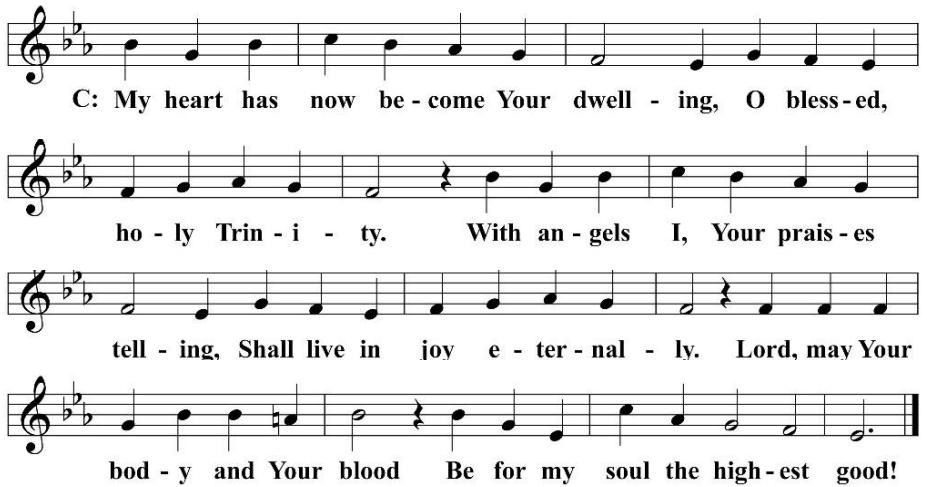


C: 1  
2

O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For  
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

**[P]:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord in Gladness

## Thanksgiving



C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,  
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es  
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your  
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

## **Benediction:**

**C:** Amen.

## **Hymn:**

**TLH 395 O God, My Faithful God vs 1-3,6,7**

## **Silent Prayer**

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**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.

## **Announcements**

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **Thanks:** Thank you to James for running the services the last two weekends!
- **Summer VBS:** Our Summer VBS is scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>. We are in need of two things: Spreading the word and

snacks. If you are willing to help out by donating snacks, please let Pastor know or email Lori-Jo.

- **Mission Helper Trip:** This past week, 9 CLC Mission Helpers, along with team leaders travelled to the East African nations of Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia. The Mission Helpers will spend the next few weeks proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to an estimated 6,000 children. They will focus their efforts in some of the towns and villages where the Kenya-CLC, Tanzania-CLC, and Zambia-CLC have or are working to establish congregations and preaching stations. You can follow along with the trip's blog at [www.2026clcmissionhelpertripeastafrica.blogspot.com](http://www.2026clcmissionhelpertripeastafrica.blogspot.com).

### **Call News:**

- Pastor Jonathan Schnose of Bethel Lutheran in Morris, MN ***is considering the call*** to St. Luke's Lutheran in Lemmon, SD. He ***is also considering the call*** to Gift of God Lutheran in Mapleton, ND and St. Paul's Lutheran in Ponsford, MN.
- Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, ***has received the call*** to Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ.
- Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Heights, MN ***has returned the call*** to Mt. Zion Lutheran in Madison Heights, MI.
- Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul Lutheran in Bismark, ***has returned the call*** to Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI.
- Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran in Hecla, SD and Zion Lutheran in Aberdeen, SD ***has returned the call*** to St. Paul's Lutheran in Austin, MN.

### **Upcoming Schedule:**

Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> Redemption Sunday Service at 9

Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> Redemption Sunday Service at 9

Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> Redemption Sunday Service at 9

# 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

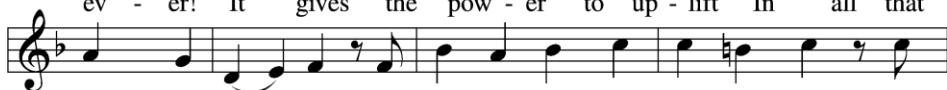
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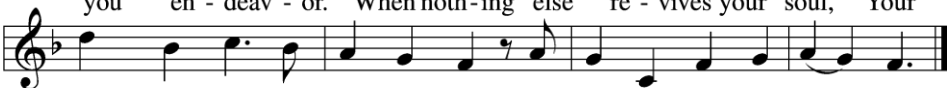
1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of  
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-  
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-mersed and drowned for-  
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly  
5 O Chris-tian, firm-ly hold this gift And give God thanks for-



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of  
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-  
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-  
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly  
ev-er! It gives the pow-er to up-lift In all that



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The  
out ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned  
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-stroyed And  
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now  
you en-deav-or. When noth-ing else re-vives your soul, Your



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!  
in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.  
all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.  
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.  
Bap-tism stands and makes you whole And then in death com-pletes you.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

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## **Summary of the Most Significant Convention Resolutions:**

- Three teachers and one pastor were admitted into the voting membership of the CLC
- The Convention directed our ministry recruiters to continue focusing on recruiting and retaining students training for the preaching and teaching ministries. We urge our congregations, pastors, teachers, and members, especially parents, to take an active role in encouraging our youths to prayerfully consider serving in the public ministry.
- We encourage the leadership of congregations to formulate and/or review a plan to regularly assess the financial, physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of their called workers, and we direct the CLC president and conference visitors to address this critical need [called worker support] and to report their progress to the 2028 CLC Convention.
- The Convention established a committee to develop a “Lay Ministry Training Program.” Its goal will be to provide designated laymen with education to carry out specific functions of the public ministry as needed in a congregation under the supervision of a regular pastor.
- Because of various legal issues, it is important for each CLC congregation to establish their own incorporation status and to maintain it. The Convention resolved that the CLC Board of Trustees will maintain a list of CLC congregations and their incorporation status and will report on this matter to the Coordinating Council.
- Concerning ILC’s Gymnasium building project: The current estimate to complete the building is \$10.6 million, of which about \$2.5 million is on hand. The Convention approved a loan of up to \$7 million from the CEF for the ILC Gymnasium once the Board of Trustees has determined that funds are available. The Board of Trustees will solicit loans to the CEF for this purpose. The ILC Building Committee should proceed with construction as soon as possible after the necessary funding is secured.

## Daily Bread Devotional Readings

**July 6th – 11th 2026**

Monday Luke 5:1-11 When Jesus

Tuesday 1 Peter 3:8-12 Peter exhorts

Wednesday 1 Peter 3:13-15 The Apostle

Thursday Jeremiah 16:14-21 Although the

Friday Psalm 113 Praise the Lord

Saturday Psalm 119:33-40 Many different