



November 21, 2021  
9:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.

*Lutheran Church of the Redeemer*  
1800 W. Maple  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**November 21, 2021 – 9:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.**

**Last Sunday of the Church Year**

**Theme: Living and Dying For Christ**

### **As We Gather**

**Martyr:** one who bears witness of the truth, and suffers death in the cause of Christ

(Acts 22:20; Revelation 2:13; 17:6). In this sense Stephen was the first martyr. The Greek word so rendered in all other cases is translated “witness.”

- In a court of justice (Matthew 18:16; 26:65; Acts 6:13; 7:58; Hebrews 10:28; 1 Timothy 5:19).
- As of one bearing testimony to the truth of what he has seen or known (Luke 24:48; Acts 1:8; Acts 1:22; Romans 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 2:5; 1 Thessalonians 2:10; 1 John 1:2)

### **Prayer Before Worship**

Sovereign God, we worship You and we acknowledge that You know all of those who suffer in Your name. We remember those who are imprisoned for their faith and ask that they would join with the Apostle Paul to see that even though they remain captive, their chains have furthered the gospel, not frustrated it. May they inspire and embolden their fellow believers to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. God of all comfort, for those who are tortured both in body and mind, give them the grace to endure and to see their suffering as part of following in Christ’s footsteps. Merciful God, for those asked to pay the ultimate price; who are martyred because of their love for You, may they truly know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death. Heavenly Father, we ask that You would make us ever mindful of our brothers and sisters around the world who need us to stand with them as they suffer in Your name. Teach us what it means to overcome by the

blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony; we pray that we would not love our lives so much as to shrink from death.

**Prelude** Rick Helderop, organist

**Call To Worship** One Way – Houston/Douglass, arr. Shipp  
Redeemer Praise

**Opening Hymn** O For a Thousand Tongues – Glazer/Merkel/Wesley  
Redeemer Praise, with the Congregation

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!
2. Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

Bridge:

Jesus, You're the name above all names. Jesus, Lamb of God.  
Jesus, You're the King of salvation, Who was and is to come!

3. He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me.
4. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Repeat Bridge, then to Coda

Coda: Who was and is to come! Who was and is to come!

### **Order of Service for Holy Communion**

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

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. 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 Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**P&C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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. Amen.

## **Children's Message - 10:30**

### **Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 69:1-4a

(Hated without cause)

Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me. I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched. My eyes fail, looking for my God. Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me.

## **Second Reading**

Acts 7:54-60

(The stoning of Stephen)

When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

**Response:** Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

## **Gospel Announcement**

**Response:** Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

## **Gospel Reading**

John 15:18-21, 25

(Jesus and His followers will be hated by the world)

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'"

**Response:** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## **Confession of Faith**

## **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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake 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.

## **Sermon Hymn**

## **Thy Strong Word**

1. Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness; at Thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank Thee, while Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
2. Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, dark as night and deep as death,  
Broke the light of thy salvation, breathed Thine own life-giving breath.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
3. Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; bright with Thine own holiness,  
Glorious now, we press toward glory, and our lives our hopes confess.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

## **Sermon**

Text: Acts 7:54-60

“Saint Stephen: The First!”

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

## **Offertory**

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.

## **Offering**

### **Doxology**

Tune: hymn 15

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

## **Prayer of the Church**

## **Communion Liturgy**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**P:** 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;

**C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and  
ever. Amen.**

## **The Words of Institution** (spoken by the Pastor)

### **The Pax Domini**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: Amen.**

### **The Agnus Dei**

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

### **The Distribution of Holy Communion**

Continuous communion has resumed. Wafers will be distributed by the Pastor/Vicar using a dispenser. The wine is in the individual cup trays in the glass cups allowing for each member to grab their own wine cup. If you wish only to receive a blessing at the table, kindly come forward with your hands crossed at your chest or resting at your side.

**Communion Anthem**      Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word  
(ERHALT UNS, HERR) Arr. Eitun  
Redeemer Ringers

### **Reception of New Members - 9:00am**

**Benediction and Response:** Amen! Amen! Amen!



## **Closing Hymn 341** Crown Him with Many Crowns

(favorite hymn of Caitlin Kabacinski, Leslie Toth, Stacey Rolf, Mary Lou Mabee, Jeanne Bolcer, Kristen Rolf, David Pflieger)

1. Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King thro' all eternity.
2. Crown Him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now His brow adorn;  
Fruit of the mystic rose, as of that rose the stem;  
The root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.
3. Crown Him the Lord of Love. Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends His wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright!

## **Silent Prayer**

### **Postlude**

Rick Helderop, organist



Sanctuary altar flowers were placed by Jan Hogan & family with thanksgiving for our Lord's many blessings...for family, for our Redeemer family and for dear friends. Chapel altar flowers were placed by Inga Sweet in loving memory of Ingrid Becker.

Family of God Soup Kitchen sponsors for this month are; the Rolf family in thanksgiving for God's many blessings; the Camden family; Robin Swift in thanks for family, friends and all that our Heavenly Father has blessed me with; the Maeder family, the Kamm family, and anonymous donations.

### Ushers

9:00 - Keith Lewis, captain; Dave Peterson, Peter Hawkins,  
Rick Russ, Mike Bacon, John Wagnitz, Arnie Glesmann, Andrew Farah  
10:30 - Karl Bushuiakovish, captain; Jack Davis, Scott Kamm, Brian May,  
John Mills, Walt Sweitzer, Greg Bloom

### Greeters

9:00 - Stacy Baker  
10:30 - Schneider Family

### Reader

9:00 - Sharon Tylenda

### Altar Guild

Michele Farah, Asia Maeder, Mary Ann Perryman  
Julie Buechner, Stacey Rolf

### Audio/Video Operators

9:00 - Don Meier  
10:30 - Don Meier and David Hardoin

### Acolytes

9:00 - Keira Pratt and Max McCulloch  
10:30 - Molly Rubel and Kelly Bloom

**Extending our deepest gratitude to all who work so hard  
behind the scenes each week to make our services happen.**