

REDEEMING GRACE

Lutheran Church



Empowered By His Rest

July 26, 2020 | 8th Sunday after Pentecost



REDEEMING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

14077 Monarch Ln. Rogers MN | rglc.org

CONTACT US

Pastor Josh Mayer can be reached any time. If you have questions, concerns, prayer requests, or you just need someone to talk to, please call, text, or email: 763-219-0083 | pastorjmayer@gmail.com

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Thank you for worshiping with us today. We would love to invite you back, so please sign our guest register outside the main doors of the sanctuary. Children are most welcome to stay during our service, but if you need a quiet place, make yourself at home in the gathering space outside the sanctuary.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Lutheran Worship focuses on God's service to His people. Today our Triune God visits each of us personally through His holy Word and Sacraments to give us forgiveness, life, and salvation! "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

SERVING TODAY | *Our special thanks for your service*

HymnSoft	Elaina Adickes
Ushers	Steve Besser, Matt Engelmann, Al Storby
F.A.S.T.	Gamma <i>Delta next week</i>

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP | *See pages 10-11 in the Hymnal*

PREPARATION



Jesus Christ gave His church the keys when He said, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:23

GATHERING VERSE | *read together*

In Jesus, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Ephesians 1:7.

OPENING HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me | 389

- 1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood From thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.***
- 2. Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and thou alone.***
- 4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee!***

SERVICE OF THE WORD | *please stand*

pg. 38

P: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all of your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: Amen

PRAYER AND PRAISE

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above | 236

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

***1. All praise to God who reigns above, The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love, The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul he fills, The God who ev'ry sorrow stills-
To God all praise and glory!***

***2. I cried to him in time of need; Lord God, oh, hear my calling!
For death he gave me life indeed And kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be; Oh, thank him, thank our God with me-
To God all praise and glory!***

P: Let us pray: God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us through His Holy Word. "The Lord kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and raises up." 1 Samuel 2:6



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joshua 23:1-11

After a long time had passed and the LORD had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then old and well advanced in years, ²summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: “I am old and well advanced in years. ³You yourselves have seen everything the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the LORD your God who fought for you. ⁴Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain—the nations I conquered—between the Jordan and the Great Sea in the west. ⁵The LORD your God himself will drive them out of your way. He will push them out before you, and you will take possession of their land, as the LORD your God promised you. ⁶“Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. ⁷Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. ⁸But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now. ⁹“The LORD has driven out before you great and

powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you.
¹⁰One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised. ¹¹So be very careful to love the LORD your God.

VERSE OF THE DAY | *sung together*

John 20:31

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: As is the custom of the Church, please stand for the Gospel. The Holy Gospel for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost is found in the eleventh chapter of Matthew beginning at the twenty-fifth verse.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. ²⁷"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C: *Praise be to you, O Christ!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | *children gather at the baptismal font*

1. "Come unto me, ye weary, And I will give you rest."

O blessed voice of Jesus, Which comes to hearts oppressed!

It tells of benediction, Of pardon, grace, and peace,

Of joy that has no ending, Of love that cannot cease.

3. "Come unto me, ye fainting, And I will give you life."

O cheering voice of Jesus, Which comes to aid our strife!

The foe is stern and eager; The fight is fierce and long;

But thou hast made us mighty And stronger than the strong.

4. "And whosoever cometh, I will not cast him out."

O patient love of Jesus, Which drives away our doubt,

Which, though we be unworthy Of love so great and free,

Invites us very sinners To come, dear Lord, to thee!

SERMON | *Strive to Enter His Rest*

Hebrews 4:1-11

Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. ²For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. ³Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So I declared on oath in my anger, "They shall never enter my rest.' " And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. ⁴For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." ⁵And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest." ⁶It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. ⁷Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before:

“Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” ⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. ⁹There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. ¹¹Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience.

APOSTLES' CREED | *please stand*

pg. 41

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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.

OFFERING

We bring our offerings to God out of gratitude for all the blessings He has given us. Offerings may be left in the plate at the back of church or may be given online at rglc.org.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH | *please stand*

pg. 127

P: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing

P: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

P: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

P: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

P: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

P: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special intercessions

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent Prayers

P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: Amen.

P: Together we join in the prayer You taught us to pray:

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.

HYMN

Jesus, Lead Us On | 422

***1. Jesus, lead us on Till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow, calm and fearless.
Guide us by your hand To our fatherland.***

***3. When we seek relief From a longfelt grief,
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring;
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.***

***4. Jesus, still lead on Till our rest is won.
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us;
Still support, console, protect us
Till we safely stand In our fatherland.***

P: Almighty God, we thank You for teaching us the things You would have us believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep Your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *Amen.*

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: *Amen. Amen. Amen.*

PARTING VERSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow | **334**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ON MY HEART TIME | *weekly home devotion guide*

Weekly Review	Catechism	The Table of Duties: Husbands/Wives
Bible Readings	Old Testament	Isaiah 55:10-13
	Epistle	Acts 18:1-11
	Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
Prayer and Praise	Hymn	Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast
	Psalm	Psalm 65

GROWING IN GRACE | *weekly schedule*



Sunday	5 p.m.	Youth Group
Monday	1-5 p.m.	Pastor office hours
Tuesday	1-5 p.m.	Pastor office hours
Wednesday	1-5 p.m.	Pastor office hours
	7 p.m.	Midweek Service
Thursday	1-5 p.m.	Pastor office hours

If office hours don't work, contact Pastor Mayer to make an appointment.

VOTERS' MEETING AND OPEN FORUM - AUGUST 2

There will be a voters' meeting following church on August 2nd to discuss fundraising options to reduce our mortgage and to approve the budget.

EVENING BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study will be on the third Thursday of each month at Pastor's house (13654 Twilight Trail, Rogers) and Women's Bible Study will be on the fourth Friday of each month at church, both beginning at 7:00 p.m. Participants are welcome to bring a beverage or snacks to share.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group, Lutheran League of Almost Mature Adults, will meet tonight from 5 to 6:30 p.m. We'll have Bible Study time and fun hang out time.