

Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe Service Order for 19th June Second Sunday After Pentecost Thanks Living Sunday



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

LORD God: You are our Provider. We worship You as the one who meets our needs, who grants our daily bread, and restores our humanity. We tank You for all You have given us. Help us to always look to You, that we neither remain ignorant of Your Word, and Your call to love and serve in this world; in Jesus' name. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: Luke 8:39

But Jesus sent him home, saying, "Go back to your family, and tell them everything God has done for you."

So he went all through the town proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

AT 218: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (click here)

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free. Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, You called to the deep, then You coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the aeons You called to each thing, "Wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free. Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea. You swept through the dessert, You stung with the sand, and You gifted Your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded by their idols and lies, then You spoke through Your prophets to open their eyes.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free. Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill, then You whispered in silence when the whole world was still; and down in the city You called once again when You blew through Your people on the rush of the wind.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free. Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Jim Manly (1978)

CONFESSION

Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins, and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. **Amen.**

PSALM: From Psalm 42 and 43

 ¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, my God.
² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?
³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, 'Where is your God?'

> As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of Your waterfalls; all Your waves and breakers have swept over me. ⁸ By day the LORD directs His love, at night His song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life. ⁹ I say to God my Rock, 'Why have You forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?'

> As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

 ¹ Vindicate me, my God, and plead my cause against an unfaithful nation. Rescue me from those who are deceitful and wicked.
⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight.
⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him.

> As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray that we desire the eternal blessings of God. [silence]

Strengthen our faith, Lord, so that we do not set our hearts on earthly things, but love the things of heaven. As we are surrounded by things that are passing away, help us to cling to those that will last forever. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:1-4(5-7)8-15a Elijah flees and meets God

¹⁹ Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.² So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, 'May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.' ³ Elijah was afraid^[a] and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. 'I have had enough, LORD,' he said. 'Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' ⁵ Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' ⁶He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. ⁷ The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.' ⁸So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he travelled for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' ¹⁰ He replied, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.' ¹¹ The LORD said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' ¹⁴ He replied, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.' ¹⁵ The LORD said to him, 'Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram.

> After the reading This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29 We are Christ's, justified by faith

²³ Before the coming of this faith,^[a] we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

After the reading This is the Word of the LORD. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go and tell how much God has done for you.' Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39 Jesus heals a man with demons

Before the reading Glory be to You, O LORD.

²⁶ They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes,^[a] which is across the lake from Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, 'What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!' ²⁹ For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. ³⁰ Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?' 'Legion,' he replied, because many demons had gone into him. ³¹ And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. ³² A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. ³³ When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴ When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, ³⁵ and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. ³⁷ Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ 'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.' So the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

After the reading This is the gospel of the LORD. **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for rescuing people in bondage to Satan. Let us serve you as your free people. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

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, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence 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

My hope is built on nothing less (click here)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness hides His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the 'whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.; all other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found, dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.; all other ground is sinking sand.

<u>SERMON</u>

At this point you may wish to Listen to Sermon, or Read and Discuss the Sermon For Church YouTube Channel (<u>click here</u>) The Sermon online may be different to the manuscript. For LCA Worship Resources (<u>click here</u>)

LHS 195: A mighty fortress is our God (click here)

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing: for still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing: Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same, and He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us: the Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure, one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth: let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546) : TR 'CHURCH BOOK', PHILADELPHIA, 1868, ALT

THANKSLIVING LITANY

LORD, You have blessed us as a church over the past year. Through good times and difficult times we have felt Your hand of grace, forgiveness and healing. For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks.

We thank You for the leaders among us for the many in our church who offer their time, energy and abilities to lead us both paid staff and volunteers, seen and unseen. For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks. We thank You for many opportunities we have had to serve You, to demonstrate Your love for our neighbours, families and friends. We thank You for the many among us who make possible the ministries of the church We also thank You for the many who reach out to others in real and informal ways each week. For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks.

We thank You that even when sickness and accidents make our future uncertain, You are with us, strengthening, healing and encouraging. We thank You for the healing experienced this past year. For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks.

We thank You for friendship. We thank You for the many times we have enjoyed each other's company in worship, over meals, in times of recreation and service, and in smaller groups. For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks.

Indeed, LORD, as we look back over this past year, we realise that we have much to be grateful for. We have been blessed materially, physically, emotionally and spiritually. We humbly receive the gifts You have given us, knowing that You are the giver of all good things. And so together we say: For these blessings, LORD, we give You thanks.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As those whom God has called by name in our baptism, clothing us with Christ and making us his much-loved children, let us come to our heavenly Father in prayer.

Heavenly Father, thank you for calling us by name in our baptism so that we are now clothed with Christ and do not come under judgement but rather under your loving grace for Jesus' sake. Have mercy on people who still stand naked before you. Address them personally too, and clothe them with the righteousness and holiness of Christ. Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

We pray for our Bishop Paul Smith and District Bishop Mark Vainikka and other leaders of the church, that they will continually be cleansed by Christ and work to clothe the church with his truth and love.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Christian parents, that they will bring up their children in the full heritage of their baptismal clothing. And we pray for Christian young people, that you will cast out all wrongful influences and give them strength to boldly live the life of Christ in full view of the world.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

We pray for our country and nation. Protect it from natural disasters and extremes of weather. Give success to all proper work. And bless all marriages, families and homes. *Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our neighbours and local communities. Give our mayors and local councilors wisdom in their administration. And preserve good order and open-heartedness in our streets.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those tormented by spiritual sickness and plagued by evil. Cast out all uncleanness, set them free from their bonds, and let them find peace at the feet of Jesus. *Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer, And meet the needs of others we know personally to be in want and whom we now name silently in our hearts... (brief silence) Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ we are all your children through faith. In his name, hear the prayers we offer, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the LORD. God be praised forevermore.

I go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. **I will praise You with all my heart, O God, my God.**

The LORD bless us and keep us. The LORD make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The LORD look upon us with favour, and give us peace. **Amen!**

GROWING FAITH AT HOME BLESSING

Baptised child of God, Jesus has set you free.

Baptised child of God, Jesus has set you free.

WORDS OF SENDING

You are children of God through faith in Christ. Go in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

LHS 437: Now thank we all our God (click here)

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices; who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us. with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven: the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore, for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinckart 1586-1649 Tr Catherine Winkworth (1858), alt.

First reading (a): 1 Kings 19:1-4(5-7)8-15a

LHS

- 151 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me* G5
- 290 O Bread of life from heaven* G3
- 347 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah G6
- 389 God His watch is keeping* G9
- How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord G6
- 407 If thou but suffer God to guide thee* G6
- 409 Commit whatever grieves thee* G6
- 579 Where'er I go, whate'er my task* G6
- 835 Bread of heaven, on you we feed GS
- 837 Feed us now, Bread of life GS
- AT
- 79 Feed us now, Bread of life
- 274 In Jesus' name
- 384 If we will trust in God to guide us

Second reading: Galatians 3:23-29

LHS

- 183 The saints on earth and those above G6
- 270 The law of God is good and wise G3
- 279 He that believes and is baptised* (*alt tune* 106, G3)
- 323 Blessed are the sons of God* G4
- 327 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness* G3
- 798 Eternal ruler of the ceaseless round G6
- 799 In Christ there is no east or west G7
- 800 May we be one GS
- 802 One family, we're together GS
- 805 We are heirs of the Father GS
- 828 I am baptized O blessed day GS
- 829 I was made a Christian G5
- 831 O baptized people, one and all G3
- AT
- 12 We are heirs of the Father
- 62 One family
- 172 May we be one

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

LHS

- 181 Abide, O dearest Jesus* G5
- 195 A mighty fortress is our God* G3
- 202 Help us to conquer, Thou Prince ever-living* G3
- 795 When Jesus came, the demons cried GS
- AT
- 146 When Jesus came, the demons cried