



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH REDCLIFFE**  
**SERVICE ORDER FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

*Lord, in your constant mercy  
cleanse and defend your church.  
Guide it forever by your goodness  
because it cannot remain safe without you.  
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.*

**OPENING SENTENCE: Deuteronomy 30:19B-20A**

*Now choose life, so that you and your children may live  
and that you may love the LORD your God,  
listen to his voice, and hold fast to him.*

***Now choose life, so that you and your children may live  
and that you may love the LORD your God,  
listen to his voice, and hold fast to him.***

**INVOCATION**

*In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

**COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP (click [here](#))**

**Come, now is the time to worship; Come, now is the time to give your heart;  
Come, just as you are to worship; Come, just as you are before your God, come.**

**One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God; One day ev'ry knee will bow;  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.**

**Come, now is the time to worship; Come, now is the time to give your heart;  
Come, just as you are to worship; Come, just as you are before your God, come.**

**One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God; One day ev'ry knee will bow;  
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Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.**

**Come, now is the time to worship; Come, now is the time to give your heart;  
Come, just as you are to worship; Come, just as you are before your God, come.**

Brian Doerksen

### **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:1-6,13-18**

<sup>1</sup>You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit and when I rise;  
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

<sup>3</sup>You discern my going out and my lying down;  
you are familiar with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.

<sup>5</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

**You knit me together in my mother's womb.**

- <sup>13</sup> For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
- <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place,  
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
- <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed body;  
all the days ordained for me were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.
- <sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts,<sup>[a]</sup> God!  
How vast is the sum of them!
- <sup>18</sup> Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand –  
when I awake, I am still with you.

**You knit me together in my mother's womb.**

**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 for guidance.*  
[silence]

*Guide and rule your church forever, Lord,  
so that we may walk warily in times of quiet  
and boldly in times of trouble.  
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.*

## **BIBLE READING**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18:1-11** The potter (NIVUK)

<sup>1</sup>This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup>'Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message.' <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. <sup>4</sup>But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. <sup>5</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to me. <sup>6</sup>He said, 'Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?' declares the LORD. 'Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel. <sup>7</sup>If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, <sup>8</sup>and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. <sup>9</sup>And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, <sup>10</sup>and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it. <sup>11</sup>'Now therefore say to the people of Judah and those living in Jerusalem, "This is what the LORD says: look! I am preparing a disaster for you and devising a plan against you. So turn from your evil ways, each one of you, and reform your ways and your actions."

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21** A personal appeal to Philemon (NIVUK)

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker – <sup>2</sup>also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier – and to the church that meets in your home: <sup>3</sup>Grace and peace to you<sup>[a]</sup> from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup>Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people. <sup>8</sup>Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, <sup>9</sup>yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul – an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus – <sup>10</sup>that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus,<sup>[b]</sup> who became my son while I was in chains. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him – who is my very heart – back to you. <sup>13</sup>I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. <sup>14</sup>But I did not want to do anything without your consent,

so that any favour you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for ever – <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord. <sup>17</sup> So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back – not to mention that you owe me your very self. <sup>20</sup> I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. <sup>22</sup> And one thing more: prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers. <sup>23</sup> Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. <sup>24</sup> And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers. <sup>25</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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

### **ALLELUIA VERSE**

*Alleluia!*  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
*(Jesus said:) ‘Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.’*  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33** The cost of being a disciple (NIVUK)

*Before the reading*  
**Glory be to You, O LORD.**

<sup>25</sup> Large crowds were travelling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: <sup>26</sup> ‘If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, even their own life – such a person cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> ‘Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, “This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.” <sup>31</sup> ‘Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he is not able, he

will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.<sup>33</sup> In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

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

*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving up everything for us.*  
*Help us to love you more than anything else,*  
*and to follow you to the end.*  
**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**

### **AT354 - CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD (click [here](#))**

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

**You are the potter, I am the clay.  
Mould me and make me this is what I pray.**

**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

**You are the potter, I am the clay.  
Mould me and make me this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

Eddie Espinosa  
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### **SERMON**

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

### **LHS 129 - BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD (click [here](#))**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that as you love so I may love and do what you would do.**

**Breathe on me breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until my will is one with yours will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, Til I am wholly Thine,  
until this earthly part of me glows with your heavenly fire.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I never die,  
but live with you the perfect life of your eternity.**

Edwin Hatch

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Help us, Lord,  
to commit our lives to you,  
and willingly to offer ourselves and our possessions  
for your purposes.  
**Amen.***

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*In the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus, let us pray to God our Father in heaven for the church, the world and all in need.*

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for setting us free from slavery to sin through Jesus. Thank you that he paid the full price for the sins of the whole world on the cross. Thank you for forgiving us in his name, and for adopting us as your own sons and daughters for Jesus' sake.

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**

Help us Lord to forgive one another, even when that costs a great deal. Help us to be bold enough to seek the forgiveness of others when we wrong them, even when it costs us our pride and puts us at risk of rejection. Like clay in the hands of a potter, reshape us to be wise in assisting others seek reconciliation, the way Paul was wise with Philemon and Onesimus.

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**

Free those who are unjustly imprisoned, Lord. Release people enslaved by drugs and destructive habits. And give a new home to all refugees. Like clay in the hands of a potter, reshape us to stand up for the weak and vulnerable, and turn us away from apathy over the suffering of others.

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**

We pray for the earth and for all its creatures. Protect it from damage and sustain its productivity so that the world may be fed. Like clay in the hands of a potter, reshape us to take good care of the earth's treasures, and turn us away from greed and waste.

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**

We pray for the Lutheran Church of Australia. Build the church strong for our grandchildren, and grow our mission to all nations. Like clay in the hands of a potter, reshape us to support our church with the money and services it needs, and turn us away from faltering commitment and selfishness.

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**

Lord, you formed us in our mother's wombs and hold all our days in your hands. Have mercy on all who are sick, facing surgery, or in any other need. Like clay in the hands of a potter, reshape us to care for those we know need love and support, and turn us away from despair when trouble comes to us. And to this end we pray for those personally known to us in special situations and whom we now name silently in our hearts... *(brief silence)*

*Lord, we look to you for help:*                    **Hear us in the name of Jesus.**



Father, give strength to all who turn to you. Help us not to look back once we have set our hands to the plough, but enable us faithfully to carry out the great commission you have given us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who 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.**

*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**

*Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

***Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

### **WORDS OF SENDING**

*Go in peace. Love and obey the Lord.*

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY (click [here](#))**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
ponder anew what the Almighty can do with His love He befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him.**

Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

**HYMNS AND SONGS**

**First reading (a): Jeremiah 18:1-11**

*Hymns of repentance plus:*

**AT**

354 Change my heart, O God

**Second reading: Philemon 1-21**

**LHS**

344 Our God is love, and all His saints\* G6

381 O God our Father, throned on high (*alt tune* 391, G9)

859 Seek, O seek the Lord

**AT**

177 Love one another

503 Show me heaven

506 Oh, let's get up to love and serve

**Gospel: Luke 14:25-33**

**LHS**

336 'Come, follow me,' the Saviour spake\* G3

349 Jesus, I my cross have taken G3

351 'Take up thy cross,' the Saviour said G9 (*alt tune* 270, G3)

361 Let us ever walk with Jesus\* G5

371 O Jesus, I have promised G5

**AT**

265 Take us now, we are yours

372 Teach me your way

401 Follow me

413 The summons

506 Oh, let's get up to love and serve