



# WELCOME TO THE BANQUET

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 26, 2026

11AM



Anonymous. *Parable of the Mustard Seed*,  
from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*Church of the Redeemer is committed to reducing paper use and exploring the expanded role of technology in worship.  
Please consider viewing this bulletin on a personal electronic device using the QR code located on the back of the pews.*

## PRELUDE

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## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## OPENING PRAYER

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Let us pray: **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear what the Lord Jesus Christ says: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

## GATHERING SONG

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BUILD MY LIFE

*Please stand as you are able.*

Housefires

Worthy of every song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for you  
Jesus, the name above every other name  
Jesus, the only one who could save  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe  
We live for you  
Oh, we live for you, holy  
Holy, there is no one like you  
There is none besides you  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who you are and fill me  
With your heart and lead me  
In your love to those around me  
And I will build my life upon your love, it is a  
firm foundation  
And I will put my trust in you alone, and I will  
not be shaken

*Said by all*

1 John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, \*  
for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, \*  
for God is Love.

In this the love of God was revealed among us, \*  
that God sent their only Son into the world,  
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us \*  
and sent their Son that sins might be forgiven.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, \*  
we ought also to love one another.

For if we love one another, God abides in us, \*  
and God's love will be perfected in us.

*As we sing, the reader comes to the middle of the room, just as Christ comes among us. All turn in toward the reader.*

**Lead me, guide me along the way;  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

## READING

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

*Please sit.*

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Lead me, guide me along the way;  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

*We are convinced that the wisdom and image of God is present equally in all people. Thus, after the homily and a brief time of pause and reflection, the floor will be opened for a discussion and sharing around the themes of the text. There is space provided in your bulletins or the art notebooks for you to take notes or reflect in any way that would be meaningful for you. All we be welcome to share.*

## HOMILY

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## TIME OF REFLECTION

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THERE WAS JESUS

Dolly Parton and Zach Williams

*Please feel free to use the space below to reflect on what words or images might be emerging for you this morning.*

## CONVERSATION

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*We welcome now a time of sharing and conversation. There is so much wisdom here, we invite you to share what is coming up for you or what you have drawn or what questions you may have. All are welcome to share. All are welcome to disagree. Please raise your hand and a microphone will come to you.*

## BAPTISMAL COVENANT

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*This is a statement that we repeat in order to remember who we are, who God is and how we want to live in the world.*

*Leader* God is One God,

*All* **the almighty, creator of heaven and earth, of all that is - seen and unseen.**

God is Jesus Christ,

**the eternal Son, divine and human, our Savior. His life, death, and resurrection reveal to us that God is love.**

God is The Holy Spirit,

**at work in the world. Speaking through prophets past and present, inspiring us, holding us accountable, leading us to grow into the full stature of Christ.**

With God's help,

**We will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers.**

With God's help,  
We will persevere in resisting evil, and when falling into sin, we will repent and return to God.

With God's help,  
We will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

With God's help,  
We will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourself.

With God's help,  
We will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

## CONFESSON AND RESPONSE

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God, you have called us to be Love in the world:

We do not always recognize our belovedness;  
We do not always recognize the belovedness of our neighbor;  
We know we harm our relationship with you  
And our relationships with each other  
With words said and unsaid  
With deeds done and undone  
We ask for your unreserved forgiveness.  
We ask for your unconditional love.  
Help us to forgive without reservation.  
Help us to love without condition.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
Amen.



# PEACE

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The Peace of Christ be always with you.  
And also with you.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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All are invited, to follow with us on the path of the cross and find the nourishment at the table of God's love.

Come, **Let us walk in love, as Christ loves us.**

*As the music plays, the congregation will gather around the altar on the for communion. Please bring your bulletin with you.*

## SONG

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

LEVAS #60

### Verse 1

O Lord my God  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works  
Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout  
The universe displayed!

### Refrain

Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art,  
How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art,  
How great Thou art!

### Verse 3

And when I think  
That God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die,  
I scarce can take it in -  
That on the cross,  
My burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died  
To take away my sin! (Refrain)

### Verse 4

When Christ shall come  
With shout of acclamation  
And take me home,  
What joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow  
In humble adoration  
And there proclaim,  
My God, how great Thou art! (Refrain)

## COMMUNION PRAYER

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*The Eucharistic Prayer has been adapted from St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco.*

*Celebrant* It is with all our hearts and all our minds

*People* **We give thanks to you, Mother and Father of all creation  
You make all things and call them good.  
You love us into being,  
You form us in your image  
and breathe into us the breath of life.**

*Intercessor* Give thanks for God's work among all of her people.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Celebrant* When we turn away, when we ignore your love.

*All* **You remain steadfast. You are faithful to us.  
You liberate us from captivity,  
Freeing us to love your world more fully  
You set before us the way of life.**

*Intercessor* Pray for enemies and for friends.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Intercessor* Pray for the violent and for those who suffer at others' hands.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Celebrant* Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By his baptism of suffering and death  
you give your people birth into a living hope.  
Raising Jesus from the dead,  
you make a new covenant with us,  
by water and the Spirit,  
and give us to one another.

*All* **We who were lost people are now your people,  
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,  
who calls us out of death into his Life.**

*Intercessor* Pray for the hungry and sick and afraid.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Intercessor* Pray for prisoners and those without homes.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Celebrant* On the night when he gave himself up for us,  
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said,

“Take, eat: this is my Body which is broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.”  
When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,  
“Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new Covenant,  
which is shed for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me.”

*Intercessor* Pray for the dead and for mourners.  
*Free prayers from the people.*

*Celebrant* On the third day you raised Jesus from the dead  
and revealed him to the women  
who came to the tomb to care for his body.  
On that day Jesus was recognized by his disciples  
in the breaking of bread.  
And so, remembering these your  
mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
We offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,  
and we praise you and we bless you.

*All* **We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you  
our God.**

*Celebrant* Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ  
that we may be for the world  
the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.  
By your spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in loving service to all the world,  
until all may feast at your heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, and  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
we are bold to say

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## FRACTION

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Behold what you are. Become what you receive.  
The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God.

All are welcome to gather at the table of God's love.

*If you would like to receive the sacrament, please come forward.*

*Once you have received the bread, you are invited to dip it in the cup or drink from the cup if you would like.*

*If you would like gluten free, please let us know.*

*After, you are invited to return to your original seat.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

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WILL WE EVER RISE

THE BRILLIANCE

Will we ever rise?  
Will we ever rise above the fear?  
Can we learn to see the need?  
Can we share humanity?  
I can see another day come  
Broken people we can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
As we lay down our weapons  
Open up our hearts  
Love is breaking us, Love remaking us  
Will we ever rise?

Will we ever rise above the hate?  
Can we learn another way?  
Forgive as you forgave?  
I can see another day come  
Broken people we can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
As we lay down our weapons  
Open up our hearts  
Love is breaking us, Love remaking us  
Come heal now, take away the blindness  
So we can see as we were meant to see

I feel light devastating darkness  
I can see another day come  
I can see another day come  
Broken people we can be made whole  
Broken people we can be made whole  
Broken people we can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
We can be made whole  
As we lay down our weapons  
Open up our hearts  
Love is breaking us, Love remaking us  
Will we ever rise?  
Will we ever rise?

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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*Celebrant* In the name of God and on behalf of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*People* We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

## PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS

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*Said by all, please turn to face the open doors of the nave, as we prepare to go into the world.*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## BLESSING

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## DISMISSAL

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*Deacon dismisses the People and the People respond.*

Thanks be to God.

# PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer!

We love the sound of kids in our service.

Here are some ideas to keep them engaged:

**Relax:** It's OK for kids to be kids. We offer coloring pages, worship bags, and books they can use during the service.

**Sit Close:** Consider sitting up front where it's easier for kids to see.

**Explain:** Kids are curious! Explain what's happening in the service.

**Participate:** Kids learn by mimicking what you do. So sing, pray, respond, etc. and kids will follow your lead.

**Wander:** It's OK to move around. Sometimes it's easier to let fidgety kids wander.

**Need to Leave?** No problem, there are spaces to take a break - kids need that sometimes. Come back when you're ready!

**Ask:** Questions or need help? Just ask our ushers.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

**Matthew 19:14 NRSV**



**NEW TO CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER?** - Ready to learn more about our ministries? Considering membership? Use the QR code at the left to join our Newcomer group and receive information about ministries, events, membership and access to our CoR App.

**TODAY'S OFFERING** - We encourage you to give your offering electronically today through our CoR App. (Search Redeemer Cincy in your app store.) Or you may choose to give online via our secure online system using the QR Code at right. There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering securely.



**YOUR NAME**  
Here

**REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAMETAG** - As we gather together for worship today it is important to wear your nametag to help us all remember names or just meet for the first time. Don't have a nametag yet? Sign-up for one in the narthex/lobby near the entrance to the chapel. It will be ready for you next Sunday in the nametag cabinet.

## CALENDAR

Look for more details on at [redeemer-cincy.org/connect/event-directory/](https://redeemer-cincy.org/connect/event-directory/)

Church of the Redeemer offers a variety of worship, education, and fellowship events for all ages. A quick glance at our Events Page provides a look at both our recurring opportunities, as well as those special events we have throughout the year. You can access the church Events Page on our website under the Connect tab, on our CoR App using the Events button, and by using the QR code.



*We strive to share our mission of radical welcome and hospitality with the world through photos and video. From time to time we document church events for use in publications, website, and social media. By your presence, you grant Redeemer unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast images, and or likenesses that may be taken of you for use in communications related to the church. Please contact Mireya Medina, Communications Minister, with any questions at [communications@redeemer-cincy.org](mailto:communications@redeemer-cincy.org).*

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S WORSHIP**

|                                |                                                                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Celebrant</i> .....         | The Rev. Joyce Keeshin                                           |
| <i>Preacher</i> .....          | The Rev. Scott Gunn                                              |
| <i>Deacon</i> .....            | The Rev. Gary Lubin                                              |
| <i>Sacristan</i> .....         | Jackson Hearn                                                    |
| <i>Scripture Reading</i> ..... | Paige DeVaul                                                     |
| <i>Intercessor</i> .....       | Amy Spitzer                                                      |
| <i>Chalice Bearers</i> .....   | Jane Allan, Kelli Wisecup                                        |
| <i>Ushers</i> .....            | Lisa Andrews, Ryan Andrews                                       |
| <i>Altar Guild</i> .....       | Katy Mallon, Amanda Rasche, Sarah Kate Rasche, Lisa Senter       |
| <i>Bread Guild</i> .....       | Sean Maher                                                       |
| <i>Flower Guild</i> .....      | Christine Bennett, Cindy Bryden, Michelle Kirk, Francie Morrison |

*Flowers in our worship spaces are a beautiful gift to God, those who attend worship, and those being honored or remembered. A contribution to the Flower Fund is a meaningful way to honor or remember a loved one for special life events such as birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, confirmations, in thanksgivings for, in memory of, or to beautify our spaces.*

*If you would like to make a donation of \$50.00 please use our online form under the give tab on the website, [www.redeemer-cincy.org](http://www.redeemer-cincy.org), or scan the QR code at right.*

