



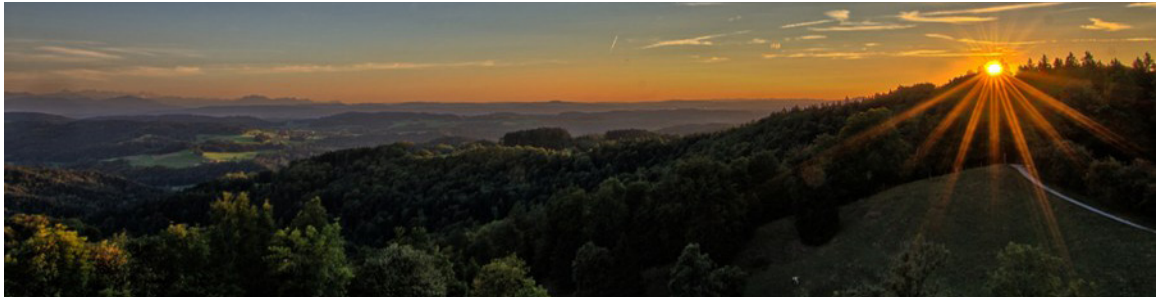
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition

AUGUST 23, 2026 | 5:00 PM

This liturgy is adapted from "A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season" by Elizabeth Grover



*The People's response is in **bold**.*

OPENING WORDS

The God of love is with us.

The Spirit of love is in us.

Blessed be the One whose Spirit burns in our hearts.

May the Spirit set us afire with his love.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We will light a light in the name of the Maker.

God who created fire.

We will light a light in the name of Christ

Jesus whose love warms our hearts.

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit

The Holy One, the fire of life.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Let us praise the Holy One.

God sets our hearts afire with love.

Praise the God of Love!

As a fire warms the hands of those who venture near,
So does the Spirit of our God warm the hearts
of those who open their souls to her love.

Praise for warmth!

As a fire surrounds all in its path,
so does the Spirit of our God envelop our souls in grace.

Praise for the grace!

As a fire blazes with passionate intensity, so does the Spirit of our God set us on fire with a heavenly passion.

Praise for the passion!

Praise to the God of the hearth who invites us to draw near.

Praise to the God of the flame, of the warmth, of the passion. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1–6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

THE RESPONSE

Psalms 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- 7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- 9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13–20

Deacon: the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

THE HOMILY

A pause for silent reflection immediately follows the homily.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Our God is the God of all humanity,
of heaven and earth, of the seas and the rivers,
of the sun and the moon, and all the stars,
God of the highest mountains and of the lowest valleys, over heaven, in heaven,
and under heaven.
God is present in all things in heaven and earth and seas, inspires all things, brings
life to all things,
is over all things and supports all things.
God makes the light of the sun to shine,
and surrounds the moon and stars,
brings water to the deserts
and places dry islands in the sea.
God’s Son lives as God lives, eternal and holy.
The Holy Spirit breathes in the Father and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit lives in God the Christ.
And God is forever. Amen.

PRAYERS

Celebrant: We pray now for the Church, the world, and all those in need, remembering that God can be present to us and can transform our lives if we but draw near. Let us pray.

Intercessor: Gracious God, empower the Church throughout the world in its life and witness. Break down barriers that divide, so that united in your truth and love, the Church may confess your name, share one baptism, sit at one table, and serve you with one accord.

People: **Light of the world, be known to us.**

Intercessor: Guide the rulers of the nations. Move them to set aside their fear, greed and vain ambition, and to strive for justice and peace, so that all your children may be free.

People: **Light of the world, be known to us.**

Intercessor: Hear the cries of those who are hungry, homeless, and suffering, those near and those far. Give those of us who consume most of the earth's resources the will to reorder our lives, so that all may have their rightful share of food, care, shelter, and fullness of life.

People: **Light of the world, be known to us.**

Intercessor: Look with compassion on all who suffer illness and distress, especially those we now name... Support them with your love and lead us to be healers for all we encounter, in the name of Christ.

People: **Light of the world, be known to us.**

Intercessor: With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died, saints who bore witness to your light, especially those we now name... Allow us to persevere in faith, mercy, and love, and at the end of our lives to behold your glory.

People: **Light of the world, be known to us.**

Celebrant: O God, in your loving purpose, answer our prayers for your creation. By your grace, grant us the will and the wisdom to make this world new, and all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather together in search for wholeness, but our brokenness separates us from God and one

another. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

God makes peace within us.

Let us claim it.

God makes peace between us.

Let us share it.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

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 located here: <https://redeemercincy.tpsdb.com/>

Give/offering There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering safely.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Receive our gifts, dear God, and accept in them the sacrifice of our selves.

In life and in death may we be an offering to you for ever.

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, by whose Word the heavens and the earth were

formed. The power of your love sets aflame each created thing. And though earth's fires will die, you keep the flame of love alive in us and call life out of death into the light that endures forever. Therefore with heaven and earth's host of light and with all who live in the Spirit, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, O God, for the great day of salvation prepared from the beginning of the world, when Christ, though rejected on earth, will be seen by all to be chosen and precious in your sight. We bless you for Jesus who carried in his body to the tree sin's destructive powers that we and all people might be set free. Through Christ you inspire the hope in us that earth's forces of darkness will be scattered, and angels of glory and principalities of light will bring a new heaven and a new earth. On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and having blessed it, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way Jesus took wine, and having given thanks for it, gave the cup to his disciples, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.

Sanctify us with your Holy Spirit, O God, and sanctify this bread and this wine, that they may be the body and blood of Jesus Christ, and through them we may be made strong with the strength that only you supply. May our inner selves be nourished that in the outward things of life we may follow the way of Christ and grow more and more into salvation; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,

**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Warm and loving God, you invite us to your table;
Nourish us with the cup of life and the bread of heaven.
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

THE SHARING OF THE FEAST

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, in love you have called us to be your people and with love you have given us your very self; may this holy meal fill us with the flame of your love, that renewed and warmed in the comfort of your Holy Spirit, we may go forth into the world to serve your people; in your name: Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst,

But we will carry the light in our hearts, and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.

THE BLESSING

In darkness and in light, as we sleep and when we wake, in rest and in work, in sadness and in joy, may you be aware of God's holy presence and mindful of their faithful love. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world to share the love of God.
Thanks be to God.



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 to-day 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 at 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, Minister for Evangelism and Communications, with any questions at communications@redeemer-cincy.org

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer!
We love the sounds of children in our service.
Here are some ideas to keep them engaged:

RELAX

*It's okay 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.

PARICIPATE

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

WANDER

*It's okay to move around. Sometimes it's easier to let figdety kids
wander.*

NEED TO LEAVE?

*No problem! There are spaces to take a break.
Kids need that sometimes. Come back when you are 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."*



VISION STATEMENT

We have a vision of a worshiping community
that **knows Jesus and grows in love:**

- **United** in relationships of holy connection and communion;
- **Growing** with people of every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, and political persuasion;
- **Inspired** by our understanding of why we are Christian, why we are Episcopalian, why Redeemer matters to us;
- **Sent** into the world, rooted and grounded in love, to serve all people with humility, compassion, and faithfulness.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

