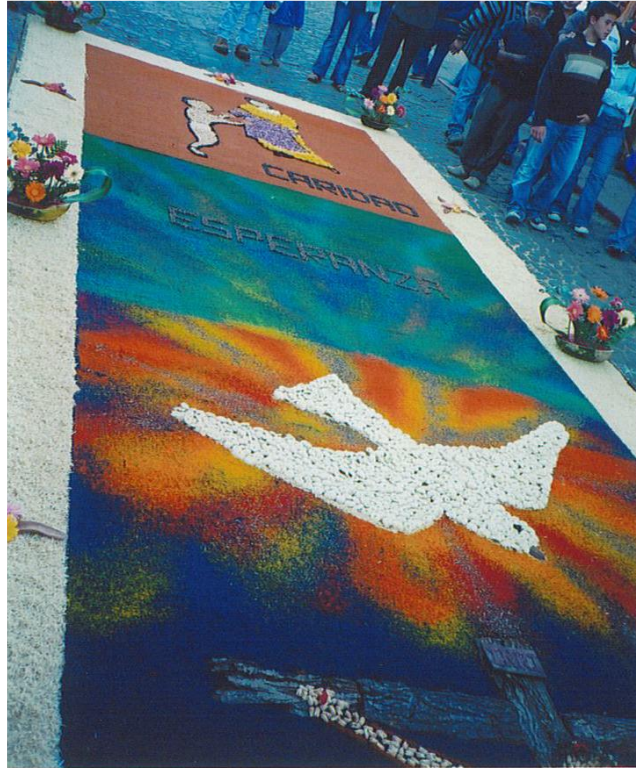


Fifth Sunday of Easter



A "street rug" (in Spanish, alfombra) in Antigua, Guatemala.
The word *caridad* means a gift to one who is in need. April 2006

May 18, 2025

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary, please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Services of worship and other events at Redeemer are routinely livestreamed or photographed. If you do not want your image to be captured on livestreaming or in photographs, please speak to an usher or the leader of the event so that you can be offered alternative seating in the gathering area or can be excluded from the photograph.
- Please silence your cell phone.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude

Now the Green Blade Rises, arr. David Cherwien

Welcome

Hymn

Signs and Wonders



- 1 Signs and won - ders lead the danc - ing from the heart God frees from fear:
2 Hope and free - dom join the cir - cle: Mar - y to the gar - den came,
3 Cast a - side all fear and hid - ing; hand in hand we dance the round.



wings of an - gels greet the mai - den, and God finds a dwell - ing here;
saw the ra - diance of the mar - vel, heard the Ris - en call her name;
God is with us, Christ, a - bid - ing, and the Spir - it's gifts a - bound.



bold - ly may we lift our hands, bow the head, and voice A - men;
bold - ly may we heed Christ's call, step be - yond the gar - den wall:
Called by God to ho - li - ness, let us bold - ly serve and bless;



thus does glo - ry shine at mid - night: o - pen hearts in - vite the star - light.
beau - ti - ful the feet pro - ceed - ing with good news of death's de - feat - ing.
and to hearts that sigh and hun - ger may our lives dance signs and won - ders.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



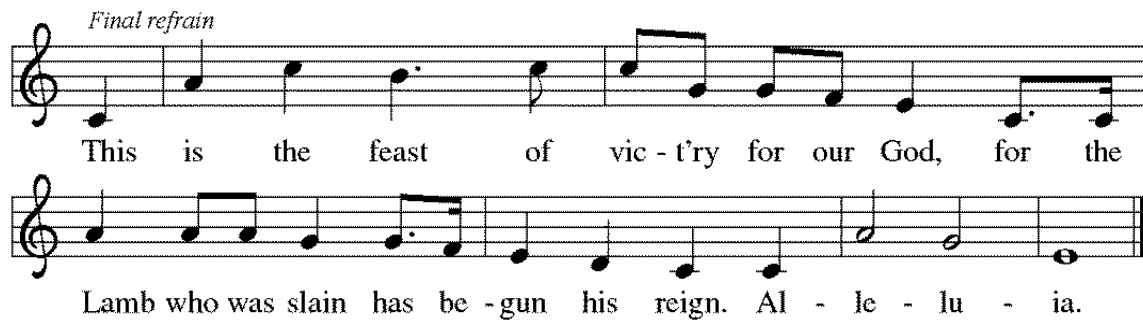
le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Prayer of the Day

Creator God, your Son calls us to look at the birds of the air so we might imagine what it would be like to live with such freedom, trust, and joy.

May your Spirit open us to see that this way of life is salvation, lived day to day, in the manner of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.



WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

Acts 11:1-18 (New Living Translation, inclusivized)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The news reached the apostles and other believers in Judea that the Gentiles had received the word of God. But when Peter arrived back in Jerusalem, the Jewish believers criticized him. "You entered the home of Gentiles and even ate with them!" they said.

Then Peter told them exactly what had happened. "I was in the town of Joppa," he said, "and while I was praying, I went into a trance and saw a vision. Something like a large sheet was let down by its four corners from the sky. And it came right down to me. When I looked inside the sheet, I saw all sorts of tame and wild animals, reptiles, and birds. And I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter; eat them.'

"No, Lord,' I replied. 'I have never eaten anything that our Jewish laws have declared impure or unclean.'

"But the voice from heaven spoke again: 'Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean.' This happened three times before the sheet and all it contained was pulled back up to heaven.

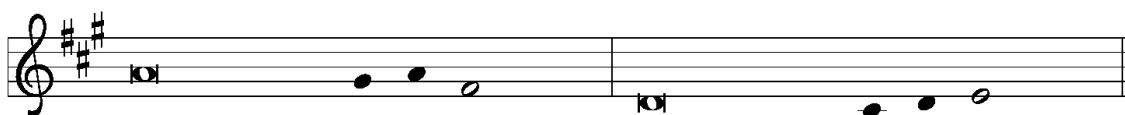
"Just then three people who had been sent from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. The Holy Spirit told me to go with them and not to worry that they were Gentiles. These six brothers here accompanied me, and we soon entered the home of the one who had sent for us. He told us how an angel had appeared to him in his home and had told him, 'Send messengers to Joppa, and summon someone named Simon Peter. He will tell you how you and everyone in your household can be saved!'

"As I began to speak," Peter continued, "the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us at the beginning. Then I thought of the Lord's words when he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' And since God gave these Gentiles the same gift God gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to stand in God's way?"

When the others heard this, they stopped objecting and began praising God. They said, "We can see that God has also given the Gentiles the privilege of repenting of their sins and receiving eternal life."

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Amen.**

Psalm 148



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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Hallelujah! Praise the LORD ^l from the heavens;
praise God ^l in the heights.

**Praise the LORD, ^l all you angels;
sing praise, all you ^l hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD, ^l sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ^l shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heav- ^l en of heavens,
and you waters a- ^l bove the heavens.**

Let them praise the name ^l of the LORD,
who commanded, and they ^l were created,
**who made them stand fast forev- ^l er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not ^l pass away.**

Praise the LORD ^l from the earth,
you sea monsters ^l and all deeps;
**fire and hail, ^l snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- ^l ing God's will;**

mountains ^l and all hills,
fruit trees ^l and all cedars;
**wild beasts ^l and all cattle,
creeping things and ^l flying birds;**
sovereigns of the earth ^l and all peoples,
princes and all rulers ^l of the world;

**young ^l men and women,
old and ^l young together.**

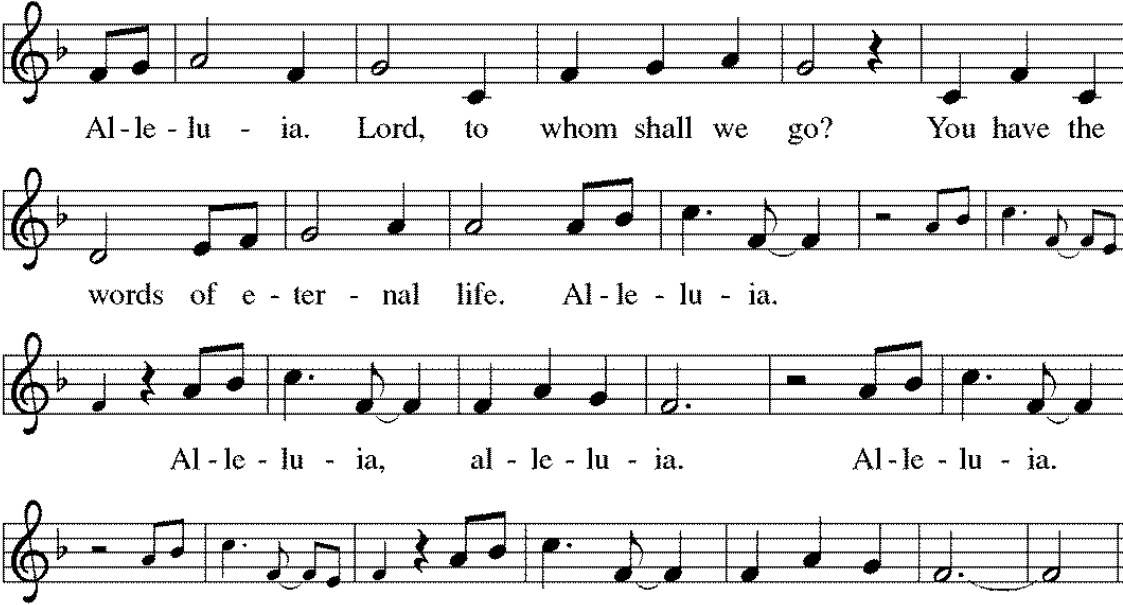
Let them praise the name ^l of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over ^l earth and heaven.

**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for
all ^l faithful servants,**

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. ^l Hallelujah!

Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel **John 13:31-35** (The Inclusive New Testament)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Now is the Chosen One glorified and God is glorified as well. If God has been glorified, God will in turn glorify the Chosen One and will do so very soon. My little children, I won't be with you much longer. You'll look for me, but what I said to the Temple authorities, I say to you: where I am going, you cannot come. I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. That is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Spoken Reflection

WHAT IS SAVING YOU NOW?

"The Avowal"
by Denise Levertov

As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.

Musical Reflection

Love One Another

Natalie Sleeth
Senior Choir

Let us love one another, let us love one another,
Let us love one another as children of the Lord.
Let us treat one another like a sister or brother,
Let us love one another as children of the Lord.

Let each one do his part to cultivate the art;
It's all in knowing how, so why not
Take on a change of heart, and loving care impart,
It's time we started now.

So let us love one another, let us love one another
Let us love one another as children of the Lord.
Then we'll treat one another like a sister or brother,
For we'll love one another as children of the Lord,
As children of the Lord.

Apostles' Creed

We open ourselves to new images for God and the Church as we proclaim these words:

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

(The United Church of Canada)

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Your mercy is great, O God." **Receive our prayer.**
Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Maddie Sutphin, Becky and Larry Trover's son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose and family, Kathie Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Kelley Frank's mother Charlotte Frank, Al Debelak, Karen Rider's friend Betsy Wagner, Laura Warren's brother and sister-in-law Cynthia and Sam Hudson, Heather Coffman and her father Phil on the death of her mother Nancy, Edwina Bradley, Kevin Bailey

For the people of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Newark

For Redeemer community members Misato In-Phillips, Brad, Toshi, and Sachio Phillips

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.

For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.

We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.



In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*



You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2

You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.**

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We stand in the resurrection garden of God – a place filled and shaped by love and ripe with all it might become when we are open to the Spirit's life and ours becoming one. This is the table of the risen Christ – a place fashioned and furnished by love and rich with its promises. So come – whether you have seen and believed, or are dubious and doubting still, whether you confess confidently, or come to this meal with a fragile, fearful heart. Come and share these gifts of grace, encounter Christ. Come and be healed by Love and transformed by Life.

We remember with wonder and joy that Love, though broken on a cross, was not defeated. We rejoice that Love, though swallowed by death, was not silenced. Neither defeated nor silenced, Love lives and speaks words of welcome, healing and hope to all. In awe of all you have done and all you are doing through us, we join our voices with that of Creation and with all those who bear witness across the world and throughout the ages to the eternal power of your Love and Life:



The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Before the bright dawn in the garden in which Love was resurrected, before the cold silence of the tomb by which Love was swallowed, before the brutal horror of the cross on which Love was broken, before the bitter struggle of the Gethsemane garden through which Love affirmed its choices, Jesus ate a final supper with his friends.

He took bread, blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this, and eat! This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." After supper, he took a cup of wine and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

And so we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.
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.**

Recalling that meal and honoring that life, eating this bread and drinking this cup, we thank you, God, for making us part of the ongoing story of your Love and Life. Now, we pray, send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine, that we may once again encounter Christ's Love and be transformed by Christ's Life.

Sharing the Meal

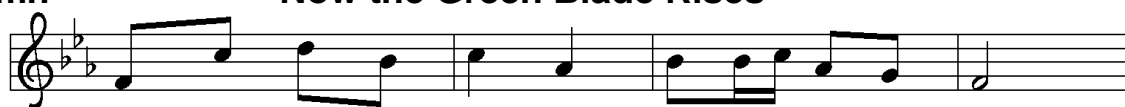
Whoever you are, from wherever you come, whatever you believe, you are welcome and invited to receive. Come! For all things are now ready.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

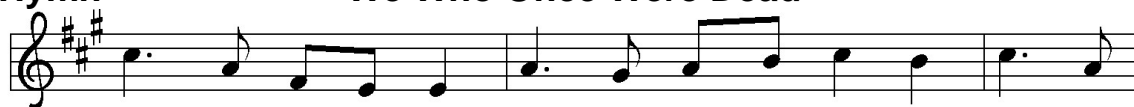
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Hymn

We Who Once Were Dead



1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus
 2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us
 3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him
 4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver-flow - ing when he breaks the bread.
 strength to fight; death is all a - round us. Je - sus, be our light.
 we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.
 then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.
 5 Jesus, you were dead,
 but you rose and, living,
 made yourself our bread,
 in your goodness giving
 life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;
 in this meal we meet you.
 Be our bread and wine,
 Jesus, we entreat you.
 This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite

Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veulenturf, b. 1936

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Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, Holy God, that in this meal, Jesus Christ, Love resurrected, has met us once again in this garden and touched and transformed us with Life. May the peace of the Resurrected One – the challenging peace of committed life, the liberating peace of selfless love, the vibrant peace of new possibility – recall us to radical living, empower us for rich loving, and transform us with radiant joy. **Alleluia! Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

Light Dawns on a Weary World

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Signs and Wonders, arr. Larry Shackley

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
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As explained in the May 12 edition of Reflections, the Worship Team is inviting us to experience using a different creed on the third and fifth Sundays of the month through the rest of this year. We will continue to use the Apostles' Creed on the other Sundays. We hope doing this will open each of us to fresh images for the God we worship and the church we are called to become, as well as to for the familiar words of the Creed to come alive for us in new ways.

Adult Ed
Sundays April 27 - May 18
11:15 a.m.



Redeemer members **Don Luck** and **John Caron** will offer a series of adult education sessions on Buddhism. Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- An introduction to the life of the Buddha.
- The Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path.
- What are the Refuge and Bodhisattva Vows?
- What is Enlightenment in Buddhist thought?
- What is Karma really?

We will also do various brief Buddhist meditation practices. Instruction and guidance will be provided.

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQ8zf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>
Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

Adult Ed
Sunday June 1 - 11:15 a.m.

***Who Do We Welcome?- A conversation with
Community Refugee & Immigration Services***

If you have questions or concerns about the current realities facing immigrants and refugees in central Ohio, join the adult education class after worship on **Sunday, June 1**. We will host **Teresa Gibson**, who is the Community Engagement Coordinator for CRIS. She will explore with us one of the essential questions of our time, "Who do we welcome?" Learn about immigration statuses, common myths, and the realities refugees face, while discovering how CRIS supports displaced individuals. You're invited to grow in both understanding and compassion.

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQ8zf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>
Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Tuesday Bible Study
An exploration of the
Parables of Jesus.
Tuesdays + 1:00pm

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXCPiJD5mQRc5UlxjdA.1>

Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992

Passcode: 830218

Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Coffee and Conversation

Wednesday, May 21

10:00 AM-11:30 AM – Narthex

Honest exploration of questions about faith and life



Sister Act

REJOICE IN NATURE
CANOPY WALK AT BLACKLICK WOODS

Wednesday, May 21 – 6:30 pm

*For more information see **Reflections** or
contact Michele Disbro or
Julianne Johnson.*

Please join us for fellowship and service

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Lynn Belhorn
Cantor	Mary Benis
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Helen Brunston
Verger	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Misato In, Carol Heacock, Karen Rider
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith

*Flowers are given by **Judith and Ashley Bird** in memory of **Julia Tieman**.
The Noisy Offering will go to CRIS [Community Refugee and Immigration Service]*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER MAY 18 – 25

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Congregation Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 am	Coffee and Conversation
	6:30 pm	Sister Act – Rejoice in Nature at Blacklick Wood Canopy Walk
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education



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Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America