

# Our Redeemer

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Augusta, GA, Est. 1937

*By grace - Chosen in Christ, gifted to serve!*

Ash Wednesday 11am & 7pm  
February 18, 2026

8:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship  
9:30 a.m. Education Opening and 9:40 a.m. Christian Education

**T T T**

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (ORLC)** is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We are a traditional denomination of over 5700 churches that believe that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God and that Jesus died to atone for our sins. This Jesus also rose again bodily and has sent the Holy Spirit to call, gather, enlighten, and sanctify us. More information about the LCMS can be found at [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)

**GUESTS/VISITORS: We welcome you!**

Please stop at our welcome center and get information about our Church, programs and ministries! If you have a question, we would consider it a joy to be a resource to you in your walk with Jesus.

**The QR Code** printed here is a link or "shortcut" to Our Redeemer's PayPal donation website. Using the QR Code navigates more easily to our donation website.



***Assistive hearing devices are available.***

***Please see an usher.***

**WHEN CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper is very important to us at Our Redeemer. We ask that you read the following questions and if your answer is "Yes" to each of them, then joyfully receive the Lord's gift in His Sacrament.

- *Have you confessed your sins, asking God to forgive and do you resolve, with His help, to amend your sinful ways?*
- *Do you believe that faith in Jesus Christ as Son of God is the only way to eternal life?*
- *Have you been baptized and confirmed (or received adult instruction)?*
- *Do you believe that with the bread and wine are Christ's true body and blood (received in the eating and drinking of the Lord's Supper)?*
- *Do you understand that in the Lord's Supper you receive forgiveness of your sins?*

If for some reason your answer is "No" to a question and you still wish to receive the

Lord's Supper, you may talk to the service Captain or the Pastor for additional clarification.

*The congregation assembles in silence.*

As you enter the Sanctuary, you may receive Ashes upon your forehead in the shape of a cross. The ashes symbolize the darkness of our sinfulness and the cross shape reminds us that Christ paid for our sinfulness on the cross.

### Imposition of Ashes

P: "You are dust and to dust you shall return"

*Stand*

### Opening Hymn

### Savior, When in Dust to Thee

LSB419



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -  
2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of  
3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -  
4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies  
want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress  
ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,  
pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy  
In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -  
Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that  
Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing  
te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O  
veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten  
heav'n re - stored, Might-y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt. Tune: Joseph Parry, 1841–1903 Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession

### *What is Confession?*

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

### *What sins should we confess?*

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

### *Which are these?*

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

### *What is the Office of the Keys?*

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

### *Where is this written?*

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22–23)

### *What do you believe according to these words?*

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

**C** But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

**P** So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

**C** We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

**P** May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C** Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*Silence for self-examination.*

P I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C Amen.

*Stand*

**Words of Institution**

**Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 257*

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C 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  
forever and ever. Amen.

*Distribution – Continuous Communion on this day will begin the use of the common cup (chalice). When you approach the pastor for the bread/body, you may then receive the common cup from the communion assistant or the individual cup from the other communion assistant. Individual cups may be deposited in the basket near the side wall on your way back to your seat. If you desire, you may go to the Altar railing for private prayer after receiving the Sacrament and before returning to your seat. Quiet meditative music will play during communion distribution.*

*Stand – After all have returned to their seats, the pastor speaks this blessing.*

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in T peace.

**C Amen.**

### **Responsory**

*LSB 255*

**L** Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.**

**L** You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

**C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.**

*Sit*

### **Readings from Holy Scripture**

#### **Reading**

*Joel 2:12–19*

12“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. 14Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?

15Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; 16gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. 17Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” 18Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. 19The LORD answered and said to his people, “Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.”

#### **Reading**

*2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10*

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

1Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. 2For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. 3We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, 4but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, 5beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; 6by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; 7by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; 8through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; 9as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; 10as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

*Stand*

**Reading**

*Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21*

1[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

2"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

5"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. . . .

16"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

19"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."





1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken  
 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;  
 3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?  
 4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?  
 With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;  
 It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;  
 The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -  
 They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -  
 Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -  
 The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?  
 cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.  
 her - it, This I do mer - it.  
 owe Him, Who would not know Him.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

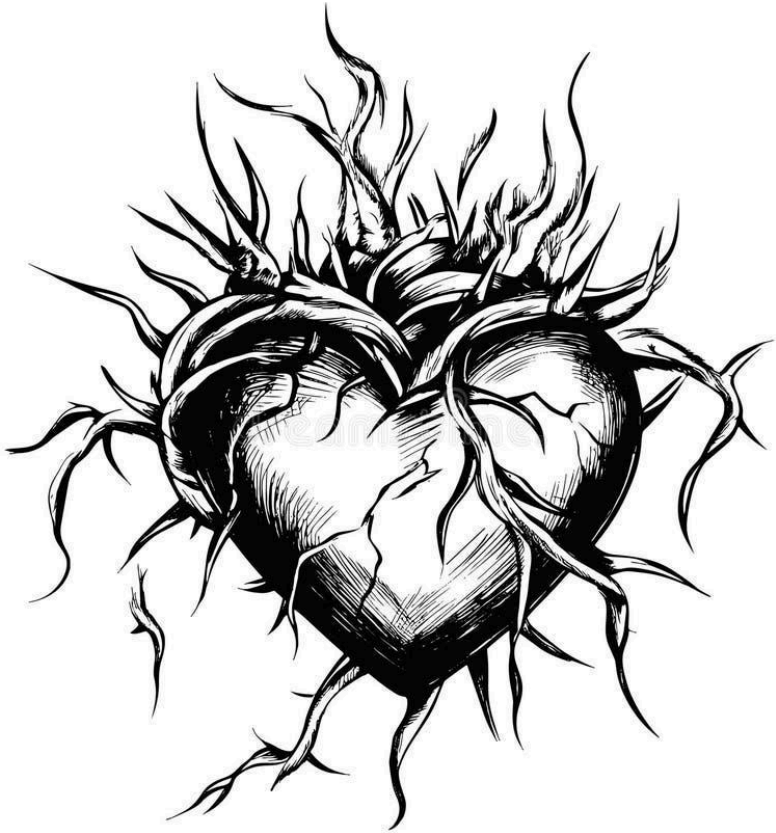
- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;  
 The sinful child of man may live in gladness;  
 Man forfeited his life and is acquitted; God is committed.
- 6 There was no spot in me by sin untainted;  
 Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;  
 My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me, Such woe it wrought me.
- 7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,  
 That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!  
 All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying While Thou wert dying.

*Sit*

Meditation

Thorny Heart

Pastor Schwartz



**Offering**  
*Stand*  
**Prayer**

- L Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C **listen to my cry.**
- L Keep me as the apple of Your eye;
- C **hide me in the shadow of Your wings.**
- L In righteousness I shall see You;
- C **when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.**
- L Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- L Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction

and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Reflections on Holy Scripture**

9Why should you be like a man confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot save? Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not leave us.”

*Silence for reflection.*

18Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. 19He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

*Silence for reflection.*

28Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Silence for reflection.*

27Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

*Silence for reflection.*

38For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Silence for reflection.*

6Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 8Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

*Silence for reflection.*

*Stand*

**P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in T peace.

**C Amen.**

## LSB 258

- L Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping  
that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

## LSB 259

- ## Closing Hymn

## LSB752

14

