

Connecting people to Jesus

The *Good News*

OCTOBER 2018

Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hawaii
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Sing to the Lord a New Song?

One of the questions that is asked in every church sooner or later is, “Why don’t we sing more familiar hymns?” One could argue that what is familiar to one person may not be all that familiar to another and vice versa, but that won’t get us any closer to answering the question. I would suggest beginning with a different question, “How are the hymns chosen for our worship service?”

Many will recall that before the time of Blessed Martin Luther (1483-1546) there were no hymns in the Sunday service. Hymns were found in the daily offices prayed in the monasteries and convents of the church: Matins, Vespers, Compline, and such. Luther introduced hymns into the Sunday Mass for a couple of reasons: to enable the people to participate in the worship service in their own native language, and to help teach the basics of the Christian faith to those in worship.

The emphasis on the didactic nature of many of the Reformation hymns had a strong influence on the subsequent hymnody of the church. Many hymns began to be written based on the scripture lessons read in the service, primarily the Gospel texts. Eventually a cycle of hymns arose called the *Hauptlied* or “Head Song” of the worship service. This cycle would repeat annually as did the Gospel readings. In

our day this cycle is called the “Hymn of the Week” and has been expanded to cover the three-year series of readings that we now use in worship.

The *Hauptlied* would be sung between the Gospel lesson and the sermon, reinforcing the Gospel lesson and helping the people prepare their hearts and minds to hear the subsequent sermon based on that same Gospel text. Many of the cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach are elaborations on those hymns. They would be sung in the place of those hymns during the worship service with the congregation perhaps joining only on the last stanza or the concluding chorale of the Cantata.

Now to return to the question. How are the hymns picked for the worship service? With this historical influence, the first consideration is to find hymns that reinforce the Gospel lesson and other readings in the worship service. The second consideration is the place of the hymn in the service: Processional and Recessional hymns at the beginning and ending; *Hauptlied* just before the sermon; a proper hymn to use during the distribution, and so forth. A third consideration is the place of the particular service in the church year or liturgical calendar. Different liturgical seasons emphasize various aspects of the life of Jesus from his advent, incarnation, epiphany, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension. One will notice that each of these has corresponding sections of hymns in the hymnal. We sing Advent hymns during Advent, Christmas Carols and hymns during Christmas and so forth. Then there is a long season (half of the year) that emphasizes the teachings of Jesus and hymns are chosen to emphasize those particular points as well.

Having said this, there is still more to consider. Every congregation has its own particular collection of hymns that are known to it. This develops over time. At Our Redeemer we used to have a “Hymn of the Month” sung during the offering. The purpose was to learn new hymns so that they would become familiar and hopefully also another one of the congregation’s favorites. Another consideration is not to pick the same hymn too often, lest it begin to wear out from over use.

As the Director of Music at Our Redeemer I have chosen most of the hymns during the pastoral interim. Prior to the interim hymns were chosen by the pastor or the pastor in team ministry with me. From Advent 2017 through November 2018 we will have sung about 270 different hymns. Not counting hymns sung as a substitute for a portion of the liturgy we sang thirty-one (31) hymns twice and six (6) hymns three times. Some melodies are used for more than one text. The melody HYFRYDOL (*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*) is set to three different texts so we actually sang that melody six times in one year.

This past summer one of our members sent me an email suggesting that many good hymns have not been sung and they were missed in worship. I double checked and sure enough, there were at least a half dozen really good hymns that had been unintentionally overlooked. That was immediately corrected. The list was really long, but most of the hymns on that list had been sung during the past year. By singing 270 hymns in one year that means that we did not sing about 365 other hymns that are in the hymnal. Another member of the congregation recently asked me if I had a grand plan to schedule every hymn in the hymnal by a certain date. As attractive as that idea is, I am not sure how desirable it would be. Having said that, if any member of the congregation has a favorite that they miss singing, please feel free to mention it any time. The best way to do that is through an email to music@ourredeemerlutheran.us.

One of the debates in church music circles is the question of how many different hymns a congregation should have in its repertoire. It is safe to say that no congregation knows all of the hymns in the hymnal in her pews. Of course the debate goes on and on, but one of the joys of being a musician at Our Redeemer Lutheran is in sharing the robust participation by the congregation in singing all of our hymns and liturgies. As we welcome our new pastor and get to know his favorite hymns may we continue to grow in our appreciation of the rich musical heritage that we share in our worship together.

Karl D. Bachman,
Director of Music

READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2018

Oct. 7	Genesis 2:18-25	Hebrews 2:1-13	Mark 10:2-16
Oct. 14	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Hebrews 3:12-19	Mark 10:17-22
Oct. 21	Ecclesiastes 5:10-20	Hebrews 4:1-13	Mark 10:23-31
Oct. 28	Revelation 14:6-7	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER



- 11 – Dayna Owskey
- 14 - Marilyn Secretario
- 20 - Kathryn Koopman
- 21 – Suzanne Green
- 23 - Carl Seyfer
- 24 - “Willie” Williams
- 25 Nelda Peterson
- 28 - Dana Novak

ANNIVERSARY FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

18 – Nelson and Eleanor Mau



PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH



We pray for the sick, injured, those undergoing and recovering from surgical procedures and those facing long term illness:

Linda, Tom, Valerie, Jerry, Bonnie, Chuck, Bailey, Barbara, Arlen, Colbert, Laurie, Vivian Wright, Audrey, Monica, Stacy, Dan, Linda, Heather, Troy, Peter, Parker, Annie, Summy

We pray for the housebound: Marilee, Peter, Joyce, Trudy, Dolores

We pray for God’s protection for all U.S. military personnel throughout the world:

Sarah, Ethen, Roger Dylan, Antonio, Scott

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCH OCTOBER 11, 2018

The Women of Our Redeemer meet for lunch once monthly on the second Thursday. We selected IHOP for our October get together. As usual we begin at 11:00am. This is the IHOP located on Ala Moana Boulevard near the Wailana in the Aqua Palms hotel. You might guess that the International House of Pancakes would feature breakfast. But they have many lunch specials as well. We will again try to carpool from the church. Buses 19, 20, 42 and others stop right in front of the restaurant. We all enjoyed our September time at Chili's and hope to have many of you joining us at 11:00am at IHOP on 1850 Ala Moana Boulevard.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



September Fellowship Lunch at Chili's

Left to right: Dana Novak, Marcy Reginelli, Nelda Peterson, Ruth Crockett, Christobel Sanders, Ruby Hodel, Glenna Shaw, Takako Thompson, Lorine Pelletier, Bonnie Jo Alle.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



A small group of Our Redeemer members meet for breakfast on Saturdays at the Kahala Zippy's Restaurant at 8:00 in the morning.

A great way to start the weekend with good friends and good food.

Join this group for a little laughter and engaging conversation.



LWML CNH CHRISTIAN LIFE LINE

LaVada Terrell - VP, Christian Life

FEAR VS FAITH

- Are you sure that on the two way street you're driving, that no one on the other side will veer into your lane?
- Do you have confidence that the chair you're going to sit on will not break?
- Are you confident your car will get you where you're driving to?
- Are you anxious and do you worry about the economy, rising taxes, losing your job, getting sick – what if this happens, or what if that happens?
- Are you stressed and overwhelmed if too many things are happening at the same time?
- No matter what's going on during this season of your life, will you wholeheartedly trust God?
- Are you anxious about learning new things, meeting new people, going to new places?
- Do you fear for your children's future, your families, your finances, your safety?
- Do you know that Jesus is walking with you and guiding your footsteps?
- Are you trusting Him with all aspects of your life?

Are your choices controlling your life - making you feel afraid or safe?

Or should the question be - who is controlling your life - The Spirit of the Holy God, or master sin?

Consider how Romans 6 poses the matter: either slaves of righteousness or slaves of sin: we are not under our own control as those purchased by the blood of Christ.

Scripture is full of verses regarding both faith and fear, as well as God's promises to us.

- *When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.* - Psalm 56:3 ESV
- *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* - Philippians 4:6-7 NIV
- *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and self-control –* 2 Timothy 1:7
- *Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.* - Matthew 6:34 NIV
- *Do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?* - Luke 12:22-26 NIV
- *The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? The Lord is with me; He is my helper.* - Psalm 118:6-7
- *Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.* - Prov 29:2-5

- *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-29 NLT*
- *So faith comes from hearing and hearing through the word of Christ. - Romans 10:17*
- *That your faith might not rest in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God. I Corinthians 2:5*
- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. - Proverbs 3:5-6*

Fear can be a strong human emotion when encountering the challenges and difficulties of daily life. Left to ourselves, we have reason to be afraid. Martin Luther was also afraid of his actions and sinful nature. He couldn't believe God or anyone could love him or forgive him. However, he learned that by studying God's Word, that the Holy Spirit leads him, protects him, and gives him the peace he longed for.

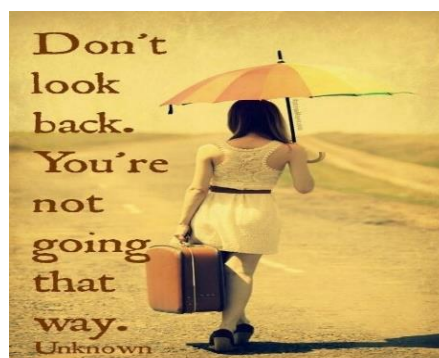
Faith is defined as a complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Faith has been described as the hand that receives the gifts of God. Faith is a gift from God, created and fostered in us through Word and Sacrament, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit. God's many and great promises move the once dead hand that receives in the Scriptures life and every good gift, and also the desire to do the good works He has prepared for us.

Be assured that God is with you in whatever you face, whatever is new in your life, in turmoil and struggles, amidst the anxious thoughts and the worries of life. He is there, strengthening, helping, and holding you in His hands. He gives us the power to live courageously, boldly, fearlessly in this life, when many things that surround us would tell us to be afraid and step back, His truth whispers strong and sure to the deepest core of our spirits.

Step forward in faith, try new things, go places – and do not retreat in fear of rejection, mistakes, or embarrassment. Be bold to say yes when you hear God's call on your life, when you hear of tasks that need doing. Consider them as life-changing adventures, learning new things, meeting new people – and commend all things into His hand, acknowledging “God willing” and asking Him to establish what is right and good.

Gracious God, thank You for moving us from fear to faith by Your grace through Your powerful Word! Continue to transform us as You forgive our sins for we fall short. By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to keep growing in the true faith, and then to stand, against all odds and all fear, on the firm foundation of Holy Scripture. Bless Your Church and all who preach, teach, lead, hear, serve, and believe, that we may tell the good news about Jesus to everyone, everywhere at every opportunity that You provide, and that by hearing, they, too, may believe in Jesus, our Savior. Replace our fearful thoughts with His words of truth and promise to always be with us. Help us to step forward in faith to fill a need and not shrink back in fear. Help us realize that You are always with us, as well as our sisters who walk beside us and help us. In Your Dear Name, we pray. Amen.

[parts adapted from an article, entitled *From Fear to Faith + The Reformation Story*, written by Rev. Larry Miller, LWML 2017]



Worship Assistants Schedule for the month of OCTOBER

Worship Care: Marcy Reginelli

October 7, 2018 – The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Assistants: Henry Kuhn II, Richard Thompson

Ushers: Stuart Peace, Matthew Schlechte

Lectors: Kathryn Koopman – Genesis 2:18-25
Henry Kuhn II - Hebrews 2:1-13
Gospel – Mark 10:2-16

October 14, 2018 – The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Assistants: Jerry Groth, Stuart Peace

Ushers: Henry Kuhn II, Carl Weinsteger

Lectors: Takako Thompson - Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Jerry Groth - Hebrews 3:12-19
Gospel – Mark 10:17-22

October 21, 2018 – The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Assistants: Joseph Krakowiak, Lorine Pelletier

Ushers: Anne Krakowiak, Lester Pelletier

Lectors: Kathryn Koopman- Ecclesiastes 5:10-20
Joseph Krakowiak - Hebrews 4:1-13
Gospel – Mark 10:23-31

October 28, 2018 – Reformation Day

Assistants: Henry Kuhn II, Richard Thompson

Ushers: Matthew Schlechte, Thomas Windsor

Lectors: Lauren Block - Revelation 14:6-7
Richard Thompson - Romans 3:19-28
Gospel – John 8:31-36

KEIKI CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

October 7 Ruth Crockett
October 14 Lorine Pelletier
October 21 Kathryn Koopman
October 28 Tynan Kuhn





OCTOBER 2018 Calendar

Sat. Oct. 6, 2018	8:00 am	Fellowship Breakfast – Kahala Zippy’s (dine in)
Sun. Oct. 7, 2018	9:00 am	Divine Service with Communion
	10:15 am	Fellowship
Mon. Oct. 8, 2018		Pastor Christian arrives on island
	6:30 pm	Spiritual Life Board – Aloha Room
Thurs. Oct. 11, 2018	11:00 am	Women’s Fellowship Lunch – IHOP Waikiki
Sat. Oct. 13, 2018	8:00 am	Fellowship Breakfast – Kahala Zippy’s (dine in)
Sun. Oct. 14, 2018	9:00 am	Divine Service with Communion
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45 am	Bible Study – Room 2
Wed. Oct. 17, 2018	10:00 am	Bible Study – Aloha Room
Sat. Oct. 20, 2018	8:00 am	Fellowship Breakfast – Kahala Zippy’s (dine in)
Sun. Oct. 21, 2018	9:00 am	Divine Service with Communion
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45 am	Bible Study
	12:00 noon	Board of Directors
	4:00 pm	Installation of Rev. Christian Rasmussen
		Luau to follow
Wed. Oct. 24, 2018	10:00 am	Bible Study – Aloha Room
Sat. Oct. 27, 2018	8:00 am	Fellowship Breakfast – Kahala Zippy’s (dine in)
Sun. Oct. 28, 2018	9:00 am	Divine Service with Communion
	10:15 am	Fellowship
	10:45 am	Bible Study – Room 2
Wed. Oct. 31, 2018	10:00 am	Bible Study – Aloha Room

PLEASE JOIN US

October 14, 2018

9:00 am

Divine Service with communion



Rev. Christian Rasmussen

Fellowship to follow

October 21, 2018

9:00 am

Divine Service with communion



Rev. Christian Rasmussen

Fellowship to follow

October 21, 2018

4:00 pm

Installation of Rev. Christian Rasmussen



Officiant – Rev. Thomas Windsor

Pastor Emeritus

Preacher – Rev. Mitch Gowen

Hawaii Regional Vice-President

Rite of Installation – Rev. Milton Fricke
Circuit Visitor

Join us for a Luau following the installation



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Pastor Christian Rasmussen

Administrative Assistant
Director of Music
Trumpet

Cello

Sharon Shinno
Karl Bachman
Roger Koopman
Jillian Madanay
Lauren Block

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President **Karl Bachman**

Vice President **Stephanie Spangler**

Secretary **Bonnie Jo Alle**

Treasurer **Roger Koopman**

Board of Spiritual Life Director **Jerry Groth**

Board of Community Life Director **Stephen Okumura**

Board of Finance Management Director **Henry Kuhn II**

Board of Property Management Director **Michael Riess**

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