

Redeemer Presbyterian Church exists to see our city renewed by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Love God
Love People
Love Tyler

The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

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Redeemer Presbyterian Church, PCA

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Fifth Sunday in Lent March 26, 2023

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome to Redeemer!

We are thankful you are with us today and pray you will find this church a place of vibrant worship, authentic community, and love for God and neighbor.

Our gatherings focus on the Triune God— Father, Son, and Spirit— and his redeeming work in our world. We will pray to him, sing his praises, hear his word taught, and participate in Holy Communion.

Our worship is a blend of ancient and modern, seeking to benefit from the Lord's work in his Church throughout time. We invite you to join right in, even if this is new to you, and walk these well-worn paths with us!

We love when whole families are able to participate, but we do have trained and screened volunteers available in Redeemer Kids for those who need it (ages 5 and under).

•	to connect with us, please fill out the section below and place it in the offering basks
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	act me regarding:
	Learning more about Redeemer
	Receiving email updates from the church
	Exploring Christianity and questions about faith
	Getting involved with a community group
would like	prayer about:
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Prayer Suggestions:

Topic: our pastor and elders (Ben, John, & JB):

- Monday
 - Spiritual health and protection, relationships with spouse and children
- <u>Tuesday</u>
 - Integrity, emotional strength, communication skill
- <u>Wednesday</u>
 - Faith, finances, friendships
- <u>Thursday</u>
 - For their spouses (Rachel, Brenda, & Allison), vision, and unity
- <u>Friday</u>
 - Passion for ministry, Sabbath rest, discernment
- Saturday
 - Perspective, faith, contentment

Announcements

Women's Fellowship Gathering:

Please join us for a night of food and fellowship! We will be discussing ways we can be more intentional in bringing together the women of Redeemer, so please, join us and bring an appetizer and your ideas to share! March 31, 5:30 pm at the Travis' (19078 Pinedale Circle, Flint, TX)

Upcoming Spring Events:

- -Palm Sunday April 2
- -Good Friday April 7
- -Easter April 9
- -Men's Campout April 27-29

Small Group Meetings:

Small groups are an important part of our ministry at Redeemer. They offer opportunities to deepen relationships and to love, serve, and pray for one another and our city. If you are interested in joining a group, please email Lindsay Bounds: lindsay@redeemertyler.com

Bible and Book Studies:

- Men's study meets over breakfast, 7:00 am on Fridays. They are studying 1 Corinthians. Contact Konrad Kern (714-658-4972).
- The women's group is studying Acts on Friday mornings. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

Greeting and Opening Prayer

Call To Worship

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence;

People: From him comes my salvation.

Leader: He alone is my rock and my salvation, **People:** My fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

-Psalm 62.1-2

Opening Hymn | There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

Words by William Cowper (1771), music by Lowell Mason (1830)

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains: Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day; And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away: Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away; And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply, Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die: And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die; Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save, When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave: Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave; When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow'r, Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more: Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more; Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

All Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: The Name of the Lord be praised!

Hymn of Worship | Before the Throne of God Above

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1860; Music by Vikki Cook, 1997

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea: A great High Priest, whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart; I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look, and see Him there, who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; For God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness, The great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace!

One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood

My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God

With Christ, my Savior and my God!

One More Hymn and the Offering | Take My Life, and Let It Be

Words by Francis Ridley Havergal (1874), music by Henri Malan (1787)

Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise, Let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips and let them be, filled with messages from thee, Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use, every power as thou shalt choose, Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne. It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour, at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, Ever, only, all for thee.

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.

People: Amen!

—Isaiah 58.11

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. **Leader:** Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Feast

We serve both red wine and white grape juice. Gluten free bread is available on the serving tray.

Communion Hymn | Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted

Words by Joseph Swain (alt Twit), Music by Kevin Twit (2013)

Come ye souls by, sin afflicted, Bowed with fruitless, sorrow down; By the broken, law convicted, Through the cross, behold the crown; Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy, yoke and wear it; Love will make your, obedience sweet; Christ will give you, strength to bear it, While His grace, shall guide your feet Safe to glory, Safe to glory, Safe to glory, Where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the, eyes that see Him,
Blest the ears that, hear His voice;
Blessed are the, souls that trust Him,
And in Him, alone rejoice;
His commandments, His commandments, Then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to, pilgrims weary, Light to newly, opened eyes, Like full springs in, deserts dreary, Is the rest, the cross supplies; All who taste it, All who taste it Shall to rest immortal rise.

Concluding Prayer

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: Wondrous God, who sets suns and moons above us, mountains and valleys beneath us, and friends and strangers among us: how often have we tried to hide from your presence, how seldom have we looked for your creating face and your fashioning hand! Lord, have mercy upon us. Wondrous God, who took upon yourself flesh of our flesh in Jesus our brother, and being found in human form made the ultimate disclosure of yourself in the face of Jesus Christ: how often we have forgotten you, how seldom have we really loved and followed you! Christ, have mercy upon us. Wondrous God, who pours out freely the Holy Spirit: how often have we ignored your promptings, how seldom have we asked for your help or accepted your gifts! Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

—Jeremiah 29.11-14a

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Old Testament Reading | Ezekiel 37.1-14

[1] The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. [2] And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. [3] And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." [4] Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. [5] Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. [6] And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[7] So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. [8] And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. [9] Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." [10] So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

[11] Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' [12] Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. [13] And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. [14] And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

Hymn of Worship | Help My Unbelief

Words: John Newton, 1725-1807. Chorus by Clint Wells. Music: Clint Wells, 2005.

I know the Lord is nigh, And would but cannot pray, For Satan meets me when I try, And frights my soul away. And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent, Though I endeavor oft; This stony heart can ne'er relent, Till Jesus makes it soft. Till Jesus make it soft.

> Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. My help must come from Thee.

—continued

The Holy Communion

Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us. **People:** *Christ, have mercy upon us.* **Leader:** Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God! **People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

Leader: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

People: Holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna

in the Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Confession of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

—The Apostle's Creed

Prayers of the People, Concluded with the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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.

This is a great time for parents to go pick up their children for communion.

I would but cannot love, Though wooed by love divine; No arguments have power to move, A soul as base as mine. A soul as base as mine.

Psalm | Psalm 130

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

People: O Lord, hear my voice!

Leader: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

People: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

Leader: O Lord, who could stand? **People:** *But with you there is forgiveness,*

Leader: That you may be feared.

People: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

Leader: And in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord

People: More than watchmen for the morning, **Leader:** More than watchmen for the morning.

People: O Israel, hope in the LORD!

Leader: For with the LORD there is steadfast love, **People:** And with him is plentiful redemption.

Leader: And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

—Parents may take children to Redeemer Kids at this time (nursery: up to 4; worship training: 5 to 2nd grade).

^{*}The term "catholic" here means "universal", not the Roman Catholic church. It refers to all believers, everywhere and at all times— the whole company of God's redeemed people through the ages.

Sermon Text | Ecclesiastes 8.16-9.12

[16] When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on earth, how neither day nor night do one's eyes see sleep, [17] then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

[1] But all this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in the hand of God. Whether it is love or hate, man does not know; both are before him. [2] It is the same for all, since the same event happens to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil, to the clean and the unclean, to him who sacrifices and him who does not sacrifice. As the good one is, so is the sinner, and he who swears is as he who shuns an oath. [3] This is an evil in all that is done under the sun, that the same event happens to all. Also, the hearts of the children of man are full of evil, and madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the dead. [4] But he who is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion. [5] For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. [6] Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished, and forever they have no more share in all that is done under the sun.

[7] Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do.

[8] Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head.

[9] Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. [10] Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

[11] Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. [12] For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.