



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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*First Sunday after the Epiphany:*  
**January 12, 2025**

*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).

If you wish to connect with us, please fill out the section below and place it in the offering basket.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me regarding:

☐ *Learning more about Redeemer*

☐ *Receiving email updates from the church*

☐ *Exploring Christianity and questions about faith*

☐ *Getting involved with a community group*

I would like prayer about: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other questions or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions for Online Tithing:

We offer online and mobile giving options. Our desire is to make the giving process as simple as possible! Please follow the instructions below to get started:

### For Online Giving:

1. Go to [redeemertyler.com](http://redeemertyler.com) and click “Give Online” in the upper right corner.
2. This will take you to our Church Center page where you click “Give” in the upper right corner.
3. Fill out the amount you wish to give and other requested information.
4. You will have the option to create an account and set up recurring donations via their secure site.

### For Mobile Giving:

1. Download the “Church Center App” on your smart phone.
2. Open the app and create a user account.
3. Fill out the amount you wish to give and other requested information.
4. You will be able to set up recurring donations if you prefer.



## Prayer Suggestions:

Topic: needs of our city.

- Monday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in our schools.
- Tuesday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in city, state, and local government, and justice systems.
- Wednesday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in local law enforcement, emergency response personnel, and hospitals.
- Thursday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically amongst our immigrant, economically disadvantaged, and minority populations. (See Deuteronomy 10.17-19.)
- Friday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically for a unity within our churches and between our churches in the cause of Christ.
- Saturday  
That God’s kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically that the gospel would be proclaimed throughout our city’s churches.

# Announcements

## Women’s Gathering:

Women's Game Night, Wednesday, January 15th, 6:00 pm at Janet Wheeler's home (5946 County Rd 178, Tyler 75703). Come enjoy homemade soup and a group game. If you wish to bring something, please bring a snack or side for the soup.

## Sunday Morning and Mid-Week Prayer Meetings:

We have two weekly opportunities for prayer: Sunday mornings before service at 9:30 am and every Wednesday from 11:00 am-11:30 am at Ben Wheeler’s house (3314 Pollard Drive, Tyler, TX). Please join us!

## 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 Ben Wheeler: ben@redeemertyler.com.

## Bible and Book Studies:

- Men's study meets 7:00 am on Fridays. They are studying “A Summary of Christian Doctrine” by Louis Berkhof. Contact Konrad Kern (714-658-4972) for information.
- The women’s group is studying Galatians on Friday mornings. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

# Greeting and Opening Prayer

## Call To Worship

**Leader:** But I will sing of your strength;  
**People:** *I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.*  
**Leader:** For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.  
**People:** *O my Strength, I will sing praises to you,*  
**Leader:** For you, O God, are my fortress,  
**People:** *The God who shows me steadfast love.*

—Psalm 59.16-17

## Opening Hymn | Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Words by Walter Smith (1867), Traditional Welsh hymn melody*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above, Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light, Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see, tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Leader:** Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

**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 | Arise, O God and Shine

Words by William Hum (1813), music by Christopher Miner (2004)

Arise, O God, and shine in all Thy saving might,  
And prosper each design to spread Thy glorious light;  
Let healing streams of mercy flow that all the earth Thy truth may know.

Bring distant nations near to sing Thy glorious praise;  
Let every people hear and learn Thy holy ways.  
Reign, mighty God, assert Thy cause, and govern by Thy righteous laws.

Put forth Thy glorious power, that everyone may see  
And earth present her store, in converts born to Thee.  
God, our own God, His Church will bless, And fill the world with righteousness.

To God, the only Wise, the one immortal King,  
Let hallelujahs rise, from every living thing;  
Let all that breathe, on every coast, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

One More Hymn and the Offering | All Must Be Well

Words by Mary Bowley Peters (1847), words and music by Matthew S. Smith (2007)

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well  
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well  
Precious is the blood that healed us  
Perfect is the grace that sealed us  
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us  
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well  
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well  
Happy still in God confiding  
Fruitful if in Christ abiding  
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding  
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well  
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well  
On our Father's love relying  
Jesus every need supplying  
Yes in living or in dying  
All must be well

Benediction & Dismissal

**Leader:** Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

—2 Thessalonians 2.16-17

**People:** Amen!

**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 & dairy-free bread is available on the serving tray.

**Communion Hymn | God and Man**  
*Words and Music by Robert Stamps, 1972*

*O, welcome all ye noble saints of old, as now before your very eyes unfold  
The wonders all so long ago foretold. God and man at table are sat down.*

*Elders, martyrs, all are falling down; prophets, patriarchs are gathering 'round.  
What angels longed to see now man has found: God and man at table are sat down.*

*Who is this who spreads the victory feast? Who is this who makes our warring cease?  
Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace. God and man at table are sat down.*

*Beggars, lame, and harlots also here; repentant publicans are drawing near.  
Wayward sons come home without a fear. God and man at table are sat down.*

*Worship in the presence of the Lord with joyful songs and hearts in one accord.  
And let our Host at table be adored. God and man at table are sat down.*

*When at last this earth shall pass away, when Jesus and his Bride are one to stay,  
The feast of love is just begun that day. God and man at table are sat down.*

*Here He gives Himself to us as bread. Here as wine we drink the blood He shed.  
Born to die, we eat and live instead, God and man at table are sat down;  
God and man at table are sat down.*

**Concluding Prayer**

**Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

**People:** *Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

**Leader:** O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.  
For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.  
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

—Psalm 51.15-17

**People:** *Thanks be to God!*

**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 | Isaiah 43.1-7

[1] But now thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
[2] When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
[3] For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.  
[4] Because you are precious in my eyes,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give men in return for you,  
peoples in exchange for your life.  
[5] Fear not, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you.  
[6] I will say to the north, Give up,  
and to the south, Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the end of the earth,  
[7] everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.”

Hymn of Worship | Whate’er My God Ordains is Right

Words by Samuel Rodigast (1675), music by David Braud (1998)

Whate’er my God ordains is right, Holy his will abideth.  
I will be still whate’er He does, And follow where He guideth.  
He is my God, Though dark my road.  
He holds me that I shall not fall Wherefore to Him I leave it all

Whate’er my God ordains is right, He never will deceive me  
He leads me by the proper path, I know He will not leave me  
I take, content, What He hath sent  
His hand can turn my griefs away And patiently I wait His day

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, 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 one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic\* and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

—The Nicene 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, forever and ever. Amen.

—This is a great time for parents to go pick up their children from Redeemer Kids for communion.

\*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.

Whate’er my God ordains is right, Though now this cup in drinking  
May bitter seem to my faint heart, I take it all unshrinking  
My God is true, Each morn anew  
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart And pain and sorrow shall depart

Whate’er my God ordains is right, Here shall my stand be taken  
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, Yet I am not forsaken  
My Fathers care Is round me there  
He holds me that I shall not fall And so to Him I leave it all.

The Psalm | Psalm 29

**Leader:** Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
**People:** *Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*  
**Leader:** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
**People:** *Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.*

**Leader:** The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
**People:** *The God of glory thunders,*  
**Leader:** The LORD, over many waters.  
**People:** *The voice of the LORD is powerful;*  
**Leader:** The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

**People:** *The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;*  
**Leader:** The LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
**People:** *He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.*

**Leader:** The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.  
**People:** *The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;*  
**Leader:** The LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**People:** *The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth*  
**Leader:** And strips the forests bare,  
**People:** *And in his temple all cry, “Glory!”*

**Leader:** The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
**People:** *The LORD sits enthroned as king forever.*  
**Leader:** May the LORD give strength to his people!  
**People:** *May the LORD bless his people with peace!*

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

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Luke 3:15-22

[15] As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, [16] John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. [17] His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

[18] So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. [19] But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, [20] added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

[21] Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, [22] and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

**Leader:** The gospel of the Lord.

**People:** *Praise be to you, O Christ.*