



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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Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022

*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: _____

Prayer Topic: our church and mission, deacons

- Monday
That God would prepare us to be his ambassadors, welcoming to those who visit and reaching out to friends and neighbors and those in need; for healthy marriages and families.
- Tuesday
For our deacons: Chris and Jeff. Wisdom for them as they get set up and seek to help us use our gifts in service to our church and community.
- Wednesday
For authentic community, healthy small groups, deep friendships.
- Thursday
Physical and material needs of the body; that we would see opportunities to love and serve the destitute, ill, imprisoned, orphaned, and widowed.
- Friday
That we would grow in prayer; for God to bless our corporate worship.
- Saturday
Sabbath rest. Discernment, perspective, faith, and contentment.

Announcements

Christmas Party:

Please join us for a Christmas party on December 17th at the Priddy’s (17950 Timothy Ct) at 5pm for food and fellowship!

Bakers Needed:

Redeemer is once again providing the cookies for the Promise Academy Christmas party on December 15. We will need to provide about 60 dozen cookies. Please contact Barbara Brown with questions or for more information: (903) 920-2516

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 at ben@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.

CCLI # 11299454

Greeting and Opening Prayer

Call To Worship

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
People: *For he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;*
Leader: For he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
People: *And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.*

—Luke 1.46-50

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reader: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life.” We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. (Isaiah 9:2)

And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. (Isaiah 42.16)

The LORD says to His servant: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” (Isaiah 49.6)

People: *Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation. Let us walk in the light of the Lord*

Opening Hymn | Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

17th Century French Carol, Words by Gerald Moultrie, 1864

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,*

*That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!*

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Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, 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 | Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery
By Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Michael Bleecker, 2013

*Come behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven’s praises robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.*

*Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.*

*Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father’s plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.*

*Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e’er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes.*

One More Hymn and the Offering | Lift Your Eyes Up
Words and music by Mona Reeves, Paul Zach, Brendan Jamieson, Orlando Palmer and Philip Zach (2018)

*There is a power, stronger than evil,
Wider than sorrow.
There is a mountain, over the shadow,
Where the sun is shining down.*

*Lift your eyes up, children of Zion.
Lift your eyes up, children of Zion.
Hold on, hold on, your help comes from the Lord.*

*I went out walking, into the city.
I saw the ancient ruins.
The sound of singing, off in the distance,
Coming from the mountain of God.*

*Lift your eyes up, children of Zion
My help comes from the Lord
Don’t you know that you’re the children of Zion?*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

People: *Amen!*

—James 5.7-8

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 | We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Words and Music by Sandra McCracken, 2015

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more!*

*We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up.*

*In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength.*

*Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.*

Concluding Prayer

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without. We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle. We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love. Yet we confess that we are often anxious, we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence. We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires. Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world; show us how to walk in your paths, through the mercy of our Savior. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—Luke 1.54-55

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 35

- [1] The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
- [2] it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.
- [3] Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
- [4] Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”
- [5] Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- [6] then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
- [7] the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
- [8] And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
- [9] No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
- [10] And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Leader: Are all men, then, saved by Christ just as they perished through Adam?

People: No. Only those are saved who by a true faith are grafted into Christ and accept all His benefits.

Leader: What is true faith?

People: True faith is a sure knowledge whereby I accept as true all that God has revealed to us in His Word. At the same time it is a firm confidence that not only to others, but also to me, God has granted forgiveness of sins, everlasting righteousness, and salvation, out of mere grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits. This faith the Holy Spirit works in my heart by the gospel.

—Question and Answer 20-21, Heidelberg Catechism

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 for communion.

Hymn of Worship | Come Then, Lord Jesus

Words by Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), Music by Katy Bowser and Kenny Hutson (2007)

The Church has waited long, her absent Lord to see
And still in loneliness she waits, a friendless stranger she
Age after age has gone, sun after sun has set
And still, in weeds of widowhood, she weeps a mourner yet

Come then, Lord Jesus, come
Come then, Lord Jesus
Come then, Lord Jesus, come
Come, come, come.

The serpent's brood increase, the powers of hell grow bold
The conflict thickens, faith is low, and love is waxing cold
How long, O Lord our God, holy and true and good
Wilt thou not judge Thy suffering Church, her sighs and tears and blood?

We long to hear thy voice, to see Thee face to face
To share Thy crown and glory then, as now we share thy grace
Should not the loving bride, the absent Bridegroom mourn?
Should she not wear the weeds of grief, until her Lord return?

The whole creation groans, and wait to hear that voice
That shall restore her comeliness, and make her wastes rejoice
Come, Lord, and wipe away, the curse, the sin, the stain
And make this blighted world of ours, thine own fair world again

Psalm | Psalm 146.4-9

Leader: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

People: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
Leader: Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;
People: Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

Leader: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
People: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
Leader: The LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners;
People: He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

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

Ministry of the Word | The Coming Conflict

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Notes

Sermon Text | John 15.18-16.4a

[18] “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. [19] If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. [20] Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. [21] But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. [22] If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. [23] Whoever hates me hates my Father also. [24] If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. [25] But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without a cause.’

[26] “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. [27] And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

[1] “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. [2] They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. [3] And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. [4] But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.