



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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*Fourth Sunday of Advent:*  
**December 21, 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 [redeemert Tyler.com](http://redeemert Tyler.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: our pastor and elders (Ben, John, Robert, & Kent):

- Monday  
Spiritual health and protection, relationships with spouse and children
- Tuesday  
Integrity, emotional strength, communication skill
- Wednesday  
Faith, finances, friendships
- Thursday  
For their spouses, vision, and unity
- Friday  
Passion for ministry, Sabbath rest, discernment
- Saturday  
Perspective, faith, contentment

# Announcements

## Christmas Eve Service:

Please join us for our annual Christmas Eve service on Wednesday, December 24 at 5:30 pm.

## 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 at 7:00 am on Fridays. They are studying Ecclesiastes. Contact Robert Hale (305-562-5502) for information.
- The women’s group is studying the devotional *You Were Never Meant to Do It All Alone* by Kelly C. Kapic on Friday mornings. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

# Greeting and Opening Prayer

## Call To Worship

**Leader:** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

**People:** *The holy habitation of the Most High.*

**Leader:** God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

**People:** *God will help her when morning dawns.*

**Leader:** The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

**People:** *He utters his voice, the earth melts.*

**Leader:** The LORD of hosts is with us;

**People:** *The God of Jacob is our fortress.*

—Psalm 46.4-7

## Lighting of the Advent Candles

**Reader:** We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

A voice cries:

In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

—based on Isaiah 40:3

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

—from Isaiah 7:14

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

—Isaiah 40:4

And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

—Isaiah 40:5

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

## Opening Hymn | Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming

*Traditional German carol, pub.1599 tr. by Theodore Baker, 1894*

*Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!*

*Of Jesse’s lineage coming, As men of old have sung.*

*It came, a flow’ret bright, Amid the cold of winter,*

*When half spent was the night*

—continued—

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, She bore to men a Savior,  
When half spent was the night

This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere.  
True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us,  
And lightens every load.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Leader:** Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**All Singing:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

**Leader:** Praise the Lord!  
**People:** The Name of the Lord be praised!

Hymn of Worship | Angels From the Realms of Glory

Words and music by James Montgomery (1816)

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn king!

Shepherds in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the infant Light:

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations; Ye have seen his natal star:

Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In his temple shall appear:

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore your voices raising To th'eternal Three in One

One More Hymn and the Offering | O Holy Night

Words by Placide Cappeau (1847); Music by Adolphe Adam

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!  
Oh, night divine, oh, night when Christ was born!  
Oh, night divine, oh, night, oh, night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in His Name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy Name!  
Christ is the Lord! Oh, praise His name forever!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Benediction & Dismissal

**Leader:** May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

—Romans 15.5-6

**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 | Once in Royal David’s City

*Words by Cecil Frances Alexander (1848), music by Henry J. Gauntlett (1849)*

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above,  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.*

*Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned, at his feet shall lay them down.*

Concluding Prayer

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

**People:** *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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

**Leader:** Who 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.  
He will again have compassion on us;  
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.  
You will cast all our sins  
into the depths of the sea.  
You will show faithfulness to Jacob  
and steadfast love to Abraham,  
as you have sworn to our fathers  
from the days of old.

—Micah 7.18-20

**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 7.10-16

[10] Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: [11] “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” [12] But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” [13] And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? [14] Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. [15] He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. [16] For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted.

Hymn of Worship | What Child Is This

Words by W. Chatterton Dix

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through:  
The cross be borne for me, for you:  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
The Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings here lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the son of Mary.

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.*

Psalm | Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19

**Leader:** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
**People:** You who lead Joseph like a flock.  
**Leader:** You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.  
**People:** Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,  
**Leader:** Stir up your might and come to save us!

**People:** Restore us, O God;  
**Leader:** Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**People:** O LORD God of hosts,  
**Leader:** How long will you be angry with your people’s prayers?  
**People:** You have fed them with the bread of tears  
**Leader:** And given them tears to drink in full measure.  
**People:** You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,  
**Leader:** And our enemies laugh among themselves.

**People:** Restore us, O God of hosts;  
**Leader:** Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**People:** But let your hand be on the man of your right hand,  
**Leader:** The son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!  
**People:** Then we shall not turn back from you;  
**Leader:** Give us life, and we will call upon your name!

**People:** Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!  
**Leader:** Let your face shine,  
**People:** That we may be saved!

—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 | 1 Corinthians 11.23–34 and Luke 1.39–45**

[23] For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” [25] In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” [26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

[27] Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. [28] Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. [29] For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. [30] That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. [31] But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. [32] But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

[33] So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another—[34] if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment. About the other things I will give directions when I come.

[39] In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, [40] and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. [41] And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, [42] and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! [43] And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? [44] For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. [45] And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”