



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

Ben Wheeler, Pastor 903-805-1809, ben@redeemertyler.com
John Orbaugh, Ruling Elder 903-780-6212, john.orbaugh@suddenlink.net
Robert Hale, Ruling Elder 305-562-5502, robert_hale@wycliffe.org
Kent Travis, Ruling Elder 903-504-9255, mkenttravis@gmail.com
Redeemer Presbyterian Church, PCA

P.O. Box 132191
Tyler, TX 75713
Office: 121 South Broadway, Suite 728
www.redeemertyler.com



Fourth Sunday of Advent:
December 22, 2024

*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.

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 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 candlelight Christmas Eve service at 5:30 pm on the 24th. Hope to see you there!

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 the Minor Prophets. 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: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: *Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!*

Leader: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he,

People: *Humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

—Zechariah 9.9

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)

Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. (Isaiah 58:8)

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

Opening Hymn | O Come, All Ye Faithful

By John Francis Wade (1751)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

—continued—

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
“Glory to God, all glory in the highest!”*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;*

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 | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Words by Charles Wesley (1739); Music by Felix Mendelssohn (1840)

*Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.*

One More Hymn and the Offering | Joy to the World
Words by Isaac Watts, 1719, Music by Lowell Mason, 1848

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!*

*Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love!*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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 | Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning

Words by Reginald Heber (1811), music by William Walker (1820)

*Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

*Hail the blest morn, see the great mediator, Down from the regions of glory descend.
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger, Lo, for His guard the bright angels attend*

*Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch, and Saviour of all.*

*Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion, Odors of Edom and off’rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, Myrrh from the forests or gold from the mine?*

*Vainly we offer each ample oblation, Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration, Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.*

*Low at his feet we in humble prostration, Lose all our sorrow and trouble and strife;
There we receive his divine consolation, Flowing afresh from the fountain of life.*

*He is our friend in the midst of temptation, Faithful supporter, whose love cannot fail;
Rock of our refuge, and hope of salvation, Light to direct us through death’s gloomy vail.*

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: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

—Luke 1.76-79

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 | Micah 5.2-5a

[2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.
[3] Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.
[4] And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.
[5] And he shall be their peace.

Hymn of Worship | Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Medieval Latin carol, German melody, 14th century

Good Christian men, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

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 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, 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.*

The Psalm | Psalm 80.1-7

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,
People: That we may be saved!

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

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts;
People: Let your face shine, 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. John Gordy

Sermon Text | Matthew 18:21–35

[21] Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” [22] Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

[23] “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. [24] When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. [25] And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. [26] So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ [27] And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. [28] But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ [29] So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ [30] He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. [31] When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. [32] Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. [33] And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ [34] And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. [35] So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”