



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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*Second Sunday of Advent:  
December 7, 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: global and local missions

- Monday  
Richey and Keli Goodrich (India): for Richey’s preaching and teaching; for all paperwork and citizenship issues to be worked out so they can return to the field; for the Spirit to draw to Christ many of the unreached Jat people living in India— only 0.02% of these 9 million people are Christian.
- Tuesday  
Robert and Debbie Hale: translation work in French-speaking Africa.
- Wednesday  
Nate Hill, John Tyler High School Young Life; Mentoring Alliance (includes Mentoring Alliance Summer Camps, Mentoring Alliance After School, & Mentor Connect)
- Thursday  
Rev. Robbie Mills, currently serving with the MTW Western Hub (helping Texas churches with cross-cultural mission), as well as with Third Millennium Ministries (providing free Bible curriculum to immigrant churches and leaders).
- Friday  
Promise Academy’s financial and prayer support; Highway 80 Rescue Mission; PATH; Crisis Pregnancy Center.
- Saturday  
Pray that unity will grow among the churches in our city so we may care for people, evangelize, and make disciples.

# Announcements

## 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@redeemert Tyler.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:** I waited patiently for the LORD;  
**People:** *He inclined to me and heard my cry.*  
**Leader:** He drew me up from the pit of destruction,  
**People:** *Out of the miry bog,*  
**Leader:** And set my feet upon a rock,  
**People:** *Making my steps secure.*  
**Leader:** He put a new song in my mouth,  
**People:** *A song of praise to our God.*  
**Leader:** Many will see and fear,  
**People:** *And put their trust in the LORD.*

—Psalm 40.1-3

## 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

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

## Opening Hymn | It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

*Words by Edmund H. Sears (1849); Music by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1874)*

*It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven’s all-gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heavenly music floats O’er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains, They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o’er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.*

—continued—

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow,  
Look now, for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing.  
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, By prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years Shall come the time foretold  
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song Which now the angels sing!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Leader:** Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and 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 | God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

English carol, 18th century

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born the son of God by name.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;  
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's pow'r and might."

—continued—

One More Hymn and the Offering | Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come

Words and Music by Jered McKenna (2013)

Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of God is on you.  
Arise, see, when the earth grows dark that the Lord will arise upon you.  
The Lord will arise upon you!

Nations will come to your light, lift up your eyes and see.  
We'll gather together and come to you,  
And your love will be all that we know.  
Your love will be all that we know.

Arise, come, to the open gates for the Father is welcoming you.  
Fear not, for the Lord brings peace and redemption to all who believe,  
Redemption to all who believe.

The sun will not shine cause you'll be all the light that we need,  
and violence will end, all the wars that we wage will cease.  
The sun will not shine cause you'll be all the light that we need,  
and violence will end, all the wars that we wage will cease.

We will glorify your name,  
We will glorify your name!

Benediction & Dismissal

**Leader:** May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

—2 Peter 1.2

**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

*The shepherds at these tidings, rejoiced in heart and mind,  
And on the darkened hillside they left their flocks behind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway this holy child to find:*

*And when to Bethlehem they came where Christ the infant lay;  
they found him in a manger where oxen fed on hay,  
and there beside her newborn child his mother knelt to pray:*

*Now to the Lord sing praises, all people in this place!  
With Christian love and fellowship each other now embrace,  
and let this Christmas festival all bitterness displace:*

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:** Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.  
He keeps all his bones;  
not one of them is broken.  
Affliction will slay the wicked,  
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.  
The LORD redeems the life of his servants;  
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

—Psalm 34.19-22

**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 11.1-10

- [1] There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

[2] And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

[3] And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

[4] but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

[5] Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
- [6] The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

[7] The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

[8] The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den.

[9] They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.
- [10] In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall  
the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Hymn of Worship | I Wonder As I Wander

Traditional Appalachian carol

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky  
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die  
For poor on’ry people like you and like I;  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky*

*When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall  
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all  
But high from God's heaven, a star's light did fall  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.*  
—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, 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.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing  
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing  
Or all of God’s angels in heaven to sing  
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

I wonder as I wander out under the sky  
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die  
For poor on’ry people like you and like I;  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky

Psalm | Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19

**Leader:** Give the king your justice, O God,  
**People:** And your righteousness to the royal son!  
**Leader:** May he judge your people with righteousness,  
**People:** And your poor with justice!  
**Leader:** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
**People:** And the hills, in righteousness!  
**Leader:** May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
**People:** Give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
**Leader:** And crush the oppressor!

**People:** May they fear you while the sun endures,  
**Leader:** And as long as the moon, throughout all generations!  
**People:** May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
**Leader:** Like showers that water the earth!  
**People:** In his days may the righteous flourish,  
**Leader:** And peace abound, till the moon be no more!  
**People:** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
**Leader:** Who alone does wondrous things.  
**People:** Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
**Leader:** May the whole earth be filled with his glory!  
**People:** Amen and Amen!

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

Sermon Text | 1 Corinthians 11.17-26 and Luke 1.34-38

[17] But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. [18] For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part, [19] for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. [20] When you come together, it is not the Lord’s supper that you eat. [21] For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. [22] What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.

[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.

[34] And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

[35] And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. [36] And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. [37] For nothing will be impossible with God.” [38] And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.