



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 8, 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 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

Men’s Pub Night:

Join us at True Vine (2453 Earl Campbell Pkwy) on Wednesday, December 11 at 7:00 pm. Bring a friend.

Women’s Ornament Exchange:

Join us for our annual women's ornament exchange on Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 pm at Patti Babin’s home (321 Wilder Way, Tyler). Bring a wrapped ornament to exchange and a snack to share! Please RSVP to Patti (361-215-0065)

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: 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.*

—Psalm 29:1-2

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)

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!*

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 | 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 | Angels We Have Heard on High

By Derric Johnson. Copyright Word Music

*Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains*

*Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly, sweetly through the night
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brief delight*

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?*

*Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: Our soul waits for the LORD;
 he is our help and our shield.
For our heart is glad in him,
 because we trust in his holy name.
Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,
 even as we hope in you.

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 | Is He Worthy?
Lyrics @Junkbox Music, Capitol Cmg Genesis, Vamos Publishing

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do) Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
But do you know that all the dark won't Stop the light from getting through? (We do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)
Is all creation groaning? (It is) Is a new creation coming? (It is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He was David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this? He is

Does the Father truly love us? (He does) Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From every people and tribe Every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God To reign with the Son

He is! Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
He is! He is!

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: One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

—Psalm 27.4-5

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 | Malachi 3.1-4

[1] “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. [2] But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. [3] He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. [4] Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Hymn of Worship | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Words by John Mason Neale, 1851

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.*

*(Refrain)
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death’s dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)*

*O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go. (Refrain)*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven’s peace! (Refrain)*

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.*

Responsive Reading | Luke 1.68-79 (The Song of Zechariah)

Leader: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
People: *For he has visited and redeemed his people*
Leader: And has raised up a horn of salvation for us
People: *In the house of his servant David,*
Leader: As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
People: *That we should be saved from our enemies*
Leader: And from the hand of all who hate us;
People: *To show the mercy promised to our fathers*
Leader: And to remember his holy covenant,
People: *The oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us*
Leader: That we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
People: *Might serve him without fear,*
Leader: In holiness and righteousness before him all our days.
People: *And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;*
Leader: For you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
People: *To give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins,*
Leader: Because of the tender mercy of our God,
People: *Whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high*
Leader: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
People: *To guide our feet into the way of peace.”*

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

Sermon Text | Revelation 7-8.1

[1] After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree. [2] Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, [3] saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” [4] And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

[5] 12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,
12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
[6] 12,000 from the tribe of Asher,
12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,
12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,
[7] 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,
12,000 from the tribe of Levi,
12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
[8] 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,
12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

[9] After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, [10] and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” [11] And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, [12] saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

[13] Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” [14] I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

[15] “Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

[16] They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;

the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.
[17] For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

[8.1] When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

Sermon Notes