



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2020

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.

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Greeting and Call To Worship

Leader: Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

People: *For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.*

Leader: Thankful is the song we sing!

People: *For this day moves us past darkness and despair.*

Leader: Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

People: *For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.*

Leader: Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

People: *Christ lives here and now. He is among us at this and every moment!*

Leader: May his peace and presence be known to you.

People: *And also to you.*

—based on Matthew 18:20

Opening Hymn | Arise My Soul, Arise

Words by John Newton (1742), Music by Kevin Twit (1996)

*Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears; the bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears;
Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.*

*Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise
Arise, my soul, arise.
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise
Arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise*

*He ever lives above, for me to intercede; His all redeeming love, His precious blood, to plead;
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.*

*Five bleeding wounds He bears; received on Calvary; they pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,*

"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

*The Father hears Him pray, His dear anointed One; He cannot turn away the presence of His Son;
The Spirit answers to the blood, the Spirit answers to the blood
And tells me I am born of God.*

*My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear; He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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 | O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

Words by Charles Wesley (1739), music by Carl Glaser (1784-1829)

*O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.*

*Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.*

*He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.*

*He speaks and, list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.*

*Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We overlook the poor and the hungry
and pass by those who mourn;*

*we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak
and abuse the earth you made.
Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: When you were dead in trespasses,
God made you alive together with him,
when he forgave us all our trespasses,
erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands.
He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.
He disarmed the rulers and authorities
and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—from Colossians 2.13-15

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.

New Testament Reading | 1 Peter 2.2-10

[2] Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—[3] if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

[4] As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, [5] you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. [6] For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

[7] So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

[8] and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

[9] But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. [10] Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hymn of Worship | Abide With Me

Words by Henry Lyte, 1847; Music by Justin Smith

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, abide with me.*

*I need Thy presence every passing hour. What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness;
Where is thy sting, death? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, Lord, abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes, shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee. In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.*

Psalm | Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16

Leader: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;

People: *Let me never be put to shame;*

Leader: In your righteousness deliver me!

People: *Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily!*

Leader: Be a rock of refuge for me,

People: *A strong fortress to save me!*

Leader: For you are my rock and my fortress;

People: *And for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;*

Leader: You take me out of the net they have hidden for me,

People: *For you are my refuge.*

Leader: Into your hand I commit my spirit;

People: *You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.*

Leader: My times are in your hand;

People: *Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!*

Leader: Make your face shine on your servant;

People: *Save me in your steadfast love!*

Ministry of the Word | The True Path to Life

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | John 14.1-14

[1] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. [4] And you know the way to where I am going." [5] Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" [6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

[8] Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." [9] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. [11] Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

[12] "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. [13] Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

*By his resurrection he has overcome death
so that he might make us share in the righteousness
he won for us by his death.
By his power we too are already now resurrected to a new life.
Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.*

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A45

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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Holy Communion

(For those watching at home, I encourage you to take this time to watch and pray with us. Remember this all along: Jesus is not more present with us who are gathered than he is with you at home! The Lord's Supper is a sign and seal of his blessing to us, and a great gift, but it does not mean you are missing out on his presence or his blessing. We all participate by faith in Christ whether physically receiving the Supper or not.)

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

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

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

One More Hymn and the Offering | Pearly Gates

Words by Fredrick A. Blom (1917), Music by Clint Wells and Brian T. Murphy (2004)

*Love divine so great and wondrous,
Deep and mighty, pure, sublime,
Coming from the heart of Jesus.
Just the same through tests of time!*

*He the pearly gates will open,
So that I may enter in;
For he purchased my redemption
And forgave me all my sin.*

*Like a dove when hunted, frightened,
As a wounded fawn was I;
Brokenhearted, yet He healed me.
He will heed the sinner's cry.*

*Love divine so great and wondrous!
All my sins he then forgave!
I will sing his praise forever,
For His blood, His power to save.*

*In life's eventide, at twilight,
At His door I'll knock and wait;
By the precious love of Jesus,
I shall enter heaven's gate.*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: Go forth in joy to love and serve God in all that you do.

People: *We are sent in the name of the risen Christ.*

Leader: Let us bless our Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia!*

CCLI # 11299454

Announcements

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.

Monthly Youth Meeting:

All junior high and high school students are invited to join us on the third Sunday of the month for a time of fellowship, dinner, and Bible Study.

Bible and Book Studies:

- Men's study meets over breakfast, 7:00 am on Fridays. Contact Konrad Kern (714-658-4972).
- Women's Bible study meets 11:00 am on Friday mornings. They will begin Galatians on May 15th.
- Women's book study is reading one book per month and then discussing it on first Fridays in place of the weekly Bible study. They will be discussing *When Helping Hurts* by Fikkert and Corbett on June 5th. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information on either of these women's groups.

Alpha Meals

Our second round of Alpha is wrapping up on May 19th, and it has been a great class! If you wish to bring a meal for our last meeting, please email Ben.

Prayer Suggestions:

Topic of the Week: our church and mission

- 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 authentic community, healthy small groups, deep friendships.
- Wednesday
That we would grow in prayer; for God to bless our corporate worship.
- 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
Passion for ministry; Sabbath rest; discernment.
- Saturday
Perspective, faith, contentment.