



## The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

*The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

August 23, 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.*

### Opening Prayer

#### Greeting and Call To Worship

**Leader:** Sing to the LORD a new song;

**People:** *Sing to the LORD, all the earth.*

**Leader:** Sing to the LORD, praise his name;

**People:** *Proclaim his salvation day after day.*

— Psalm 96.1-2

#### Opening Hymn | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Words by Henry Van Dyke, 1907; Music by Ludwig Van Beethoven, 1824

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.*

## Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Leader:** Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**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 | O God Beyond All Praising

Words by Michael Perry (1982), music by Gustav Holst (1918)

*O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
At blessings without number and mercies without end:  
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*

*Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.*

## Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

**People:** *Gracious God,  
our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide,  
and too deep to undo.  
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us  
a consuming fire of judgment.  
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace  
to grow more and more in your likeness and image;  
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

**Leader:** The LORD is faithful in all his words,  
and gracious in all his deeds.  
The LORD upholds all who are falling,  
and raises up all who are bowed down.

**People:** *Thanks be to God!*

—Psalm 145.13-14

## **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 | Romans 12.1-8**

[1] I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. [2] Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

[3] For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. [4] For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, [5] so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. [6] Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; [7] if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; [8] the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

## **Hymn of Worship | Take My Life, and Let It Be**

*Words by Francis Ridley Havergal (1874), music by Henri Malan (1787)*

*Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise,  
Let them flow in endless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
Swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be, filled with messages from thee,  
Filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use, every power as thou shalt choose,  
Every power as thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.  
It shall be thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour, at thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
Ever, only, all for thee.*

## **Psalm | Psalm 124**

**Leader:** If it had not been the LORD who was on our side— let Israel now say—

**People:** *If it had not been the LORD who was on our side when people rose up against us,*

**Leader:** Then they would have swallowed us up alive,

**People:** *When their anger was kindled against us;*

**Leader:** Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;

**People:** *Then over us would have gone the raging waters.*

**Leader:** Blessed be the LORD,

**People:** *Who has not given us as prey to their teeth!*

**Leader:** We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;

**People:** *The snare is broken, and we have escaped!*

**Leader:** Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**People:** *Who made heaven and earth.*

## **Ministry of the Word | The Door is Opening**

**Rev. Benjamin Wheeler**

### **Sermon Text | Exodus 9**

[1] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. [2] For if you refuse to let them go and still hold them, [3] behold, the hand of the LORD will fall with a very severe plague upon your livestock that are in the field, the horses, the donkeys, the camels, the herds, and the flocks. [4] But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt, so that nothing of all that belongs to the people of Israel shall die.'" [5] And the LORD set a time, saying, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this thing in the land." [6] And the next day the LORD did this thing. All the livestock of the Egyptians died, but not one of the livestock of the people of Israel died. [7] And Pharaoh sent, and behold, not one of the livestock of Israel was dead. But the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.

[8] And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the kiln, and let Moses throw them in the air in the sight of Pharaoh. [9] It shall become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and become boils breaking out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt." [10] So they took soot from the kiln and stood before Pharaoh. And Moses threw it in the air, and it became boils breaking out in sores on man and beast. [11] And the magicians could not stand before Moses

because of the boils, for the boils came upon the magicians and upon all the Egyptians. [12] But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

[13] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. [14] For this time I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth. [15] For by now I could have put out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth. [16] But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth. [17] You are still exalting yourself against my people and will not let them go. [18] Behold, about this time tomorrow I will cause very heavy hail to fall, such as never has been in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. [19] Now therefore send, get your livestock and all that you have in the field into safe shelter, for every man and beast that is in the field and is not brought home will die when the hail falls on them.'" [20] Then whoever feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh hurried his slaves and his livestock into the houses, [21] but whoever did not pay attention to the word of the LORD left his slaves and his livestock in the field.

[22] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, so that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man and beast and every plant of the field, in the land of Egypt." [23] Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt. [24] There was hail and fire flashing continually in the midst of the hail, very heavy hail, such as had never been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. [25] The hail struck down everything that was in the field in all the land of Egypt, both man and beast. And the hail struck down every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field. [26] Only in the land of Goshen, where the people of Israel were, was there no hail.

[27] Then Pharaoh sent and called Moses and Aaron and said to them, "This time I have sinned; the LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. [28] Plead with the LORD, for there has been enough of God's thunder and hail. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer." [29] Moses said to him, "As soon as I have gone out of the city, I will stretch out my hands to the LORD. The thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail, so that you may know that the earth is the LORD's. [30] But as for you and your servants, I know that you do not yet fear the LORD God." [31] (The flax and the barley were struck down, for the barley was in the ear and the flax was in bud. [32] But the wheat and the emmer were not struck down, for they are late in coming up.) [33] So Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh and stretched out his hands to the LORD, and the thunder and the hail ceased, and the rain no longer poured upon the earth. [34] But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart, he and his servants. [35] So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people of Israel go, just as the LORD had spoken through Moses.

## **Sermon Notes**

### **Confession of Faith**

*Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation;  
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,  
things visible and invisible.  
All things have been created through him and for him.  
He himself is before all things,*

*and in him all things hold together.  
He is the head of the body, the church;  
he is the beginning,  
the firstborn from the dead,  
so that he might come to have first place in everything.  
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven,  
by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

—from Colossians 1.15-20

### **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.*

*This is a great time for parents to go pick up their children for communion.*

### **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 | We Will Feast in the House of Zion**

*Words and Music by Sandra McCracken, 2015*

*We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things, we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more!*

*We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the LORD our God  
We are not consumed, by the flood  
Upheld, protected, gathered up.*

*In the dark of night, before the dawn  
My soul, be not afraid  
For the promised morning, oh how long?  
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength.*

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the Faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together, bring shalom.*

## **Concluding Prayer**

## One More Hymn and the Offering | My Jesus, I Love Thee

Words by William Featherstone (1864), Music by Adoniram Gordon (1880)

*My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;  
For thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

*I love thee because thou hast first loved me  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

*I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,  
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,  
And say when the deathdew lies cold on my brow:  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

*In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:  
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

### Benediction & Dismissal

**Leader:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with all of you.

**People:** Amen!

—2 Corinthians 13:13

## Announcements

### Alpha:

Now is the time to begin inviting guests for our fall Alpha session! Also, we are looking for someone to host these weekly meetings for the fall. Are you interested in being a part of Christ's mission?? Contact Ben to learn more.

### Redeemer Membership Class:

Want to learn more about Redeemer, what it means to be presbyterian, and our mission in Tyler? Then make plans to attend our 4 week membership class beginning September 13th. We will meet on Sunday



mornings at 9:15. RSVP to Ben if interested. You don't have to be joining to attend, but attending is a requirement for joining.

### **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).
- Beginning August 21, the Women's book study will be reading *Renovation of the Heart* (Dallas Willard) and discussing it each Friday morning. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

### **Prayer Suggestions:**

Topic: needs of our city.

- Monday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in our schools.
- Tuesday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in city, state, and local government, and justice systems.
- Wednesday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in local law enforcement, emergency response personnel, and hospitals.
- Thursday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically amongst our immigrant, economically disadvantaged, and minority populations. (See Deuteronomy 10:17-19.)
- Friday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically for a unity within our churches and between our churches in the cause of Christ.
- Saturday  
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically that the gospel would be proclaimed throughout our city's churches.

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