



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 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: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

People: *Serve the LORD with gladness!*

Come into his presence with singing!

Leader: Know that the LORD, he is God.

It is he who made us, we are his;

People: *We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

People: *For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

— Psalm 100

Opening Hymn | I Will Sing of My Redeemer

Words by Philip Bliss (1876), music by Luke Morton (2005)

*I will sing of my Redeemer, and his wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.*

*Sing, O sing, of my Redeemer! With his blood, he purchased me.
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.*

*I will sing of my Redeemer, his triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory he giveth over sin, and death and hell.*

*I will sing of my Redeemer, and his heav'nly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me, Son of God with him to be.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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: *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 | Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners!

Words by J. Wilbur Chapman, 1910; music by Rowland Pritchard, 1855

*Jesus! what a friend for sinners! Jesus! lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.*

(Refrain)

*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

*Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.*

*Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.*

*Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'ertakes me, He, my pilot, hears my cry.*

*Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find,
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world.*

Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world.

The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us.

Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—Psalm 147.2-3,5

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 12.9-21

[9] Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. [10] Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. [11] Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. [12] Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. [13] Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

[14] Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. [15] Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. [16] Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. [17] Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. [18] If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. [19] Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." [20] To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." [21] Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hymn of Worship | God Be Merciful to Me (Psalm 51)

Words by Scottish psalter, music by Christopher Miner (1997)

*God, be merciful to me; On Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou, Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within; Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.*

*My transgressions I confess; Grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace, And provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgement just; Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.*

*I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, Teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, Wash me whiter than the snow.*

Broken, humbled to the dust, By Thy wrath and judgment just,

*Let my contrite heart rejoice, And in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face, Blot them out in boundless grace.*

*Gracious God, my heart renew, Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee, Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, Steadfast make my willing heart.*

*Sinners then shall learn from me, And return, O God, to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove, And my tongue shall sing Thy love
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, And my mouth shall praise accord.*

Psalm | Psalm 105.1-6, 23-26, 45c

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

People: *Make known his deeds among the peoples!*

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

People: *Tell of all his wondrous works!*

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

People: *Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

Leader: Seek the LORD and his strength;

People: *Seek his presence continually!*

Leader: Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

People: *His miracles, and the judgments he uttered,*

Leader: O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

People: *Children of Jacob, his chosen ones!*

Leader: Then Israel came to Egypt;

People: *Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.*

Leader: And the LORD made his people very fruitful

People: *And made them stronger than their foes.*

Leader: He turned their hearts to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.

People: *Praise the LORD!*

Sermon Text | Exodus 10

[1] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may show these signs of mine among them, [2] and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and of your grandson how I have dealt harshly with the Egyptians and what signs I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."

[3] So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before me? Let my people go, that they may serve me. [4] For if you refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your country, [5] and they shall cover the face of the land, so that no one can see the land. And they shall eat what is left to you after the hail, and they shall eat every tree of yours that grows in the field, [6] and they shall fill your houses and the houses of all your servants and of all the Egyptians, as neither your fathers nor your grandfathers have seen, from the day they came on earth to this day.'" Then he turned and went out from Pharaoh.

[7] Then Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God. Do you not yet understand that Egypt is ruined?" [8] So Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh. And he said to them, "Go, serve the LORD your God. But which ones are to go?" [9] Moses said, "We will go with our young and our old. We will go with our sons and daughters and with our flocks and herds, for we must hold a feast to the LORD." [10] But he said to them, "The LORD be with you, if ever I let you and your little ones go! Look, you have some evil purpose in mind. [11] No! Go, the men among you, and serve the LORD, for that is what you are asking." And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

[12] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, so that they may come upon the land of Egypt and eat every plant in the land, all that the hail has left." [13] So Moses stretched out his staff over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day and all that night. When it was morning, the east wind had brought the locusts. [14] The locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled on the whole country of Egypt, such a dense swarm of locusts as had never been before, nor ever will be again. [15] They covered the face of the whole land, so that the land was darkened, and they ate all the plants in the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Not a green thing remained, neither tree nor plant of the field, through all the land of Egypt. [16] Then Pharaoh hastily called Moses and Aaron and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. [17] Now therefore, forgive my sin, please, only this once, and plead with the LORD your God only to remove this death from me." [18] So he went out from Pharaoh and pleaded with the LORD. [19] And the LORD turned the wind into a very strong west wind, which lifted the locusts and drove them into the Red Sea. Not a single locust was left in all the country of Egypt. [20] But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go.

[21] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness to be felt." [22] So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was pitch darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. [23] They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the people of Israel had light where they lived. [24] Then Pharaoh called Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; your little ones also may go with you; only let your flocks and your herds remain behind." [25] But Moses said, "You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God. [26] Our livestock also must go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind, for we must take of them to serve the LORD our God, and we do not know with what we must serve the LORD until we arrive there." [27] But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. [28] Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away

from me; take care never to see my face again, for on the day you see my face you shall die." [29]
Moses said, "As you say! I will not see your face again."

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.

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 | Narrow Little Road

Words and music by Mo Leverett (1995)

*I believe in the love of God
It is an orphan's wildest dream
It is a narrow little road
It is an ever-widening desert stream*

*Oh I, and I
I will leave this road
For the narrow*

*It is portrayed in the bread and wine
Let it fortify my bones
It is more than just a sign
It is the fountain from that desert stone*

*It is the path where the humble go
It is the narrow not the broad
It is the pathway down the hill
To the graveyard of the living God*

*The love of God is the hymn of hope
Let the needy join the throng
Let the widow hear and cope
Let the crippled rise to sing this song*

Concluding Prayer

One More Hymn and the Offering | O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

Words by George Matheson, 1882, Music by Christopher Miner, 1997

*O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O Light that foll'west all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be. Life that shall endless be!*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us,
and the love of God, which enables us to love all,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body,
make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen!

—based on 2 Corinthians 13:13

Announcements

Alpha:

Alpha begins with prayer. Please [join us in praying](#) for God to bless our fall Alpha class. Pray for God to bring guests and to bless our fellowship, learning, and discussion. It begins on Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30.

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 four 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@redeemert Tyler.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).
- The women's book study is reading *Renovation of the Heart* (Dallas Willard) and discussing it each Friday morning. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

Prayer Suggestions:

Topic: 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.

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