

The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 7, 2021

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: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.
People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.
Leader: We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.
People: We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.
Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
People: Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.

-based on Psalm 27; John 4.23

Opening Hymn | We Come, O Christ, to You

Words by E. Margaret Clarkson, 1957; music by John Darwall, 1770

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man, By whom all things consist, in whom all life began. In you alone we live and move and have our being in your love.

You are the way to God, your blood our ransom paid; In you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid. Before the throne absolved we stand; your love has met your law's demand.

You are the living truth; all wisdom dwells in you, The source of every skill, the one eternal True! O great I AM In you we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true life; to know you is to live The more abundant life that earth can never give. O risen Lord! we live in you: in us each day your life renew!

We worship you, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King; To you our youth and strength adoringly we bring: So fill our hearts that all may view your life in us and turn to you!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Words by Samuel Trevor Francis; Music by Thomas John Williams, 1890

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free; Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me. Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love; Leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore; How he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore; How he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own; How for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best: Tis an ocean vast of blessing, tis a haven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me; And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: Merciful God,

you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.

Gospel Reading | Mark 1.29-39

[29] And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. [30] Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. [31] And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

[32] That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. [33] And the whole city was gathered together at the door. [34] And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

[35] And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. [36] And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, [37] and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." [38] And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." [39] And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Hymn of Worship |10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Words and music by Matt Redman, 2012

(Chorus) Bless the Lord, oh my soul, oh my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, oh my soul, I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning; it's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger. Your name is great, and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come; Still my soul will sing Your praise unending: ten thousand years and then forevermore!

Psalm |Psalm 147.1-12, 21c

Leader: Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God; **People:** For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. Leader: The LORD builds up Jerusalem; **People:** He aathers the outcasts of Israel. Leader: He heals the brokenhearted **People:** And binds up their wounds. Leader: He determines the number of the stars; **People:** He gives to all of them their names. Leader: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; **People:** His understanding is beyond measure. Leader: The LORD lifts up the humble; **People:** He casts the wicked to the ground. Leader: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; **People:** Make melody to our God on the lyre! Leader: He covers the heavens with clouds; **People:** He prepares rain for the earth; Leader: He makes grass grow on the hills. **People:** He gives to the beasts their food, Leader: And to the young ravens that cry. **People:** His delight is not in the strength of the horse, Leader: Nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, **People:** But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, Leader: In those who hope in his steadfast love. **People:** Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Leader: Praise your God, O Zion! **People:** Praise the LORD!

Ministry of the Word | "By this we know love..."

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 20:17 and 1 John 3.16-24

[17] "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

[16] By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. [17] But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? [18] Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

[19] By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; [20] for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. [21] Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; [22] and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. [23] And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. [24] Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

-from Romans 8.1, 28, 38-39

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 | Heal Us, Emmanuel

Words by William Cowper (alt Twit), Music by Kevin Twit and Lucas Morton (2015)

Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are; We long to feel Thy touch; Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly, O Savior hear our cry.

Our faith is feeble, we confess, We faintly trust Thy word; But will You pity us the less? Be that far from You Lord!

Remember him who once applied With trembling for relief; "Lord, I believe," with tears he cried; "O help my unbelief!"

She, too, who touched you in the press And healing virtue stole, Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace: Thy faith has made thee whole."

Like her, with hopes and fears we come To touch You if we may; O send us not despairing home; Send none unhealed away.

Concluding Prayer

One More Hymn and the Offering | This is My Father's World

By Maltie D. Babcock, 1901

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas -- His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise,

The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world! O let me ne'er forget That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: The peace of God,

which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always.

People: Amen!

-based on Philippians 4:7

CCLI # 11299454

Announcements

Church Ministry Opportunities:

- Alpha will begin again on Tuesday, February 16th! We will meet at 6:30 pm at 2820 Oak Knob.
- Alpha begins with prayer. Please be in prayer about who you can invite to Alpha, that people will respond favorably to the invitations, and that God will be at work in Alpha. Pray we will see the opportunities before us.
- If you want to be involved, we need people to bring food each week. A link to the sign up sheet is in the Redeemer Weekly email.
- If you plan to attend, or have a guest you have invited, please let Ben know! We want to have plenty of food available.

Ash Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday is February 17th. We will gather here at 6:00 pm for a service of worship and repentance as we mark the beginning of Lent.

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. They are studying the gospel of Luke. Contact Konrad Kern (714-658-4972).
- The women's group is studying the gospel of Matthew on Friday mornings. Contact Patti Babin (361-215-0065) for information.

Prayer Suggestions:

Topic: our pastor and elders (Ben, Robert, John, & JB):

- <u>Monday</u>
 - Spiritual health and protection, relationships with spouse and children
- <u>Tuesday</u>
 Integrity, emotional strength, communication skill
- <u>Wednesday</u> Faith, finances, friendships
- <u>Thursday</u>
 - For their spouses (Rachel, Debbie, Brenda, & Allison), vision, and unity
- <u>Friday</u>
 - Passion for ministry, Sabbath rest, discernment
- <u>Saturday</u>
 Perspective, faith, contentment.