



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 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, who has done great things.

People: *We rejoice in our God, who made a way
through the desert of this world.*

Leader: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy
to flow in the wasteland.

People: *We are the people God has formed through Christ;
we worship him, and we rejoice!*

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: *We praise God for the grace that has saved us.
Alleluia! We rejoice!*

—based on Isaiah 43.19-21

Opening Hymn | Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Wretched

Words by Joseph Hart, 1759; music by Matthew S. Smith, 2000

*Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, full of pity, joined with power.
He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.*

*Come ye needy, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money come to Jesus Christ and buy.*

*Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall;
If you tarry 'til you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.*

*Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requires is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you, 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.*

*Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 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: *Most merciful God*

*whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way, yet was without sin,
we confess before you our own sinfulness;
we have hungered after that which does not satisfy;
we have compromised with evil;
we have doubted your power to protect us.
Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness.
Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in
doing your will. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,

I will rescue them and honor them
and show them my salvation.
Receive the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—based on Psalm 91.14-15

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.

Gospel Reading | Mark 1.9-15

[9] In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. [10] And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. [11] And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

[12] The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. [13] And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

[14] Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, [15] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Hymn of Worship | Jesus, Cast a Look on Me

Words by John Berridge (1716-1793), Music by Matthew Perryman Jones

*Jesus cast a look on me,
Give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low,
Seeking only Thee to know*

*All that feeds my busy pride,
Cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit,
Lay me humbly at Thy feet*

*Make me like a little child,
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in Thy light,
Walking only in Thy might*

*Leaning on Thy loving breast,
Where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God,
Flowing from His precious blood*

*In this posture let me live,
And hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die,
And hosannas ever cry!*

Psalm | Psalm 25.1-9

Leader: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

People: *O my God, in you I trust;*

Leader: Let me not be put to shame;

People: *Let not my enemies exult over me.*

Leader: Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

People: *They shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

People: *Teach me your paths.*

Leader: Lead me in your truth and teach me,

People: *For you are the God of my salvation;*

Leader: For you I wait all the day long.

People: *Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,*

Leader: For they have been from of old.

People: *Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;*

Leader: According to your steadfast love remember me,

People: *For the sake of your goodness, O LORD!*

Leader: Good and upright is the LORD;

People: *Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*

Leader: He leads the humble in what is right,

People: *And teaches the humble his way.*

Ministry of the Word | In Every Place

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 20.18–26

[18] Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off [19] and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” [20] Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.” [21] The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

[22] And the LORD said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: ‘You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven. [23] You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold. [24] An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you. [25] If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it. [26] And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.’

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

*During his whole life on earth,
but especially at the end,
Christ sustained
in body and soul
the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race.
This he did in order that,
by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice,
he might set us free, body and soul,
from eternal condemnation,
and gain for us God’s grace,
righteousness, and eternal life.*

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 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.*

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 God himself, the God of peace,
sanctify you through and through.
May your whole spirit, soul and body
be kept blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

People: *Amen!*

—1 Thessalonians 5:23

CCLI # 11299454

Announcements

Alpha:

Alpha will begin on Tuesday, February 23rd! 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.

A Service of Ashes:

We were unable to mark the beginning of Lent in the customary way on Ash Wednesday, but we still want to have a Service of Ashes to help us in our repentance. So this Wednesday, February 24, we will gather here at 6:00 pm for a service of worship and repentance.

Church Meeting:

On February 28 we will have a business meeting immediately after church to approve the slate of deacon candidates. Make plans to 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.

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: global and local missions

- Monday
Richey and Keli Goodrich (India): for Richey's preaching and teaching; for gospel awakening to occur among the 10 million unreached Ansari people of India.
- Tuesday
Robert and Debbie Hale: translation work in French-speaking Africa.
- Wednesday
Nate Hill, John Tyler High School Young Life; Mentoring Alliance (includes The Gospel Village, Rose City Summer Camps, and The Boys and Girls Club).
- Thursday
Rev. Robbie Mills, Pastor of New City Fellowship, a church working among immigrants in East Dallas. Rev. Jahaziel Cantu, Pastor of El Buen Pastor, a Hispanic church plant in Richardson. Rev. Caleb Dunn with Cristo Rey PCA, a Hispanic church in Dallas.
- Friday
Promise Academy's financial and prayer support; Highway 80 Rescue Mission and their work to build a residential facility here in Tyler; PATH, Crisis Pregnancy Center, other ministries in town.
- Saturday
Pray that unity will grow among the churches in our city so we may care for people, evangelize, and make disciples.