



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

Third Sunday of Lent

March 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,
for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.

People: *Listen, listen to me,
and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.*

Leader: We have come to hear the Word God has sent.

People: *God's Word will not return empty
but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.*

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

People: *Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills will sing;
the trees of the field will clap their hands.*

—based on Isaiah 55.2, 11-12; John 4.24

Opening Hymn | Before the Throne of God Above

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1860; Music by Vikki Cook, 1997

*Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest, whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

*When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look, and see Him there, who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me.*

*Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God
With Christ, my Savior and my God!*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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 | There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

Words by William Cowper (1771), music by Lowell Mason (1830)

*There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.*

*The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away:
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.*

*E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.*

*Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save,
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave:
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.*

*Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more:
Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *Everlasting God,
fountain of all life and the true home of every heart:
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Yet we confess that our hearts have been enslaved
by selfish passion and base desire.
We have sought after many things*

*and have neglected the one thing needful.
We have not loved you with our whole hearts;
help us to turn to you and find forgiveness.
Lead us home, that we may again find in you
our life and joy and peace. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Jesus said:

Come to me, all you that are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—from Matthew 11.28-30

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 | John 2.13-22

[13] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. [14] In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. [15] And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. [16] And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." [17] His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

[18] So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" [19] Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." [20] The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" [21] But he was speaking about the temple of his body. [22] When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Hymn of Worship | Help My Unbelief

Words: John Newton, 1725-1807. Chorus by Clint Wells. Music: Clint Wells, 2005.

*I know the Lord is nigh, And would but cannot pray,
For Satan meets me when I try, And frights my soul away.
And frights my soul away.*

*I would but can't repent,
Though I endeavor oft;*

*This stony heart can ne'er relent, Till Jesus makes it soft.
Till Jesus make it soft.*

*Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
Help my unbelief.
My help must come from Thee.*

*I would but cannot love,
Though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move, A soul as base as mine.
A soul so base as mine.*

*I would but cannot rest,
In God's most holy will;
I know what He appoints is best, And murmur at it still.
I murmur at it still.*

Psalm | Psalm 19

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God,
People: *And the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*
Leader: Day to day pours out speech,
People: *And night to night reveals knowledge.*
Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words,
People: *Whose voice is not heard.*
Leader: Their voice goes out through all the earth,
People: *And their words to the end of the world.*
Leader: In them he has set a tent for the sun,
People: *Which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,*
Leader: And, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
People: *Its rising is from the end of the heavens,*
Leader: And its circuit to the end of them,
People: *And there is nothing hidden from its heat.*
Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect,
People: *Reviving the soul;*
Leader: The testimony of the LORD is sure,
People: *Making wise the simple;*
Leader: The precepts of the LORD are right,
People: *Rejoicing the heart;*
Leader: The commandment of the LORD is pure,
People: *Enlightening the eyes;*
Leader: The fear of the LORD is clean,
People: *Enduring forever;*
Leader: The rules of the LORD are true,
People: *And righteous altogether.*
Leader: More to be desired are they than gold,
People: *Even much fine gold;*

Leader: Sweeter also than honey
People: *And drippings of the honeycomb.*
Leader: Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
People: *In keeping them there is great reward.*
Leader: Who can discern his errors?
People: *Declare me innocent from hidden faults.*
Leader: Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
People: *Let them not have dominion over me!*
Leader: Then I shall be blameless,
People: *And innocent of great transgression.*
Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
People: *Be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.*

Ministry of the Word | I Will

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 22:20–23.33

[20] “Whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the LORD alone, shall be devoted to destruction.
[21] “You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. [22] You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. [23] If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, [24] and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.
[25] “If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. [26] If ever you take your neighbor’s cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, [27] for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.
[28] “You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people.
[29] “You shall not delay to offer from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me. [30] You shall do the same with your oxen and with your sheep: seven days it shall be with its mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to me.
[31] “You shall be consecrated to me. Therefore you shall not eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs.
[23.1] “You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness. [2] You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice, [3] nor shall you be partial to a poor man in his lawsuit.
[4] “If you meet your enemy’s ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. [5] If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him.
[6] “You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit. [7] Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked. [8] And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the clear-sighted and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.
[9] “You shall not oppress a sojourner. You know the heart of a sojourner, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.
10] “For six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield, [11] but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow, that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave the beasts of the field may eat. You shall do likewise with your vineyard, and with your olive orchard.
[12] “Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your servant woman, and the alien, may be refreshed.

[13] "Pay attention to all that I have said to you, and make no mention of the names of other gods, nor let it be heard on your lips.

[14] "Three times in the year you shall keep a feast to me. [15] You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. As I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for seven days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. None shall appear before me empty-handed. [16] You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the firstfruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor. [17] Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord GOD.

[18] "You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened, or let the fat of my feast remain until the morning.

[19] "The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God. "You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

[20] "Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. [21] Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.

[22] "But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

[23] "When my angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, [24] you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. [25] You shall serve the LORD your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. [26] None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. [27] I will send my terror before you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. [28] And I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. [29] I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. [30] Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land. [31] And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. [32] You shall make no covenant with them and their gods. [33] They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."

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.*

—Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A37

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 | Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Words by Fanny J. Crosby (1868), music by William H. Doane (1870)

*Pass me not, O gentle Savior,
Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling,
Do not pass me by.*

*Savior, Savior,
Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling,
Do not pass me by.*

*Let me at Thy throne of mercy
Find a sweet relief;
Kneeling there in deep contrition,
Help my unbelief.*

*Trusting only in Thy merit,
Would I seek Thy face;
Heal my wounded, broken spirit,
Save me by Thy grace.*

Thou the spring of all my comfort,

*More than life to me,
Whom have I on earth beside Thee?
Whom in Heav'n but Thee?*

Concluding Prayer

One More Hymn and the Offering | 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.*

Benediction & Dismissal

Leader: May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father,
who loved us and by his grace
gave us eternal encouragement and good hope,
encourage your hearts and strengthen you
in every good deed and word.

People: *Amen!*

—2 Thessalonians 2.16-17

CCLI # 11299454

Announcements

Alpha:

Alpha meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at 2820 Oak Knob.

- *Alpha begins with prayer.* Please be in prayer about those who have been invited 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.

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):

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