



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 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: Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

People: *Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.*

Leader: Praise the LORD, you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

People: *Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,
you his servants who do his will.*

Leader: Praise the LORD, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.

People: *Praise the LORD, O my soul.*

—Psalm 103:1-2, 20-22

Opening Hymn | For the Beauty of the Earth

Words by Folliot Pierpoint, 1864; music by Conrad Kocher, 1838

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.*

*Christ, our Lord, to you we raise
This, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild.*

*For yourself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given,
Agent of God's grand design: peace on earth and joy in heaven.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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 | Thy Mercy My God

Words by John Stocker (1776), music by Sandra McCracken (2001)

*Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart. and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.*

*Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.*

*Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.*

*Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *O gracious and gentle and condescending God,
God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort:
we confess before you the evil of our hearts;
we acknowledge that we are too inclined
toward anger, jealousy, and revenge,
to ambition and pride,
which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings
between others and us.
Too often have we thus both offended and grieved you,
O long-suffering Father.
Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing
you have promised the peacemakers,
who shall be called the children of God.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—Isaiah 1.18

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 13.8-14

[8] Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

[9] For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." [10] Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

[11] Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. [12] The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. [13] Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. [14] But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hymn of Worship | What Wondrous Love is This

Appalachian Folk Hymn; Southern Harmony, 1835

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?*

*When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM -
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.*

*And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!*

Psalm | Psalm 149

Leader: Praise the LORD!

People: *Sing to the LORD a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!*

Leader: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

People: *Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!*

Leader: Let them praise his name with dancing,

People: *Making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!*

Leader: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

People: *He adorns the humble with salvation.*

Leader: Let the godly exult in glory;

People: *Let them sing for joy on their beds.*

Leader: Let the high praises of God be in their throats

People: *And two-edged swords in their hands,*

Leader: To execute vengeance on the nations

People: *And punishments on the peoples,*

Leader: To bind their kings with chains

People: *And their nobles with fetters of iron,*

Leader: To execute on them the judgment written!

People: *This is honor for all his godly ones.*

Leader: Praise the LORD!

Sermon Text | Luke 8.26-39

[26] Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. [27] When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. [28] When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." [29] For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) [30] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. [31] And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. [32] Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. [33] Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

[34] When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. [35] Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. [36] And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. [37] Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. [38] The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, [39] "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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.*

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:

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. They are just beginning to study the gospel of Luke. 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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