

The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 27, 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: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

- Matthew 11.28-29

Opening Hymn | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Words by Joachim Neander, 1680

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been, granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee! Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee; Ponder anew what the Almighty will do, if with his love he befriend thee!

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee, Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee. How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief, spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him. Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly fore'er we adore him.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 | 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!

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.

You have called us to be the church,

to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.

Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,

obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

Remove the obstacles preventing us

from being your representatives to a broken world.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

People: Thanks be to God!

-Isaiah 43.4-6

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 | Philippians 2.1-13

[1] So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, [2] complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. [3] Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. [4] Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. [5] Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, [6] who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

[12] Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, [13] for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Hymn of Worship | Psalm 130 (From the Depths of Woe)

Words by Martin Luther (1523), music by Christopher Miner, 1997

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee, The voice of lamentation; Lord, turn a gracious ear to me, And hear my supplication; If Thou iniquities dost mark, Our secret sins and misdeeds dark, O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?) O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?)

To wash away the crimson stain, Grace, grace alone availeth;

Our works, alas! Are all in vain; In much the best life faileth; No man can glory in Thy sight, All must alike confess Thy might, And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy) And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy)

Therefore my trust is in the Lord, And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word, Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort, My comfort and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience)
I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience)

What though I wait the livelong night, And til the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in His might; It doubteth not nor feareth;
Do thus, O ye of Israels seed, Ye of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait til God appeareth (Wait til God appeareth)
And wait til God appeareth (Wait till God appeareth)

Though great our sins and sore our woes, His grace much more aboundeth; His helping love no limit knows, Our utmost need it soundeth.

Our Shepherd good and true is He, Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow. (All their sin and sorrow)
From all their sin and sorrow. (All their sin and sorrow)

Psalm | Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16

Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

People: *Incline your ears to the words of my mouth!* **Leader:** I will open my mouth in a parable;

People: I will utter dark sayings from of old,

Leader: Things that we have heard and known,

People: That our fathers have told us.

Leader: We will not hide them from their children,

People: But tell to the coming generation

Leader: The glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,

People: And the wonders that he has done.

Leader: In the sight of their fathers he performed wonders

People: In the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

Leader: He divided the sea and let them pass through it,

People: And made the waters stand like a heap. **Leader:** In the daytime he led them with a cloud,

People: And all the night with a fiery light. **Leader:** He split rocks in the wilderness

People: And gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

Leader: He made streams come out of the rock **People:** And caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Ministry of the Word | Christ Our Passover, Week 3: Watching

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 12.29-51

[29] At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. [30] And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead. [31] Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, "Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as you have said. [32] Take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone, and bless me also!"

[33] The Egyptians were urgent with the people to send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead." [34] So the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading bowls being bound up in their cloaks on their shoulders. [35] The people of Israel had also done as Moses told them, for they had asked the Egyptians for silver and gold jewelry and for clothing. [36] And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

[37] And the people of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. [38] A mixed multitude also went up with them, and very much livestock, both flocks and herds. [39] And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, because they were thrust out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

[40] The time that the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. [41] At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. [42] It was a night of watching by the LORD, to bring them out of the land of Egypt; so this same night is a night of watching kept to the LORD by all the people of Israel throughout their generations.

[43] And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the statute of the Passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, [44] but every slave that is bought for money may eat of it after you have circumcised him. [45] No foreigner or hired worker may eat of it. [46] It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the flesh outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones. [47] All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. [48] If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. [49] There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you."

[50] All the people of Israel did just as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron. [51] And on that very day the LORD brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A1

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, 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 and Man

Words and Music by Robert Stamps, 1972

O, welcome all ye noble saints of old, as now before your very eyes unfold The wonders all so long ago foretold. God and man at table are sat down.

Elders, martyrs, all are falling down; prophets, patriarchs are gathering 'round. What angels longed to see now man has found: God and man at table are sat down.

Who is this who spreads the victory feast? Who is this who makes our warring cease? Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace. God and man at table are sat down.

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here; repentant publicans are drawing near. Wayward sons come home without a fear. God and man at table are sat down.

Worship in the presence of the Lord with joyful songs and hearts in one accord. And let our Host at table be adored. God and man at table are sat down.

When at last this earth shall pass away, when Jesus and his Bride are one to stay, The feast of love is just begun that day. God and man at table are sat down.

Here He gives Himself to us as bread. Here as wine we drink the blood He shed. Born to die, we eat and live instead, God and man at table are sat down; God and man at table are sat down.

Concluding Prayer

One More Hymn and the Offering | There is a Redeemer

Words and Music by Melody and Keith Green (1982)

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son, Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Jesus my redeemer, Name above all names, Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Oh, for sinners slain.

> Thank you, oh my Father, For giving us Your Son, And leaving Your Spirit 'Til the work on Earth is done.

When I stand in Glory,

I will see His face, And there I'll serve my King forever, In that Holy Place.

> Thank you, oh my Father, For giving us Your Son, And leaving Your Spirit, 'Til the work on Earth is done.

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!

- 1 Thessalonians 2.16-17

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. Alpha meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at the Travis's home... make sure to let Ben know if you plan to be there!

A Beautiful Orthodoxy:

We are resuming this popular Sunday morning class from last spring! All are are invited to join us at 9:15. This class focuses on the basics of our beliefs, seeking to understand *and apply* what our confession of faith teaches about God and his gracious work in this world. You could think of this 12 week class as a Greatest Hits of Reformed Theology. We completed 4 weeks in the spring, so we have 8 weeks remaining.

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 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.

• <u>Tuesday</u>

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.

• <u>Friday</u>

Passion for ministry; Sabbath rest; discernment.

Saturday

Perspective, faith, contentment.

CCLI # 11299454