



The Order of Celebration and Worship of God

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 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: Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.

People: *Let us worship Jesus Christ,
the risen one, who lives among us.*

Leader: Let us worship the Spirit,
the holy fire, who renews us.

People: *To the one true God be praise
in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.*

Opening Hymn | Jesus, I Come

Words by William True Sleeper, 1887; music by Greg Thompson, 2000

*Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.*

*Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.*

*Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.*

*Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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 | A Mighty Fortress is our God

Words and music by Martin Luther, 1529

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.*

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.*

*That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever.*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

People: *Lord, we have sinned,
without considering how much you love us.
You see our sins more clearly
than we can ourselves.
Lord, you know
when we are indifferent to your Word, the Bible;
how often we forget to pray;
the times we come unwillingly to worship;
and yet we turn to you
when we are in trouble.
Lord, you know when we are untruthful*

*and when we think evil of others.
You see our anger and unfairness to our friends.
You know how hard it is for us to forgive.
Forgive us and make us clean,
so that we can obey your call
to take up your cross and follow you.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
may not perish but may have eternal life.
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world
to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him."

People: *Thanks be to God!*

—John 3.16-17

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 | I Thessalonians 4.13-18

[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. [15] For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. [16] For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hymn of Worship | The Solid Rock

Words by Edward Mote (1834), music by William Bradbury (1863)

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

*His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.*

Psalm | Psalm 78.1-7

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: He established a testimony in Jacob

People: *And appointed a law in Israel,*

Leader: Which he commanded our fathers

People: *To teach to their children,*

Leader: That the next generation might know them,

People: *The children yet unborn,*

Leader: And arise and tell them to their children,

People: *So that they should set their hope in God*

Leader: And not forget the works of God,

People: *But keep his commandments.*

Ministry of the Word | The LORD Among Us

Rev. Benjamin Wheeler

Sermon Text | Exodus 17

[1] All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. [2] Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" [3] But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" [4] So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." [5] And the LORD said to

Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. [6] Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. [7] And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

[8] Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. [9] So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." [10] So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. [11] Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. [12] But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. [13] And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

[14] Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." [15] And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner, [16] saying, "A hand upon the throne of the LORD! The LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith

*I am called Christian
because by faith I am a member of Christ
and so I share in his anointing.
I am anointed
to confess his name,
to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks,
to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil
in this life,
and afterward to reign with Christ
over all creation
for all eternity.
We call him "our Lord"
because—
not with gold or silver,
but with his precious blood—
he has set us free
from sin and from the tyranny of the devil,
and has bought us,
body and soul,
to be his very own.*

—from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 32, 34

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 | Lead On, Oh King Eternal

Words by Ernest Shurtleff, 1888; music by Henry Smart, 1836.

*Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest, Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation, Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.*

*Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And Holiness shall whisper, the sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.*

*Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning, where'er thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.*

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

5th Annual Advent Bonfire:

Mark your calendars for this annual event which will occur on the evening of Saturday, December 5th. Details to follow!

A Beautiful Orthodoxy:

All are invited to join us at 9:15 Sunday mornings! 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 class as a Greatest Hits of Reformed Theology. We will be meeting until November 22.

Alpha:

Alpha meets on Tuesdays at 6:45 pm at the Travis's home... make sure to let Ben know if you plan to be there!

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@redeemert Tyler.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: needs of our city.

- Monday
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in our schools.
- Tuesday
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in city, state, and local government, and justice systems.
- Wednesday
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically in local law enforcement, emergency response personnel, and hospitals.
- Thursday
That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically amongst our immigrant, economically disadvantaged, and minority populations. (See Deuteronomy 10:17-19.)
- Friday

That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically for a unity within our churches and between our churches in the cause of Christ.

- Saturday

That God's Kingdom would come and His will be done in our city, specifically that the gospel would be proclaimed throughout our city's churches.