



To all who are weary and desire rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who sin and need a Savior, Redeemer City Church opens wide its doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



February 23, 2020 – Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Season of the Cross: Green for Ordinary Time

Ordinary time runs between Epiphany and Lent. Ordinary Time has traditionally been devoted to seeking our Lord in the simple, ordinary day-in and day-out rhythms of life. It is a time in which we are all invited to order our lives around Christ's life and teaching.

Song of Gathering and Preparation

We prepare our hearts, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

All Things New

Call to Worship: Psalm 100

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reminds us of who God is and what He expects from us.

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and we are his.

All: We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

All: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Songs of Adoration

We respond to God's invitation with songs of praise. These songs are designed to draw our attention to the wonder and glory of God.

Come Ye Sinners

Reading of the Law: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

While the law cannot justify us or make us righteous; it is a teacher given to lead us to Christ, the fulfiller of the law.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

We pray together, praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 35:1-2, 4-6, 10

We read God's Word together and are reminded that grace and mercy are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing... Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy...

...And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Greeting

In Jesus, we have not only been reconciled to God, we have also been reconciled to one another. Therefore, we greet one another as brothers and sisters.

Song of Praise and Celebration

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done to save us

God Is For Us
My Worth Is Not In What I Own

Worship Through Giving: Psalm 126

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Announcements & Kids' Worship Dismissal

Children through fifth grade are dismissed for kids' worship.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

We again express in prayer our gratitude to God for what he has done and ask him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and the world.

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

Psalm 126 *(see insert)*

Song of Response & Sending

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

We Will Feast In the House of Zion

Benediction

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
May the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
May the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
Both now and forevermore. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word: See Below for Pew Bible Page Numbers

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
3 The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad. 4 Restore our fortunes,
O LORD, like streams in the Negeb! 5 Those who sow in tears shall reap with
shouts of joy! 6 He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall
come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Pg. 517 (Psalm 126 ESV)

Resources

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction, Eugene Peterson
Dark Clouds Deep Mercy, Mark Vroegop

Quotes

"Lament is the honest cry of a hurting heart wrestling with the paradox of pain and the promise of God's goodness... Lament stands in the gap between pain and promise. - Mark Vroegop

"One of the most remarkable things Christians learn is that laughter does not exclude weeping. Christian joy is not an escape from sorrow. Pain and hardship still come, but they are unable to drive out the happiness of the redeemed. - Eugene Peterson

"All suffering, all pain, all emptiness, all disappointment is seed: sown in God it will, finally, bring a harvest of joy." - Eugene Peterson

Discussion Questions

1. Where can you look back on your life and say, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad" (Ps.126:3)? Share your stories.
2. This psalm shows us that joy not only builds on the past, but it borrows from the future. Is there a specific promise of God that brings you joy?
3. For Christians, laughter and weeping are not mutually exclusive. We live in the "Already and Not Yet" of God's Kingdom. Where do you feel this tension?
4. Where do you feel like you're sowing your tears right now? How does the promise of Psalm 126:5-6 bring you hope?
5. Where do you see Jesus in this Psalm?

Sermon Series: Psalms of Ascent: On the Way

Sermon Title: Joy for the Journey

Date: February 23, 2020

I. SHOUTS OF JOY IN THE PAST

Joy builds on God's past acts of deliverance.

II. SHOUTS OF JOY IN THE FUTURE

Joy borrows from the coming fulfillment of God's promises.

III. SHOUTS OF JOY IN THE PRESENT

Joy is compatible with lament. Christians both sing and weep, sowing their tears in Jesus.

Announcements

Greeting this morning is the **Beatty** Community Group.

Student Ministry Fundraiser: Our student ministry is hosting a spaghetti lunch & dessert auction on **March 15** to raise money for camp. This will take place directly following the second worship service. A to-go option will be available after both services if you are unable to stay.

Family Fest: During the student ministry fundraiser on **March 15**, we will be having an event for families with a bubble train, inflatables, and face painting. You won't want to miss this! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend! Check with Tammy Henderson at tammy@redeemerwinterhaven.org if you have any questions.

Person of Jesus Study: There are two opportunities to join us on Wednesdays for the Person of Jesus study. We have **a lunch-time group from 12-1pm and an evening group from 7-8pm**. Pizza will be provided for the lunch-time group or you can bring your own lunch. These groups will meet weekly until April 29.

Women's Bible Study: There are two opportunities to join us for our Women's Bible Study: **Mon. 6:30-8p, Thur. 9:30-11am**. Our Thursday morning study has childcare. See our website for more information.

Get Connected: The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter (redeemerwh.org/newsletter) and our mobile app (redeemerwh.org/app).

Worship Playlists: Follow our weekly set list on **Spotify** and **Apple Music** so that you can become familiar with the songs that we'll be singing on Sundays. You can find the playlist on the "RedeemerWH" app (above) or at: redeemerwh.org/RCCmusic.



PLEGGED: \$722,640

RECEIVED: \$517,465

Grace Abounding is Redeemer's campaign to raise funds for repairs and maintenance to the existing facility. Campaign information is available at graceabounding.org.

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