



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.



March 1, 2020 – First Sunday of Lent

Season of the Cross: Purple for Lent

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and runs 40 days through Holy Week. It is a reminder of Jesus' own 40 days in the wilderness, where He fasted and was tempted. Lent is a time of repentance and fasting, of preparation and penitence, as we look ahead with anticipation to His death and resurrection.

Song of Gathering and Preparation

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

Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted (Look to Jesus)

Call to Worship: Psalm 16:2

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

Leader: I say to the LORD

All: "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

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.

Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer

Reading of the Law: 1 Kings 8:57-61

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.

"The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers. May he not leave us or forsake us, that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his rules, which he commanded our fathers. Let these words of mine, with which I have pleaded before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires, that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other. Let your heart therefore be wholly true to the LORD our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day."

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).

Confession of Sin

Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Luke 9:22-32

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

[Jesus said], "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God." Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

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.

Songs 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

The Lion and the Lamb
O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

Worship Through Giving: Abide With Me

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 kindergarten 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 127

Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

The ritual meal of Communion is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the work Christ did for our salvation (sign) and communicates the grace and mercy we have been given (seal) as a result of His death and resurrection.

Mercy Offering

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. The mercy offering is used to assist those within our congregation and our community.

Song of Response & Sending

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

The Solid Rock

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 Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Pg. 518 (Psalm 127 ESV)

Resources

Every Good Endeavor, Tim Keller
Confronting Christianity, Rebecca McLaughlin
A Long Obedience in the Same Direction, Eugene Peterson
Liturgy of the Ordinary, Tish Harrison Warren
Longing for Home, Stephen Yuille

Discussion Questions

1. Are you able to regularly rest? What are your daily, weekly, yearly habits of rest? How are you sleeping?
2. How would you define the balance between a good work ethic and over-working? Where's the line?
3. Where are you currently "building"? Do you have a keen sense that God is in it? What difference does that make?
4. Discuss the line, "He gives to his Beloved sleep." How does that work? There is an alternative translation: "He works while His Beloved sleep." How do the two different translations convey similar meaning?

Sermon Series: Psalms of Ascent: On the Way

Sermon Title: Building A Life That Matters

Date: March 1, 2020

I. UNLESS GOD

God is necessary. You are not.

II. WORK AND REST

Work is good. Over-working is bad.

III. THE BELOVED

"He gives his Beloved (rest)"

Application: *Parenting (vs 3-5)*

Lenten Devotional

WEEK I: LIFE & DEATH

SCRIPTURE

Lent is a time of particular focus on life and death—the coming of life and the curse of sin, death, and evil in us, our relationships, and our world. The Psalms, as Eugene Peterson writes, “give us the equipment for our souls.” In other words, they teach and form us spiritually.

This week’s Scripture is Psalm 1: “The Way of the Living and the Dead.”

Here, we are given the picture of the internal and external power of our hearts to long and lust for either life (righteousness) or death (wickedness). The psalm poetically pictures abundant life: a tree grows by a stream of water with fruit and prosperity. It also depicts the way of death: one who perishes apart from the presence of God.

Psalm 1: *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.*

Q: Would you describe your current spiritual journey as “wandering in the desert” or “planting by a stream”? Why?

Q: What suffering, perishing, and effects of wickedness do you see in those around you? What withering do you see?

Q: How does the withering you see around you compare to the withering inside you?

PRAYER

Pray for God to reveal the true condition of your soul to you and to lead you through the desert of sin and idolatry to be planted in the life of Christ.

Pray that through this season of fasting you would have a special sensitivity to the suffering of your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers who are withering and being driven away by the cares of the world

Thank Christ for the courage of opening yourself up to His work of revealing your wounds and brokenness to you, and pray for confidence, joy, and patience in the process of this transformation.

Announcements

Greeting this morning is the **Reynolds** 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.

Online Directory: Redeemer City Church's online directory is provided for Regular Attendees and Members. The great thing about this platform is that you can upload your own photo or edit your profile's information and it automatically syncs with our database. Visit redeemerwh.org/directory to access your profile.

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: \$520,270

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

redeemerwinterhaven.org | (863) 298-9849

Mobile App: redeemerwh.org/app | facebook.com/redeemerwhc