



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.

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is a large, bright, glowing orb in the upper right, casting a shimmering path of light across the dark water. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, and distant mountains are visible on the horizon.

ecclesiastes

life is gift not gain

June 7, 2020 – First Sunday of Pentecost

Season of the Cross: Green for Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time is the long season that takes up three quarters of the church year. This portion of Ordinary Time runs between Pentecost and Advent. 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.

Call to Worship: Based on 2 Kings 17:15

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

Leader: They despised his statutes and his covenant that he made with their fathers and the warnings that he gave them.

All: Prone to wander, Lord, we feel it. Prone to leave the God we love.

Leader: They went after false idols and became false, and they followed the nations that were around them, concerning whom the LORD had commanded them that they should not do like them.

All: Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it. Seal it for Thy courts above.

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 Thou Fount

Reading of the Law: Matthew 16:24-26a

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.

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?"

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: Philippians 3:7-10

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

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

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

In Christ Alone

Worship Through Giving: Give Online redeemerwh.org/give

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.

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.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 2:11; 12:8, 13-14

Song of Response & Sending

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

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

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

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

1 The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. 2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. 3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? 4 A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. 5 The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises. 6 The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. 7 All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. 8 All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. 9 What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. 10 Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already in the ages before us. 11 There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.

(Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 ESV)

11 Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

(Ecclesiastes 2:11 ESV)

8 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity... 13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

(Ecclesiastes 12:8, 13-14 ESV)

Resources

Zack Eswine, *Recovering Eden*

David Gibson, *Living Life Backwards*

Sidney Greidanus, *Preaching Christ from Ecclesiastes*

Derek Kidner, *The Message of Ecclesiastes*

Discussion Questions

1. What has been your exposure to Ecclesiastes? In your own words, what is the message of the book?
2. "Vanity of vanities" means life is short, elusive, and repetitive. Where specifically do you feel this vanity?
3. What "pretend" things have been stripped away from your life over the last few months?
4. Life is gift not gain. What's the difference?
5. "There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment" (Eccl 2:24). What are the dangers of going too far and not going far enough with that advice?

Sermon Series: Ecclesiastes: Life Is Gift Not Gain

Sermon Title: Vanity of Vanities

Date: June 7, 2020

I. HONESTY

Life is vanity (1:2).

II. HOPE

The end of the matter: fear God (12:13).

III. HOLINESS

Life is gift not gain. So, enjoy!

Announcements

Women's Summer Book Study: Please join the women of Redeemer this summer as we study the book *Identity Theft*. Each chapter "stands alone" and is written by a different author. We meet **Mondays at 7pm via Zoom** and discuss the chapter together. Come and meet some new friends and journey together as we look into the promises that are ours in Christ Jesus.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Sally Goodwill (sallyg1110@aol.com or **863.325.5200**) or Gigi Savant (gigisavant@gmail.com or **863.258.0268**). Please RSVP so we can send you the ZOOM link. See the remaining schedule below.

June 15 – Saint: Redeemed by the Son

June 29 – Fruitful: Filled with the Holy Spirit

July 13 – Member: Connected to the Church

July 27 – Beautiful: Clothed in Splendor

August 10 – Servant: Reaping a Reward

August 24 – Worshiper: Shining Brightly in the Darkness

August 31 – Citizen: Longing for Home

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: \$732,640

RECEIVED: \$550,751

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

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