



*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 quadrant, casting a shimmering path of light across the dark water. The sky is a mix of orange and yellow, with a smaller, dimmer sun visible in the upper left. The water in the foreground is dark with white-capped waves.

# ecclesiastes

life is gift not gain

*June 14, 2020 – Second Sunday after Pentecost*

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## **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 Isaiah 55:1-3

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

Leader: The Lord says, "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

**All: O Lord, help us realize that we can't buy that which only comes for free.**

Leader: The Lord asks, "Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?" He says, "Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food."

**All: O Lord, we come this morning to listen diligently to you, rest in your grace, and delight in your love.**

## **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.*

### All Things New

## **Reading of the Law:** Proverbs 4:5-9

*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.*

Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."

## **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:** Colossians 1:9-14

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

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light....

... He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## 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*

Is He Worthy?

## Worship Through Giving: Give Online at [redeemerwh.org/give](https://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 1:12-18; 2:13-17; 7:16-19; 8:16-17

## Song of Response & Sending

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

Doxology (Romans 11)

## 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.*

12 I am the Teacher. I was king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13 I applied my mind to investigate and to explore by wisdom all that happens under heaven. It's an unhappy obsession that God has given to human beings. 14 When I observed all that happens under the sun, I realized that everything is pointless, a chasing after wind. 15 What's crooked can't be straightened; what isn't there can't be counted. 16 I said to myself, Look here, I have grown much wiser than any who ruled over Jerusalem before me. My mind has absorbed great wisdom and knowledge. 17 But when I set my mind to understand wisdom, and also to understand madness and folly, I realized that this too was just wind chasing. 18 Remember: In much wisdom is much aggravation; the more knowledge, the more pain.

Pg. 553 (Ecclesiastes 1:12-18 ESV)

13 I saw that wisdom is more beneficial than folly, as light is more beneficial than darkness. 14 The wise have eyes in their head, but fools walk around in darkness. But I also realized that the same fate happens to both of them. 15 So I thought to myself, What happens to the fool will also happen to me. So why have I been so very wise? I said to myself, This too is pointless. 16 There is no eternal memory of the wise any more than the foolish, because everyone is forgotten before long. How can the wise die just like the fool? 17 So I hated life, because the things that happen under the sun were troublesome to me. Definitely, everything is pointless—just wind chasing.

Pg. 554 (Ecclesiastes 2:13-17 ESV)

16 Don't be too righteous or too wise, or you may be dumbfounded. 17 Don't be too wicked and don't be a fool, or you may die before your time. 18 It's good that you take hold of one of these without letting go of the other because the one who fears God will go forth with both. 19 Wisdom makes a wise person stronger than ten rulers who are in a city.

Pg. 556 (Ecclesiastes 7:16-19 ESV)

16 Then I set my mind to know wisdom and to observe the business that happens on earth, even going without sleep day and night 17 I observed all the work of God—that no one can grasp what happens under the sun. Those who strive to know can't grasp it. Even the wise who are set on knowing are unable to grasp it.

Pg. 557 (Ecclesiastes 8:16-17 ESV)

## Discussion Questions

1. Do you ever hate life? If so, what parts of life "under the sun" are most grievous (2:17) to you? Don't be afraid to be honest.
2. Does knowing stuff make you feel like you're in control of your life? But are you really?
3. If we are limited in what we can know, what should the character of our knowing be? Read James 3:13-18 and reflect together on what "wisdom from above" is like.
4. Why seek wisdom? What happiness comes from it?

**Sermon Series:** Ecclesiastes: Life Is Gift Not Gain

**Sermon Title:** The Vanity of Knowing

**Date:** June 14, 2020

## **I. HONESTY**

*It's ok to hate life.*

## **II. HUMILITY**

*Know that you don't know.*

## **III. HAPPINESS**

*Seek wisdom, not for gain, but for God Himself.*

## **Resources**

Zack Eswine, *Recovering Eden*

David Gibson, *Living Life Backwards*

Sidney Greidanus, *Preaching Christ from Ecclesiastes*

Derek Kidner, *The Message of Ecclesiastes*

# 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](mailto:sallyg1110@aol.com) or **863.325.5200**) or Gigi Savant ([gigisavant@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://redeemerwh.org/newsletter)) and our mobile app ([redeemerwh.org/app](http://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](http://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](http://graceabounding.org).

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