



REDEEMER
TRAVERSE CITY

**And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying,
“A son has been born to Naomi.”
They named him Obed.
He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.
Ruth 4:17**

**The Lord’s Service
December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

The Advent Season

This Sunday marks the fourth Sunday of the Advent season, which are the four Sundays immediately preceding Christmas Day. The term “Advent” is taken from the Latin word which means coming or arrival, and is a season the church has historically set aside for special attention on the significance of the first coming of Christ, and on our waiting for him to come again.

During this season we will begin our service with Scripture readings and prayers that help us remember the waiting of God’s people for the Messiah that was fulfilled in Christ’s first coming. The hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” captures this Old Testament longing powerfully: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.” Looking back on Christ’s birth, we rejoice that God fulfilled his promises by sending the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to save his people from sin. At the same time, the Advent season reminds us that we, like Israel, are also waiting for our full redemption. We are living in a world broken by sin, death, disease, difficulties, and trials of every kind. Just as Israel longed for the Messiah, so we long for the second coming of Christ and his promise to destroy sin and its curse in this world, that day when “He will wipe away every tear from our eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Advent is thus a season that emphasizes waiting, preparation, and repentance for God’s people. As one Christian author reminds us:

While it is difficult to keep in mind in the midst of holiday celebrations, shopping, lights and decorations, and joyful carols, Advent is intended to be a season of fasting, much like Lent, and there are a variety of ways that this time of mourning works itself out in the season. Reflection on the violence and evil in the world cause us to cry out to God to make things right—to put death’s dark shadows to flight. Our exile in the present makes us look forward to our future Exodus. And our own sinfulness and need for grace leads us to pray for the Holy Spirit to renew his work in conforming us into the image of Christ.

One of the great benefits of the Advent season is that it helps us re-focus, particularly in the midst of the consumerism everywhere around us, that our hope is not in this world. As we share in the longing of God’s people of old for Jesus’ first coming, we renew our desire for his second coming. This season is also another opportunity for us to cultivate an attitude of repentance and humility for our sin. If we are to fully enter into the joy of Jesus’ birth on Christmas morning, we must ask God to help us mourn over our captivity to sin and failure to love and serve him which made it necessary.

The Lord's Service

December 23, 2018

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Away in a Manger" (Verse 1 only)

Children's Choir

(Verse 1 will be sung twice; the first time only the children will sing, the second time the congregation will sing)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reading, Prayer and Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Pastor Chris Stevens

Luke 2:10-14

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

† **Opening Hymn** #195 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

† Invocation

Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Let us pray.

† = Stand if able

Bold Words = Congregation

† The Greeting

Thessalonians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

† Response #218:5 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (Vs. 5 only)

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;

evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Confession of Sin

Luke 2:36-38

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Almighty and merciful God, we confess today that our joy is not what it should be in light of all that you have done for us in Christ. We do not stand in awe and wonder as we ought at the indescribable gift of your Son entering this world to save us from our sins. We are often joyless, our love and worship often lukewarm, and our lives often a poor reflection of the light of Christ. We long too much for the comforts of this world, and set our hope on earthly treasure which fades and cannot satisfy. In your great mercy forgive us, O God, for His sake, and restore to us the joy of our great salvation. May the gift of your Son on Christmas morning recapture our hearts and stir us up to greater faith, love, joy, and worship. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

† **Hymn of Assurance** #213 “What Child Is This”

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord’s Prayer

Pastor Chris Stevens

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:1-6a; 18-25

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Giving God Our Offerings

Special Offertory Music

Ashby Mizell

† **Doxology**

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.

† **Sermon Text Reading**

Ruth 4

Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, “Turn aside, friend; sit down here.” And he turned aside and sat down. ² And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, “Sit down here.” So they sat down. ³ Then he said to the redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. ⁴ So I thought I would tell you of it and say, ‘Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.’ If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you.” And he said, “I will redeem it.” ⁵ Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.” ⁶ Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”

⁷ Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel. ⁸ So when the redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself,” he drew off his sandal. ⁹ Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. ¹⁰ Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.” ¹¹ Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, ¹² and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the Lord will give you by this young woman.”

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son. ¹⁴ Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel! ¹⁵ He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him.” ¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse. ¹⁷ And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

¹⁸ Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, ¹⁹ Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab, ²⁰ Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, ²¹ Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, ²² Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Blessed be the Lord who has not left us this day without a Redeemer”
Pastor Scott Korljan

Sermon notes:

Discussion Questions:

1. What does the full inclusion of Ruth into God's people teach us about our salvation?
2. What significance does the final genealogy have for understanding the purpose of the book?

Prayer of Application

† Sermon Hymn “I Will Glory in My Redeemer” (Vss. 1 & 3 only)

I will glory in my Redeemer, whose priceless blood has ransomed me.
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails and hung Him on that judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who crushed the pow’r of sin and death,
my only Savior before the holy Judge,
the Lamb who is my righteousness, the Lamb who is my righteousness.

I will glory in my Redeemer, who carries me on eagle’s wings
He crowns my life with loving-kindness. His triumph song I’ll ever sing.
I will glory in my Redeemer, who waits for me at gates of gold.
And when He calls me it will be paradise,
His face forever to behold, His face forever to behold.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

We warmly welcome to the table all who trust in Jesus Christ for their salvation, have been baptized and have publicly professed their faith as members of any evangelical Christian church. We encourage families to come forward together, but ask that young children not partake of the elements until they have met with their Elders to make a profession of their faith.

Affirmation of Faith Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,
Though he was in the form of God,
Did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,
But emptied himself,
Taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
He humbled himself
And became obedient to the point of death—

Even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
And gave him the name that is above every name,
So that at the name of Jesus
Every knee should bow,
In heaven and on earth and under the earth,
And every tongue should confess the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Lord be with you. Ruth 2:4

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts! Lamentations 3:41

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 118:1

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. We praise you that you sent him into this world to satisfy our need and our longing for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. And now as we set apart these common elements of bread and wine, we ask you to bless them so that the bread that we break, and the cup of blessing which we bless, would be for us by faith a participation in the body and blood of our Lord. Now with the angels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory,
the whole earth is full of his glory. Holy is the Lord.

Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

Special Communion Music “In The Bleak Midwinter”

Lindsay Korljan, Teresa Kott, Jenny Morrison

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heav’n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heav’n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
for the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Gloria! Gloria! Now my eyes have seen; Soli Deo Gloria! He salvation brings.

As the Lord has promised, I may go in peace.
What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part;
Yet what I can, I give Him—give my heart.

Gloria! Gloria! Now my eyes have seen; Soli Deo Gloria! He salvation brings.
Gloria! Gloria! Now my eyes have seen; Soli Deo Gloria! He salvation brings.
In the bleak midwinter I may go in peace;
as the Lord has promised, I may go in peace.

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you love us, have chosen us, and redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ, who took on flesh and dwelt among us, and who gave His life willingly for our salvation. Give us joy in His coming, and greater hope in His coming again. Until that day, help us by your Holy Spirit to go into this world to love and serve you and others in His name, and for His glory. Amen.

† Post Communion Hymn “Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King.
He, the theme of heaven’s praises, robed in frail humanity.

In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come!
Look to Christ Who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.

See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.

See the price of our redemption, see the Father’s plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e’er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when He comes.

† Benediction

† Benediction Response

Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

Prayer Requests

Redeemer Family:

- The VanDyk family on the sudden loss of Dave's nephew Matthew.
- Laura Millward for a good doctors report and healing.
- Dale Millward, homebound.
- Maggie Carins, she is making progress, but longs for visitors.
- Judy (CJ's mother) for strength and peace.
- David Delgado, for healing as he continues through the trials of chemotherapy.
- Kathy Van Til as she continues to recover.
- John VanTil, recovering from shoulder surgery and health challenges.
- Kimberly Close (sister of Katina Gibson), for God's mercy in her struggles.
- Paul Mann (Maggie's son-in-law), for God to reveal Himself to him.
- Ann Nelson (Christi Throop's daughter-in-law), for healing and strength.
- Our students as they finish the school semester.

Churches in our Presbytery:

Providence Presbyterian, Ft. Wayne, Indiana: Pray for fidelity to God's Word, for the session to shepherd with wisdom and love and for the Lord's direction as we make plans for the future of Providence.

Christ the King, Hastings, Michigan: Pray for musically gifted people to join with us and for employment for several members. Praise for the help of a sister church who has been sending us a pianist to help us in our worship service.

Financials

	<u>Nov. 30, 2017</u>	<u>Nov. 30, 2018</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	<u>Over (Under) Budget</u>
Year to Date				
Total Giving + Rentals:	\$275,028	\$278,677	\$285,307	(\$6,630)
Total Expenses:	\$269,546	\$271,665		

Want to receive Redeemer email notifications & reminders?

Contact the Church office at:

Email: redemertc@gmail.com

Phone: 231-946-1700

Website: www.redeemertraversecity.org

Redeemer Facebook (Redeemer PCATC)

Announcements

Staffed Nursery Available - For infant to four years old. Please see a Deacon or Greeters for directions to the Nursery.

Sunday School - On Christmas break. Sunday School for all ages resumes on January 6th.

Christmas Eve Service - Tomorrow at 5 pm.

Candy Catechism - 21) Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

Men's Study - Studying Hebrews will help us see and worship Christ as our high priest rescuing us from misery.

Mercy Ministry - If you are interested in being more involved in mercy ministry at the church and in the community, please talk to Deacon Dave VanDyk.

Ladies Book Study - All ladies are encouraged to read Identity Theft: Reclaiming the Truth of who we are in Christ! We'll share conversation twice a month in January/February, beginning January 10, 9:30-11am. Books will be available by the end of December in the narthex (suggested donation \$11). If childcare is desired, please see Heidi VanTil.

Love INC has transformed into Love Thy Neighbor - Please see the bulletin board for their exciting news for 2019! Also, there will be an upcoming Pantry Drive in January, more details to follow!

Budget Deficit - Going into December, we currently have a \$6,630 deficit in our 2018 Budget. Please consider if you can give joyfully to the work of Redeemer as we bring this year to a close. We are thankful for all the generous giving that has sustained Redeemer for another year, and trust that God's provision will be exactly what we need.

This week at Redeemer:

Christmas Eve Service - Tomorrow at 5 pm

Men's Study - Thursday, 7:30 am

Husted Small Group - Thursday, 6:30 pm

December 2018

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	Worship Service 10:15 am	24 Christmas Eve 5 pm Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27 Men's Study 7:30 am Husted Small Group 6:30 pm	28	29
30	Worship Service 10:15 am	31 New Year's Eve					

January 2019

	1		2 No Events	3 Men's Study 7:30 am Prayer Gathering 12 pm Bauers Small Group, 6:60 pm	4	5
--	---	--	----------------	--	---	---

Serving Today:

Communion Set Up:

Kit Hinz

Greeting:

Dave & Angie VanDyk, Carol DeVries

Music Ministry:

Connie VanTil

Nursery:

Lindsay Korljan

Refreshments:

Ashby Mizell

Sound Board:

David Smith

Serving on Monday, Christmas Eve:

Music Ministry:

Connie Van Til, Leah & Anna Racine

Sound Board:

Gavin Weber

Serving on Sunday, December 30:

Communion Set Up:

Brian & Michonne Palmer

Greeting:

Brett Schut, Tom & Beth Nussdorfer

Music Ministry:

Rick Harkert

Nursery:

Chris Schultz

Refreshments:

Sarah Racine

Sound Board:

Dan Mizell



REDEEMER
TRAVERSE CITY

1st or 2nd time visitor?

Have a Prayer need?

Want to be on our weekly newsletter?

Want more info about ministry or service at Redeemer?

Please fill out and place in the Offering plate.

Thank You!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Best Contact

(Call/Text): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

How did you hear about us:

1st Time Guest: ____

2nd Time Guest: ____

Regular Attendee: ____

Member: ____



*If you would like to be prayed for
please fill out and place in the
Offering Plate*

Prayer Requests:

Share with Prayer Team: ____

Private: ____

Send me information about :

Becoming a Christian

Baptism

Membership

Serving on a Team

Small Groups

Other

The Session (Pastors and Elders)

Rev. Scott Korljan, Pastor

Rev. Chris Stevens, Associate Pastor

Buzz Bauers

Fred Janke

Chris Millward

Bill Morrison

Fred Weber

David Schafer (Emeritus)

The Deacons

Jerry DeVries

Bob Israel

Tim Schramm II

Dave VanDyk

Redeemer Staff

Scott Korljan, Pastor

Chris Stevens, Associate Pastor

Connie Van Til, Music Ministry

Deb Long, Office Administrator/
Bookkeeper

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

402 W. Ninth Street

Traverse City, MI 49684

(231) 946-1700

Website: www.redeemertraversecity.org

Email: redemertc@gmail.com

[Facebook@Redeemerpcatc](https://www.facebook.com/Redeemerpcatc)

Sunday School: 9 AM

Worship Service: 10:15 AM

A Congregation of the
Presbyterian Church in America