

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 opens wide her doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



January 21, 2024 – Third Sunday after the 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.

Call to Worship: Psalm 107:1-2

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

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for his is good, his steadfast love of the Lord endures forever!

People: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

Song of Ascent

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (Psalm 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, bodies, for worship by singing about the God we serve.

God Be Merciful to Me

Reading of the Law: Psalm 32:1-5

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

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Prayer of Adoration & 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).

Song of Repentance

In this song of repentance we acknowledge our sin and our need of a Savior.

Turn Your Eyes

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 1:8-2:2

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

Great Things
O Come to the Altar

Receiving New Members

As was the case for believers in the Old and New Testaments, we are called to publicly confess our faith in the grace of God, to participate in the rituals of entrance into the people of God (circumcision in the Old and baptism in the New), and to acknowledge our membership with His people.

Noah & JJ Blasio

Worship Through Giving: Give Online at 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.

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.

2 Samuel 11:1-7, 14-17, 26-27; Psalm 51:1-17

Song of Response & Sending

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

Jesus Lover of My Soul

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.

11:1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. 2 It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. 3 And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. 5 And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." 6 So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab was doing and how the people were doing and how the war was going.

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die." 16 And as Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant men. 17 And the men of the city came out and fought with Joab, and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

26 When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented over her husband. 27 And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

Pg. 263 (2 Samuel 11:1-7, 14-17, 26-27 ESV)

51:1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. 6 Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Proclamation of God's Word (cont.)

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

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Pg. 474 (Psalm 51:1-17 ESV)

Resources

Dale Ralph Davis, **2 Samuel**Barbara Duguid, **Extravagant Grace**Eugene Peterson, **Leap Over a Wall**

Discussion Questions

- 1. Prayerfully reflect on your heart, circumstances, relationships, etc. How did you "come" into worship today?
- 2. Where did the gospel "dwell in you richly" in the service today? In the prayers? In the singing? In the sermon?
- 3. Specifically, how were you led to turn from sin and trust in Jesus?
- 4. What is the one thing from the sermon this morning that you would most want to pass on to someone else?

Sermon Series: II Samuel: The Kingdom

Sermon Title: Shining Light on the Shadow Self

Date: January 21, 2024

Hook: How can a person guilty of adultery and murder be called "a man after God's heart"?

I. SIN

"Whatever weakens your reasoning, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes away your relish for spiritual things - that to you becomes sin, however good it is in itself." - Susanna Wesley

II. REPENTANCE

"In the Christian life our primary task isn't to avoid sin, which is impossible anyway, but to recognize sin and repent." - Eugene Peterson

Takeaway: The entire life of a Christian is repentance.



The book of Isaiah is a message of warning and hope.

Though Israel will face the consequences of their rebellion, Isaiah's prophetic words are full of hope for the day when God would restore his people to himself. This hope would be embodied through God's servant, "Immanuel," who will one day establish a new Israel and God's Kingdom on Earth. Isaiah's prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

Waiting for a New Jerusalem

Like Elijah, Jeremiah, and the other prophets, Isaiah was called by God to deliver his words to Israel. The book of Isaiah is filled with sobering accounts of Israel's sin and rebellion and warnings of their coming judgement. But along with warnings, Isaiah also offers a message of hope—a suffering servant, a coming Messiah, who would come to establish God's Kingdom on Earth and create a new Jerusalem.

For generations, Isaiah's words have encouraged thousands of people who have waited in anticipation for the Messiah and for God to set right all that has been wronged.

Guide to the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah lived in Jerusalem during the latter half of Israel's kingdom period and spoke to the leaders of Jerusalem and Judah on God's behalf. Isaiah brought with him a warning about God's judgment, telling Israel's corrupt leaders that their rebellion against the covenant with God would come at a cost. Isaiah also said that God would use the great empires of Assyria and later Babylon to judge Jerusalem if they persisted in idolatry and oppression of the poor.

However, that dire announcement was also combined with a message of hope, as Isaiah believed deeply that God would one day fulfill all his covenant promises. He trusted that God would send a king from David's line to establish his Kingdom on Earth and lead Israel in obedience to the laws of the covenant made at Mount Sinai. This was how God's blessing and salvation would flow outward to all nations, just as God promised to Abraham. It's this messianic hope that compelled Isaiah to speak out against the corruption and idolatry of Israel and its leaders.

The book has a complex literary design, but there is one simple way to see how it all fits together. Chapters 1-39 contain three large sections that develop Isaiah's warning of judgment on Israel, culminating in an event pointed to at the end of ch 39, the fall of Jerusalem and the exile of its people to Babylon. But chapters 1-39 also present a message of hope, that after the exile, God's covenant promises would be fulfilled. Chapters 40-66 pick up that promise and develop it further.

Announcements

BUILD: BUILD is a time to gather as a church family, share a meal, and get trained in our gospel tools. We'll meet weekly on Wednesday nights through **January 31**. **Dinner will begin at 5:30pm**, classes will begin at **6:30pm**.

- 0-3yrs | Childcare
- PreK4-5th Grade | Catechism
- Youth & Adults | Community Bible Reading, A Praying Life, Person of Jesus

Women's Retreat: Registration for our Women's Retreat **closes TODAY.** The retreat will be **February 23-25, 2024 at the Orange Lake Resort in Orlando.** Please visit: **redeemerwh.org/retreat** to register. Join us as we "Behold our extraordinary God amidst everyday ordinary life."

Men's Groups: Men, there are two opportunities for you to plug in: Tuesday mornings from 7-8am in the Fellowship Hall to read the daily Community Bible Reading. And on Tuesday afternoons from 4-6 pm we'll meet at Grove Roots for casual drop-in fellowship.

Women's Bible Study: Come and join the women of Redeemer as God unveils his best for each of us and the profound mystery of His plan. Discover what the Spirit of God desires to reveal to you through the pages of the book of Hebrews.

You can join us either on Monday nights (beginning January 15) via Zoom from 6:30-8pm or Thursday mornings (beginning January 18) at Redeemer from 9:30-11am.

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/worship)**.

Our Mission

Our mission is to make Jesus' invisible kingdom visible in Winter Haven, Polk County, and the world.

Church Planting

One of the ways we hope to accomplish our mission is by planting new churches throughout Polk County. We proudly partner with Renew Polk (renewpolk.org) and the Florida Church Planting Network (flchurchplanting.org).

Community Groups

We also meet during the week in homes for what we call Community Groups. They are intended to be the primary "church" experience for all who are a part of Redeemer. If you are interested in visiting a community group, contact Jonathan Winfree, ionathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org.



2024 GOAL: \$50,000 **RECEIVED:** \$504