

REDEEMER



ORANGE COUNTY

{ *order of worship* }

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Especially if this is your first time with us, welcome. We are glad you are here. We realize that the flow and order of our worship may be unfamiliar. We have included a few notes in the margins that will help you participate and that offer some explanations. Redeemer is a safe place to ask questions and think differently, so feel free to ask the pastors and leaders anything that might be helpful for you, and please offer your feedback.

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, sometimes called a liturgy. This is because we are gathering for the unique activity of worship, not for a lecture, a conference, or a concert; not to listen to good music or hear wise teaching. We gather for an encounter with God, and so we follow the pattern God gave his people in the scripture thousands of years ago. God speaks and we respond.

Calling - God takes the initiative, moves towards us with grace, and invites us to worship him.

Cleansing - God reminds us that we are forgiven in Christ and loved as his children.

Constitution - God builds us up and nourishes us through the scripture.

Communion - God draws us forward, as children to the father's table, to eat a covenant meal with him.

Commission - God sends us out into his world empowered to be his ambassadors.

Participating in this alternating pattern of God's words and our responses each week not only provides help for today, but shapes our faith over time to highlight the tenacity and graciousness of God's covenantal love.

We are glad you are with us. Please introduce yourself to me after our worship.

Grace and Peace,

David Juelfs
Senior Pastor

Redeemer Presbyterian Church
{Following Christ In The Renewal Of All Things}



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Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost : AUGUST 21, 2016

REFLECTION

“Nothing can be more cruel than the tenderness that consigns another to his sin. Nothing can be more compassionate than the severe rebuke that calls a brother back from the path of sin. When we allow nothing but God’s Word to stand between us, judging and helping, it is a service of mercy, an ultimate offer of genuine community. Then it is not we who are judging; God alone judges, and God’s judgment is helpful and healing.”
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - LUKE 6:47-48

Jesus said, “Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.”

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you, eyes to behold you, ears to listen to your word, a heart to love you, a life to proclaim you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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CALENDAR

- ADVENT The word ‘Pentecost’ comes from the Greek meaning simply ‘fiftieth’. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of
- CHRISTMAS Easter and symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the
- EPIPHANY empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In remembering Pentecost and living in light
- LENT of this powerful turning point the church expresses gratitude to Christ for sending “another counselor” (John
- EASTER 14:16), celebrates the work of the Spirit in the renewal of all creation, and professes its confidence and security
- PENTECOST** in knowing the Spirit’s power is available for its mission.

Calling

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP - LAMENTATIONS 3:22-26

Bold text is read together by the congregation.
Plain text is read by the leader.
Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

Minister: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end.

People: They are new every morning, great is your faithfulness.

Minister: The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him.

People: The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF ADORATION

Prayer concludes by saying in unison:

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The call to worship establishes the lines of communication in worship. God always comes to us before we come to God. Biblical worship is a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people.

HYMNS OF PRAISE

*O For A Thousand Tongues
This I Believe (The Creed)*
(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES

WORDS: CHARLES WESLEY, MUSIC: CARL GLAZER

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise
The glories of my God and King
The triumphs of His grace

My gracious Master and my God
Assist me to proclaim
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy Name

Jesus the Name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrows cease
'Tis music in the sinner's ears
'Tis life and health and peace

He breaks the power of canceled sin
He sets the prisoner free
His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me

Glory to God and praise and love
Be ever ever given
By saints below and saints above
The church in earth and heaven

THIS I BELIEVE (THE CREED)

WORDS AND MUSIC: MATT CROCKER AND BEN FIELDING

Our Father everlasting
The all creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Savior

Chorus

*I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus*

Our Judge and our Defender
Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high

Chorus

Cleansing

Please be seated.

The call to repentance invites us to honest expression within the context of our covenant relationship with God, a relationship in which honesty about our sin is welcome and safe.

CALL TO REPENTANCE - LUKE 6:41-42

Jesus said, "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye." Let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

Almighty and merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

How Deep The Father's Love For Us
WORDS AND MUSIC: STUART TOWNEND

Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts no power no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Please stand.

We greet one another with joy after the assurance of pardon because God's pardon of us sets us free to love and forgive one another.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - MATTHEW 5:3-4, 11:28-30

Minister: Listen to the words of Jesus: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Constitution

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL AND PRAYER

(At the parents' discretion, children 2 years old to those promoting to 5th grade in the fall may go to Sermon time class or remain in the service. Children will return to the worship service at the end of the sermon.)

READING GOD'S WORD

Luke 6:37-42

(Page 862 in the red Bible.)

The Word of
God is the chief
and final means
through which
God speaks
to us;
the principal
and most direct
way we hear
from God in
worship.

³⁷ "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

³⁹ He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴² How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PREACHING GOD'S WORD

REV. DAVID JUELFIS

The Spirit makes
the reading and
preaching of
God's Word a
powerful means
of nourishing
and comforting
God's people,
and awakening
people to new
faith.

To Judge or Not to Judge

Please stand

SONG OF RESPONSE

God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51)
(MUSIC ON PAGE 8)

GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME (PSALM 51)

WORDS: THE PSALTER (1912), MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER MINER (1997)

God, be merciful to me;
On Thy grace I rest my plea.
Plenteous in compassion Thou,
Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within;
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess;
Grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace,
And provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgment just;
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust
By Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice,
And in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face,
Blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew,
Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee,
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart,
Steadfast make my willing heart.

Please remain standing.

In 1646 the Westminster Assembly created the Westminster Confession of Faith which has largely defined Presbyterianism down to this day. When the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America was formed in 1788, it adopted the Westminster Confession as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures.

Please be seated for the offertory.

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependance and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal.

PROFESSION OF FAITH - WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH (16.2)

Good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruit and evidence of a true and living faith. By them believers show their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance of salvation, edify their brothers in the Lord, and become ornaments of all those who profess the gospel. Good works in believers silence the criticism of the enemies of the gospel. They also glorify God by showing that believers are the workmanship and creation of Jesus Christ, because their aim is that holiness of living which leads to eternal life.

OFFERTORY - MATTHEW 6:19-20

Minister: Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Let us pray. Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY SONG

Guitar Solo by Michael Higgins

Communion

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT

SURSUM CORDA

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give him thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORK OF THE FATHER AND SON

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, King of the universe. We thank you for the election of Israel, for the covenant made with Abraham to bless all the peoples of the earth. We praise you for the law, the prophets, and the promise of a coming king and an eternal kingdom. Therefore, we join our voices with all the company of heaven—patriarchs, apostles, and martyrs; the angels and the archangels—and we join their unending hymn of praise.

Please stand for the Sursum Corda.

Sursum Corda is Latin for “lift up your hearts.” One of the oldest liturgical pieces still in use, it calls us to be heavenly minded and summons us into the Lord’s presence. Along with the voices around you, hear the echo of 2000 years of worshiping Christians who have gone before.

ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

(Congregation sings together)

The Church's One Foundation

WORDS: SAMUEL J. STONE, 1866, MUSIC: AURELIA, 1864

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: By the power of your Holy Spirit let us taste and see your graciousness. Let us feed on you by faith and thereby grow up into the people that you intended us to be and that we long to become. Make us ever mindful of your great kindness and love towards us, and may you make us loving and kind towards our neighbors.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(Directions for taking communion are on page 12.)

Communion (i.e. the Lord's Supper or Eucharist) is a covenant renewal meal, instituted by Jesus the night before his crucifixion. It points back to the cross, forward to the return of the King, but also, when we receive it in faith, it is true fellowship with King Jesus, in his presence and at his table.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Directions for taking communion:

Redeemer Presbyterian Church welcomes all sincere Christians—those who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord’s Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel— to receive Holy Communion with us. Please note that we use wine for Communion; if you prefer non alcoholic grape juice, the grape juice is white and the wine is red. For those with wheat allergies, a gluten free cracker* is available in place of the bread. Also, the bread and the wine may be eaten and drunk as they are received. Please dispose of the cups in the trash receptacle.

When and how to come forward for communion:

Starting with the first row walk towards the center aisle and come forward. Once you have received the elements you may eat and drink at anytime.

A Word to Parents:

Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord’s Supper, a child must have been baptized and been formally received as a communing member by the Session of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any question about how the process works, please contact Pastor David. Children may take the wine at their parents’ discretion.

* Gluten-free crackers contain organic brown and white rice flour only.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

(Because Redeemer is a church that is not only for convinced Christians, but also for people at different stages in their spiritual journey, we gladly extend room for you to process, think, and dialogue. Use the prayers provided below as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.)

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG

My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness

WORDS AND MUSIC: KEITH GETTY & STUART TOWNEND

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness,
And clothed me with His light,
And wrote His law of righteousness
With power upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take.
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal God, Heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son,
our Savior Jesus Christ.
You have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder
(MUSIC ON PAGE 15)

Just as we begin
with with
God's gracious
invitation, so
we end with
God's promise
to always be
with us.

BLESSING - 2 THESSALONIANS 2:16-17

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father,
who loved us and by his grace
gave us eternal encouragement and good hope,
encourage your hearts and strengthen you
in every good deed and word.

It is appropriate
to lift our heads
as a symbol that
through Christ
God graciously
lifts our head,
and we hold out
our hands palms
up to symbolize
our need and
eagerness to
receive God's
blessing.

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Immediately following worship, all are invited to the chapel hall for refreshments and conversation.
Sermons can be streamed and downloaded at www.redeemeroc.org/resources/sermons

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

WORDS: JOHN NEWTON, MUSIC: LAURA TAYLOR

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God

Announcements & Events

Bible Drive

Sundays, through August 28

Next Sunday, August 28th, is the last week for our children to participate in raising funds to provide bibles for the OC jails. We will be partnering with Gary and Lisa Cram, founders of the Prelude Foundation, to distribute the bibles to inmates throughout Orange County. Children are encouraged to bring their change for the collection jar by our prison ministry mailbox at the Redeemer book table. Join us in sharing God's word with those who need His message of redemption.

Getting Ready for Fall Launch

We are excited about all of our programs and ministries coming up this fall. To best prepare for a successful launch, we need your help. Many of you are already serving in countless ways and we are so grateful for your involvement. If you are not already serving at Redeemer or would like to serve in some new ministry areas, please consider volunteering in one of our programs or ministries this fall. Email the contact person below if you have questions or are interested in serving in one of these ministries.

- Children's Ministry – Amanda Knox, amandak@redeemeroc.org
- Youth Ministry – Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org
- Sound Team – Carl Messenger, carl.messenger@cox.net
- Service Team – Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org
- Welcome Team and Hospitality – Kem Erskine, kem@redeemeroc.org

We look forward to serving with you for our 2016-2017 Redeemer programs and ministries!

Community Groups

Community Groups are on break for the summer and will resume in September. A Community Group is a small gathering of people who meet weekly to discuss scripture and pray together. If you are new to studying scripture, a community group is the perfect place to learn without pressure. **Fall Community Groups begin meeting the week of September 11th.** Look for details coming soon on our different community group meeting times and locations.

Parish Ministry

We love Orange County and count it a joy to serve the communities where we live. Redeemer is organized into neighborhood groups called parishes. Parishes are designed to help us connect with the Redeemer people we live close to and to empower our local Redeemer communities to contribute to the health of our cities. See information for each parish neighborhood listed below.

Beach Cities

Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach
Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org
949.423.8692

Central County

Irvine, Tustin, Orange, Santa Ana
Contact: Shawn Monterastelli
smonterastelli@hotmail.com
949.933.0085

North County

Fullerton, Anaheim, LaMirada, LA County
Contact: Drew Duncan
aduncan@waxie.com
714.614.7953

South County

Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Ladera Ranch
Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org
949.423.8692

Redeemer at a Glance

{ FOLLOWING CHRIST IN THE RENEWAL OF ALL THINGS }

Thank you for joining us. We hope you are encouraged and empowered. A church is not simply a Sunday morning experience, but a community of people following Jesus together. The rhythm of our life together follows this pattern:

- WORSHIP } Responding to God as he speaks through his word and sacraments.
- NURTURE } Learning how to live the kingdom life together. Community groups, classes and workshops, men's and women's ministry, family ministry, and simply having a good time together.
- MISSION } Making Jesus known among our neighbors and working to heal our neighborhoods. Get involved with your neighborhood parish.
- CULTURE } Celebrating and creating the good and the beautiful.

JOIN US



NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH – Love and serve the people where you live. You are God's ambassador. Details on p. 16.



COMMUNITY GROUPS – Study the scripture and pray with a small group of six to twelve others. If you are new to studying the scripture and praying, this is the perfect place to learn without pressure. Details on p.16.



CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS – At 10:10 a.m. on Sunday, take engaging classes on subjects that matter. *Classes are on break for the summer and will resume 9/25.*



MEN'S AND WOMEN'S MINISTRY – Yearly retreats and regular gatherings to deepen our relationships and support each other.



FAMILY MINISTRY – Whether it's a new baby or a house full of teenagers, Redeemer is a place to grow as a family.



MEMBERSHIP – Membership is our commitment to live our kingdom life together.

Global Partnership

Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA ACT

Ethiopia ACT is an organization in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that works to reconcile people to God through Jesus Christ, and to reconcile them to themselves, others and creation—all resulting in the planting, growing and maturing of churches that in turn transform lives and communities through faithful witnesses to the Gospel. They began as a ministry to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on extremely poor families, but have grown to include other public health strategies that serve the wider community, as well as educational and psychological support for vulnerable children. Church planting and renewal is central to all their activities and a primary goal for their team.

Jason Polk, an ordained PCA minister, together with his wife Liz and their three children, is the family that we directly support, as he oversees the spiritual care for Ethiopia ACT and its work to grow a gospel-centered church planting movement among the poor communities of Addis Ababa.

Update

Ethiopia ACT is currently at the end of a 3-year cycle in which they undergo government evaluation to be approved for continued funding. It is a detailed process, but also an exciting time of giving thanks for all that has been accomplished. Many beneficiaries have graduated from the program, showing significant improvement in their health and wellbeing, and the ability to care for themselves and their families without assistance.

In each of the three communities where Ethiopia ACT is active, weekly Bible studies are being conducted and reach community members of various religious backgrounds with a gospel message. In the Suki community, the church plant is flourishing with Sunday attendance up to 80-100 adults and children, and there are many new believers. In the past months they finished a study of the Lord's Supper and began a weekly celebration of the sacrament, as well as holding their first Easter service.

Another meaningful development has been the installation of two 20,000-liter water tanks in Suki, which was made possible by Ethiopia ACT in collaboration with community members and the water authority, helping see to completion the building of a road that was necessary for the tanks to be brought in. Five hundred households now have dependable access to water in the center of their own neighborhood.

Prayer Requests

- For sustained strength and energy for the Polk family and the Ethiopia ACT staff
- For the church plant in Suki to thrive and be a beacon of hope in the community
- For prosperous relationships with the 20+ churches in Addis Ababa that Ethiopia ACT partners with for medical clinics
- For strong support and wise counsel as Ethiopia ACT broadens its Family-to-Family partnerships and seeks to build a sound Income-Generating Activity program.

April 2017 Ethiopia Trip

If interested in joining our 2017 Ethiopia team, contact Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org.

Website: www.ethiopiaact.org

Global Partnership

Japan

REDEEMER CITY TO CITY - JAPAN

Redeemer City to City is movement which helps local leaders start churches in global cities by providing content resources, renewable grants, local networks and comprehensive training. Within the Redeemer City to City network, we are specifically supporting the church-planting efforts of Seima Aoyagi, an ordained PCA minister, together with his wife Naoko and their four children, Pastor of Grace Harbor Church in Tokyo, Japan.

Grace Harbor Church is a bilingual church plant with the vision to see the Tokyo Waterfront become an area overflowing with the grace and blessings of Jesus Christ. An area where people can get a rest from the stormy world, recover, and then be sent out again on their next voyage, as salt and light, to make the Tokyo Waterfront more beautiful than ever with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Update

Last April, Grace Harbor celebrated their one year anniversary of holding weekly worship services. They now have about 66 local people attending plus staff and missionaries for a weekly attendance of approximately 100. While this growth is good news, it also means that finding the space to accommodate their worship is becoming an issue which they hope to resolve in 2016.

Grace Harbor had 2 baptisms last year and is looking forward to a few more this year. Among them is Mr. Suzuki. He is about 60 years old, the owner of a local pub, who loves sports and manages a local baseball team. He spent his life without having any interaction with Christianity until he met a sports missionary from the U.S. Through this friendship his interest in becoming a Christian grew. One day Mr. Suzuki showed up at Grace Harbor and said that he wanted to get baptized. He has now been participating in a baptism class for the last six months learning Christian doctrine in answer to his many questions.

The Aoyagi family has has seen God move them from one season to the next. Their oldest Senri graduated and will be going to Covenant College, Towa's recovery is still progressing but now more slowly, Satoki joined the school basketball team, and Akari promoted to elementary school. Seima's wife, Naoko is getting involved in Parakaleo Japan, an organization that serves wives of church-planters. Seima was elected as the chair for the PTA in the kids' local elementary school which is considered a public figure in Japan and will help gain his credibility and expand his connections with others in the community.

Prayer Requests

- For Seima's son Towa's continuous recovery through daily activity and rehab visit.
- For Seima's family to be dependent on the Lord more and more.
- For Grace Harbor Church as they are in the process of reformatting small groups.
- For new contacts through outreach events to develop friendships and introduce them to Jesus.
- For them to not only grow in number but also in maturity as followers of Christ
- For God's guidance and provision for worship space that will accommodate their recent growth.
- For unity and focus in the leadership team, and for Seima to lead in a humble, godly manner.
- For more church planting happening in Tokyo, the world largest city yet with only 0.2% Christians!

Daily Scripture Readings

Please use your Order of Worship as a personal, family or group worship resource for prayers, hymns and readings this week. The scripture readings below are part of a two-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice and the Psalms frequently.

Proper 16

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 111, 112, 113 / Mark 6:1-6

Monday

Morning: Psalms 1, 2, 3 / Job 4:1,5:1-11,17-21,26-27 / Acts 9:19-31

Evening: Psalms 4, 7 / John 6:52-59

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 5, 6 / Job 6:1-4,8-15,21 / Acts 9:32-43

Evening: Psalms 10, 11 / John 6:60-71

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 119:1-24 / Job 6:1,7:1-21 / Acts 10:1-16

Evening: Psalms 12, 13, 14 / John 7:1-13

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 18:1-20 / Job 8:1-10,20-22 / Acts 10:17-33

Evening: Psalms 18:21-50 / John 7:14-36

Friday

Morning: Psalms 16, 17 / Job 9:1-15,32-35 / Acts 10:34-48

Evening: Psalms 22 / John 7:37-52

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 20, 21 / Job 9:1,10:1-9,16-22 / Acts 11:1-18

Evening: Psalms 110, 116, 117 / John 8:12-20

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 148, 149, 150 / Job 11:1-9,13-20 / Revelation 5:1-14

You can follow the daily readings online at redeemeroc.org/resources/daily-scripture-reading-prayer/

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*Redeemer is affiliated with the
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PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

We want to pray for you and hear your comments, suggestions and praises. Please write them in the space below.

Name: _____

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

(_____) _____
 Day Evening

Please deposit this card in the offering plate as it comes by or give it to an usher or greeter.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.

I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering me new life.

Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord.
AMEN.

If you are praying this for the first time, please let a Christian friend or pastor know.

We Are Glad You Are Here Today!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help you in any way we can. Feel free to fill out the tear-off card below to let us know what information would be helpful. Place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher or leader. Don't hesitate to check the box to meet with a pastor to help you learn more about Redeemer. We are here to serve you.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Spouse Cell: _____

Spouse Email: _____

Please add me to the church directory.

Please add me to the church email list.

Please Let Us Know If You Are:

First Time Visitor

Repeat Visitor

Please Contact Me About:

Joining a Community Group

Membership at Redeemer

Welcome to Redeemer Lunch

Getting Involved

Meeting with a Pastor

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code or use the url below if you prefer to complete this form online: redeemeroc.org/response-card



The cover painting
The Burning Bush is
by Danish artist
Maja Lisa Engelhardt