

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}



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

REFLECTION

“Once joined to Christ, believers will never be separated from Him. This is not because our grasp on Christ is so strong, but because His grip on us is unbreakable.”

- Marcus Peter Johnson

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - LUKE 8:15

The good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Love, have mercy upon us, that with all our heart and mind and strength we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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 - BASED ON JOHN 6, JOHN 15 AND PSALM 47

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: Jesus said to his first followers and to us, “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

People: You have the words of eternal life.

Minister: I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

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.

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.

HYMNS OF PRAISE

*Awake My Soul
Wisdom and Grace*
(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

AWAKE MY SOUL

WORDS AND MUSIC: SANDRA MCCRACKEN

The image of God invisible
The firstborn of all life
Before and within
He holds it all in
One name, one faith, one Christ

Chorus

*No one is good enough
To save himself
Awake my soul tonight
To boast nothing else*

I trust no other source or name
Nowhere else can I hide
This grace gives me fear
And this grace draws me near
And all that it asks it provides

Chorus

No seam in this garment
All my rags to hide
No less than your love
For Jesus is mine

When I stand on the edges of Jordan
With the saints and the angels beside
When my body is healed
And the glory revealed
Still I can boast only Christ

Chorus

WISDOM AND GRACE

WORDS AND MUSIC: SANDRA MCCRACKEN

Chorus

*Teach us to number our days
That we may apply our hearts to Your ways
Teach us to number our days
with wisdom and grace.*

You've been our home and our dwelling
Our place in all generations.
Before the earth or the mountains were formed,
Lord, You were God.

Chorus

Now the span of our life it is made,
Of sorrow and labor
As the days pass away like the grass
How soon we are gone.

Chorus

Let the work of our hands bring you praise
Set Your favor upon us.
O establish the work of our hands,
May Your kingdom come!

Chorus

Cleansing

Please be seated.

CALL TO REPENTANCE - BASED ON PSALM 139:23-24

The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words:

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

We express our longing for God to lead us by our own transparent confession.

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.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

Heavenly Father, our thoughts and motives cannot be hidden from your sight. Our self-pity and pride, our cowardice and sloth, our anger and envy are exposed to your eyes and ours. Forgive us, Father, and cover us in Christ. Let us hear your voice, saying, His blood is our peace, his death is our freedom, his Spirit our power, his smiting our safety. And let our hearts know that in your service is perfect freedom. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSIO (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

Agnus Dei
MUSIC: DAVID HLEBO

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
Have mercy on us
Grant us peace

Please stand.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - JEREMIAH 29:11-14

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.

Minister: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes."

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 5th grade may go to Sermon time class or remain in the service. Children will return to the worship service at the end of the sermon.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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.

PREACHING GOD'S WORD

REV. DAVID JUELFS

Unstoppable - Luke 8:22-56
(Pages 865-866 in the red Bible.)

SONG OF RESPONSE

Please stand

All I Owe

WORDS: ROBERT MURRAY MCCHEYNE AND MATTHEW SMITH, MUSIC: MATTHEW SMITH

When this passing world is done
When has sunk yon glaring sun
When we stand with Christ in glory
Looking o'er life's finished story
Then Lord shall I fully know
Not till then, how much I owe

*All I owe You paid for me
From all I owe I've been set free
And all I owe proves
Your great mercy to me*

When I stand before Your throne
Dressed in beauty not my own
When I see You as You are
Love You with unsinning heart
Then Lord shall I fully know
Not till then, how much I owe

*All I owe You paid for me
From all I owe I've been set free
And all I owe proves
Your great mercy to me*

Chosen not for good in me
Wakened up from wrath to flee
Hidden in the Savior's side
By the Spirit sanctified
Teach me Lord on earth to show
By my love how much I owe

*All I owe You paid for me
From all I owe I've been set free
And all I owe proves
Your great mercy to me*

The creed is a concise summary of biblical teaching, dating in its earliest form to the 2nd century, and originally used as a baptismal confession. *Means continued in the state of the dead, and under the power of death until the third day. **Means the true, universal church of all times and places.

Please be seated for the offertory.

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

PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell*.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church**,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY - PSALM 24:1

Minister: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.

As recipients of abundant life in Christ, we now offer our gifts to God.

Let us pray. O God, our offerings proclaim that work and worship are one, that life is undivided. Use these gifts for your church's ministries of reconciliation, service, and mercy. Amen.

OFFERTORY SONG

Sanctus

WORDS: TRADITIONAL, MUSIC: KARL DIGERNESS (2012)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

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: You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They shall pass away, but you shall endure. You are always the same and your years will never end. You made us in your image and called us to be your people, but we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign. Still you loved us and sought us. In Christ your grace defeated death and opened the way to eternal life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

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)

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

WORDS: JOHN NEWTON, MUSIC: JOHN STAINER

May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love
With the Holy Spirit's favor
Rest upon us from above

Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord
And possess in sweet communion
Joys which earth cannot afford

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: Gracious God, pour out you Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

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 10.)

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

Not My Own

MUSIC: COURTNEY JACOBS

(BASED ON HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, LORD'S DAY 1)

What comforts you in all things
In life and death and in all that they bring
What know - ledge carries you through the day
And helps you stay the eternal way?

Chorus

I know that

I am not my own

But belong in body and soul

In life and in death, in trials and rest

To Jesus my faithful Savior

Jesus with His precious blood
Has fully satisfied for all my sin
And has delivered me from the devil
And freed me from sin's evil power

My Heavenly Father preserves me
So that without His will and allowance
Not a hair can fall from my head
In Him I'm forever blessed

Chorus

All things must work together for my salvation
And therefore His Spirit assures me of life eternal with Him
Oh and how He makes me sincerely willing
And able to live for Him

Chorus

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Gracious God, Jesus is the center point of history,
and his presence is our new beginning.
Center our lives on your lavish grace
that not only saves but renews us to be like Jesus.
May our godly living be a fitting testimony of thanksgiving
that draws others to the joyful reign of Jesus the king. Amen.**

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

WORDS: GEORGE MATHESON, MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER MINER

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

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

BLESSING - 2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

Announcements & Events

Women's Fall Retreat

Friday-Sunday, October 14-16, Carlsbad

Today is the last Sunday to register for our fall retreat. Join us at the beautiful Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort the weekend of October 14-16. We will hear from speaker Courtney Doctor on the topic of Following Jesus. You can register at the women's ministry table or online at redeemeroc.org/ministries/women/retreat-registration-2016. Contact Ashley Moore, ashley.moore05@gmail.com, with questions.

Youth Fall Campout

Friday-Sunday, October 21-23, San Clemente State Beach Campground

Jr High and High School Students, and their friends, are invited to join us for our 4th annual beach camping trip in San Clemente. It doesn't get better than building relationships under the stars with one another, in tents, over s'mores, campfires, surfing, games, and Bible talks. The cost is \$50 per camper. For registration and forms, visit the book table and contact Joey LeSuer, joseph.m.lesuer@biola.edu.

Men's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:00-7:15am

Redeemer men are invited to join us for a bible study on the book of Deuteronomy. We meet at 6am at the Redeemer Church Office in Newport Beach. See additional information on our Men's Ministry webpage: redeemeroc.org/ministries/mens-ministry. Contact Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org, if you are interested in attending or have questions.

Women's Bible Studies

Our Women's Ministry is offering a morning and evening bible study. See details below:

Evening Bible Study

Costa Mesa

Every other Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Contact: Stephanie Handley

srhandley@gmail.com

Morning Bible Study

Newport Beach

Thursdays, 9:15 am

(Childcare available)

Contact: Kerry Maxwell

michael.maxwell3@gmail.com

If you plan to attend a bible study this fall, please register online so we can plan for materials and childcare (offered in our morning study only). For more information or to access our online registration, please visit our Women's Ministry webpage: redeemeroc.org/ministries/women.

Middle Hour

Lectures & Classes

FALL SCHEDULE

Sundays, 9/18 - 11/20, 10:10-10:50 am

10/16 - Women's Retreat Weekend, No Middle Hour Lectures and Classes

LECTURES

RUF & Evangelism

9/18 - Rev. Chad Brewer

Where You Are: Finding a Sense of Place

9/25 - D.J. Waldie

State & Local Government: How Does It All Work?

10/2 - Curt Pringle

The Trinity

10/9 - Dr. Fred Sanders

Monasticism

10/23 - Fr. Dr. Greg Peters

1 Peter & Mission

10/30 - Rev. Chris Stratton

The Gift of NOT Knowing Things

11/6 - Dr. Jonathan Feng

The Gift of Knowing Strange Things

11/13 - Dr. Miles Stoudenmire

The Gift of Teaching Things

11/20 - Dr. David Reinkensmeyer

All lectures will be held in the Chapel.

ADULT CLASSES

Redeemer 101

Rev. Adam Feichtmann

9/18 – 10/23, MPR Room 10

Evangelism

Rev. Chad Brewer

9/25-10/9, MPR Room 9

YOUTH WORKSHOPS

Jr. High (6th-8th Grade)

Location: MPR Room 1

Leader: Joey LeSuer

High School (9th-12th Grade)

Location: MPR Room 2

Leaders: Josh Cooper

We invite our youth to join us for a fun, creative, and relationally-based workshop, focused on studying the Bible and the catechisms.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Early Childhood - Kindergarten (2yrs-K)

Location: MPR Area, Room 3

Lower Elementary (1st-3rd grades)

Location: MPR Area, Room 5

Upper Elementary (4th-5th grades)

Location: MPR Area, Room 8

These classes teach children Bible truths through simple questions and answers, promoting memorization using Bible teaching, music, & activities. Children will learn that they are made for God's glory and enjoyment in him and how to apply that truth to their lives. We will be using the *Show Me Jesus* curriculum.

NURSERY

Children 6 months to 2 years

Location: Room directly outside the chapel.

Available during Middle Hour and the Worship Services.

Community Life

Parishes & Community Groups

PARISH

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

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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. Community Groups times and locations are listed below.

Newport-Mesa

Feichtmann Home
Sundays, 4:00-6:00 pm
Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org
949-423-8692

Newport Beach

Port Street Homes
Sundays, 7:00-9:00 pm
Contact: Erik Rannala
rannala.erik@gmail.com
415-309-5109

University Hills (UCI)

Lenz Home
Sundays, 5:00-6:30 pm
Contact: Dan Lenz
justlenz@gmail.com
308-440-4359

Irvine

Kornu & Moore Homes
Sundays, 5:00-6:30 pm
Contact: Roger & Christine Kornu
kornufamily@gmail.com
949-559-5502

Costa Mesa - South Coast

Erskine Home
Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00 pm
Contact: Kem Erskine
kemerskine@yahoo.com
949-468-6227

Costa Mesa - Mesa Verde

Pringle Home
Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm
Contact: Stephanie Handley
srhandley@gmail.com
619-665-7952

Fullerton

Duncan Home
Every other Sunday, 4:00-6:30 pm
Contact: Drew & Stacey Duncan
stacey.duncan@hotmail.com
714-869-3077

Junior High - Costa Mesa

Halecrest Back Clubhouse
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm
Contact: Joey LeSuer
joey.joseph.m.lesuer@biola.edu

High School - Costa Mesa

Cooper Home
Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 pm
Contact: Josh Cooper
joshc@redeemeroc.org
949-784-9853

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

A recent praise for Ethiopia ACT is that they received a very favorable evaluation by the government of their last three-year cycle, which is rare, and a positive step in the renewal process for another cycle. Please pray for a quick approval for the program, and for a renewed work permit for teammate Jessica Ringsmuth so she can return to Ethiopia.

Another praise is the success of a VBS week in the Suki community. Ethiopian volunteers were able to share the gospel message with the 115+ children in attendance. Pray that the gospel would continue working in the hearts of those children.

Unfortunately, many members of the Suki community are facing uncertainty as the government has announced plans to demolish informal housing in the area. This would affect a number of beneficiary families. Another community that Ethiopia ACT was surveying for possible expansion of their programs has already been torn down. Please pray for these residents who may lose their homes, and for wisdom in knowing how to work through this situation.

Jason and Liz Polk are doing well and trying to keep the kids busy during the rainy season in Addis Ababa. Their two boys, Nathan and Isaiah, just went back to school, and Anna is keeping them on their toes as she enters the toddler stage.

Prayer Requests

- For sustained strength and energy for the Polk family and the Ethiopia ACT staff
- For the children who attended VBS to have open hearts to the gospel message
- For a smooth completion of the project's renewal.
- For the Suki residents facing the destruction of their homes.
- For the conflict and unrest happening in Ethiopia, and for the country's peace.

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!

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. 15.



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.15.



LECTURES & CLASSES – At 10:10 a.m. on Sunday, participate in engaging lectures and classes on subjects that matter. Details on p. 14.



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

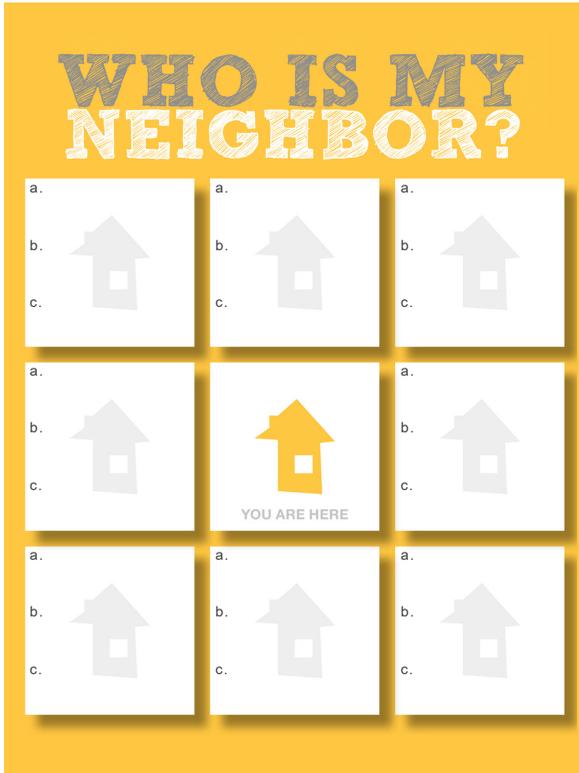


FAMILY MINISTRY – Whether it's a new baby or a house full of teenagers, Redeemer is a place to grow as a family.



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

Building a Beautiful Neighborhood



a: Write the names of the people who live in the house represented by the box. If you can give first and last names, that's great. If it's only first names, that's fine too.

b: Write down some relevant information about each person, some data or facts about him or her that you couldn't see just by standing in your driveway, things you might know if you've spoken to the person once or twice. We don't mean drives a red car or has yellow roses by the sidewalk, because you could see that from your driveway. We mean information you've gathered from actually speaking to a neighbor, such as grew up in Idaho, is a lawyer, plays golf, is from Ethiopia, had a father in World War II.

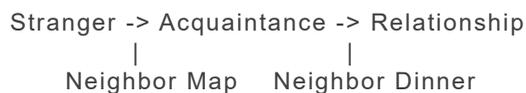
c: Write down some in-depth information you would know after connecting with people. This might also include their career plans or dreams of starting a family or anything to do with the purpose of their lives. What motivates them to do what they do? What would they say about God? What do they most fear? What are their spiritual beliefs and practices? Write down anything meaningful that you've learned through interacting with them.

"The majority of the issues that our community is facing would be eliminated or drastically reduced if we could just figure out a way to become a community of great neighbors."

- Bob Frie, former mayor of Arvada, CO

"God is already working in your neighborhood. Being a good neighbor simply means slowing down and being aware of what he is designing. By developing real relationships, you'll find out how God is already moving in a person's life."

- Dave Runyon



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 21

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 19, 46 / Matthew 13:44-52

Monday

Morning: Psalms 89:1-18 / Hosea 2:14-23 / Acts 20:17-38

Evening: Psalms 89:19-52 / Luke 5:1-11

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 97, 99, 100 / Hosea 4:1-10 / Acts 21:1-14

Evening: Psalms 94, 95 / Luke 5:12-26

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 101, 109 / Hosea 4:11-19 / Acts 21:15-26

Evening: Psalms 119:121-144 / Luke 5:27-39

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 105:1-22 / Hosea 5:8-6:6 / Acts 21:27-36

Evening: Psalms 105:23-45 / Luke 6:1-11

Friday

Morning: Psalms 102 / Hosea 10:1-15 / Acts 21:37-22:16

Evening: Psalms 107:1-32 / Luke 6:12-26

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 107:33-43, 108 / Hosea 11:1-9 / Acts 22:17-29

Evening: Psalms 33 / Luke 6:27-38

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 118 / Hosea 13:4-14 / 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

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

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Sundays 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM

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*Redeemer is affiliated with the
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REDEEMER
ORANGE COUNTY

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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