



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}



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany : FEBRUARY 12, 2017

REFLECTION

"Comedian Tom Arnold once confessed in an interview about his book, How I Lost Five Pounds in Six Years, that most entertainers are in show business because they are broken people, looking for affirmation. 'The reason I wrote this book,' Arnold said, 'is because I wanted something out there so people would tell me they liked me. It's the reason behind almost everything I do.'

"Tom Arnold is not alone. Who cannot identify with a craving for affirmation?"

- Scott Sauls

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - LUKE 15:1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of light and truth, you are beyond our grasp or conceiving. Before the brightness of your presence the angels veil their faces. With lowly reverence and adoring love we acclaim your glory and sing your praise, for you have shown us your truth and love in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

CALENDAR

ADVENT CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

LENT EASTER

PENTECOST

We know the word: a moment of piercing awareness, the sudden jolt of understanding. This is the season of Epiphany, a season celebrating the revelation of the Savior, the light of the world. Throughout the season we focus on the ministry of Jesus: the calling of the disciples, the teachings of Christ, his miracles, and finally his transfiguration. The epiphany of Epiphany is that this is no mere teacher or prophet—this is the Son of God, the Messiah. Epiphany calls us to live God's mission, announcing the good news of Christ's arrival to every culture and to those who live across the street. We, the church, are sent out as the manifestation of Jesus to a watching world (from Seeking God's Face by Philip Reinders).

Calling

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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: In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth. Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

People: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

Minister: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary. Come now, all who thirst.

People: and drink the water of life.

Minister: Come now, all who hunger,

People: and be filled with good things.

Minister: Come now, all who seek,

People: and watch as we are found.

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

God of Wonders Our Great God (MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

GOD OF WONDERS

WORDS AND MUSIC: STEVE HINDALONG AND MARC BYRD

Lord of all creation
Of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning I will celebrate the light When I stumble in the darkness I will call Your name by night

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
Precious Lord, reveal Your heart to me
Father holy holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy, holy, holy

Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth

OUR GREAT GOD

WORDS AND MUSIC: FERNANDO ORTEGA AND MAC POWELL

Eternal God unchanging mysterious and unknown
Your boundless love
Unfailing grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight
Around Your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night
In praise to You alone

Chorus Hallelujah glory be to our great God Hallelujah glory be to our great God

Lord we are weak and frail
Helpless in the storm
Surround us with Your angels
Hold us in Your arms
Our cold and ruthless enemy
His pleasure is our harm
Rise up O Lord and he will flee
Before our sov'reign God

Chorus

Let ev'ry creature in the sea
And ev'ry flying bird
Let ev'ry mountain
Ev'ry field and valley of the earth
Let all the moons and all the stars
In all the universe
Sing praises to the living God
Who rules them by His Word

Chorus

Cleansing

Please be seated.

CALL TO REPENTANCE - BASED ON LUKE 23:42-43

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

Minister: In the last moments before his death a criminal crucified next to Jesus cried out to him, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus showing his great mercy answered, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Knowing God's mercy let us also cry out to Jesus as we confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you did not disdain the company of sinners but welcomed them with love. Look upon us in mercy, we pray. Our sins are more than we can bear; our pasts enslave us; our misdeeds are beyond correcting. Forgive the wrongs we cannot undo; free us from a past we cannot change; heal what we can no longer fix. Grace our lives with your love and turn the tears of our past into the joys of new life with you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

 $Friend\ of\ Sinners$ words by augustus m. toplady, music by Jeff Koonce and Brian T. Murphy

Redeemer whither should I flee
Or how escape the wrath to come?
The weary sinner flies to Thee
For shelter from impending doom
Smile on me gracious Lord
And show Thyself a friend of sinners now
Smile on me gracious Lord
And show Thyself a friend of sinners now

Please stand.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - FROM LUKE 15:6-7

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: Jesus said, "'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

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

People: And also with you.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL AND PRAYER

(At the parents' discretion, children 2 years old to 5th grade may go to a Sermon Time class or remain in the service. Children 2 years through Kindergarten need to be signed into their class prior to the service or at dismissal and signed out following the sermon or after the service.)

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.

READING GOD'S WORD

Luke 15:1-11

(Pages 874 in the red Bible.)

- ¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
- ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- ⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

¹¹ And he said. "There was a man who had two sons.

Lost and Found

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.

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Please stand

SONG OF RESPONSE

Satisfied (MUSIC ON PAGE 8)

SATISFIED

WORDS: CLARA T. WILLIAMS (1875), MUSIC: KARL DIGERNESS (1997)

All my life long I had panted
For a drink from some cool spring,
That I hoped would quench the burning
Of the thirst I felt within.

Chorus

Hallelujah! He has found me
The One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings,
Through His blood I now am saved.

Feeding on the filth around me, Till my strength was almost gone, Longed my soul for something better, Only still to hunger on.

Chorus

Poor I was, and sought for riches, Something that would satisfy, But the dust I gathered round me Only mocked my soul's sad cry.

Chorus

Well of water, ever springing, Bread of life so rich and free, Untold wealth that never faileth, My Redeemer is to me.

Chorus

2nd service only, please be seated.

PROFESSION OF FAITH - HADLEIGH JOY JUELFS

(11:00 am service only. First service worship continued with The Apostles Creed below.)

- 1. Do you believe that you are made in the image of God, created to worship, serve, and enjoy him in all of life?
- 2. Do you believe that you are a sinner in the sight of God?
- 3. Do you believe in Jesus and trust in him alone for your salvation?
- 4. Do you want to follow Jesus, do what he says, and do you trust that the Holy Spirit will help you?
- 5. Do you promise to join with us in all the worship and work of the Church?
- 6. Do you promise to let the elders of the church teach you and guide you?

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.

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.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY - MALACHI 3:10-12

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. Minister: Put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

Let us pray. O God, give us courage to do as you say and put you to the test with our finances. You call us to give to you the first portion of our income. We confess our anxiety and cynicism. Help us to find our delight and security in you alone. 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: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord; you ever love to show mercy. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

(Congregation sings together)

Praise to the Lord the Almighty
WORDS: JOACHIM NEANDER: MUSIC: STRALSUND GESANGBUCH

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly for aye we adore Him

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.

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: Grant us, gracious Lord, so to partake of the body of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his cup, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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 13.)

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

Hungry
WORDS AND MUSIC: JOY WILLIAMS

Hungry, I come to You For I know You satisfy I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry

> So I wait for You So I wait for You

I'm falling on my knees Offering all of me Jesus, You're all this heart Is living for

Broken, I run to You
For Your arms are open wide
I am weary but I know
Your touch restores my life

So I wait for You So I wait for You

I'm falling on my knees Offering all of me Jesus, You're all this heart Is living for

Hungry, I come to You For I know You satisfy I am empty but I know Your love does not run dry

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God,
in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people,
we give ourselves to you.
Take us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the living bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us,
enable much by us, encourage many through us.
So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

Taste and See That The Lord Is Good WORDS AND MUSIC: DAVID HLEBO

Come taste and see
That the Lord is very good
Our sin on Him
We are free now
Let us go in peace

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.

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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

Middle Hour

Lectures & Classes

WINTER SCHEDULE

Sundays, January 8 - April 9, 10:10-10:50 am Feb 26 - Men's Retreat Weekend, No Lectures or Classes April 16 - Children's Easter Party

LECTURES

All lectures will be held in the Chapel.

Jan 8 - Silence & Beauty | Makoto Fujimura

Jan 15 - Faith & Fashion | Dr. Robert Covolo

Jan 22 - Beauty | Rev. Joel Pelsue

Feb 5 - Faith & Education | Rev. Chris Stratton

Feb 12 - Our Cultural Liturgy | Dr. Tim Pickavance

Feb 19 - Safe Families | Brewer Family

Mar 5 - Marriage | Dr. John Cox

ADULT CLASSES

Redeemer 101

Adam Feichtmann Jan 22 - Feb 19 Temple Bat Yahm, MPR Room 10

Meaning of Marriage

Mar 12 - Apr 9

Christian Formation Practices Workshop

Adam Feichtmann Mar 12 - Apr 9 (No class April 2nd.)

YOUTH WORKSHOP

Jr. High & High School (6th-12th Grade)

Location: MPR Room 2

Leaders: Josh Cooper & Joey LeSuer

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 worship and middle hour.

Community Life

Parishes, Community Groups & Bible Studies

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 Contact: Clint Knox 949.903.4769

Central County Contact: Shawn Monterastelli Contact: Amber Fox clint@komarinvestments.com smonterastelli@hotmail.com 949.933.0085

North County mrsamberfox@me.com 310.463.8177

South County 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

Irvine

Kornu & Moore Homes Sundays, 4:00-6:30 pm Contact: Roger & Christine Kornu kornufamily@gmail.com 949-559-5502

Junior High - Costa Mesa Halecrest Back Clubhouse Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm Contact: Joey LeSuer joey joseph.m.lesuer@biola.edu **Newport Beach**

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

Costa Mesa

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

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

University Hills (UCI)

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

Fullerton

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

MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

During the week we offer bible studies for men and women to study scripture and pray together. The study this fall is on the book of Deuteronomy. See details below on our study times and locations:

Men's Bible Study Church Office, Newport Beach Thursdays, 6-7:15 am Contact: Adam Feichtmann

adamf@redeemeroc.org

Women's Evening Bible Study Scanlon Home, Costa Mesa Every other Tuesday, 7:00 pm Contact: Stephanie Handley srhandley@gmail.com

Women's Morning Bible Study Hodson Home, Newport Beach Thursdays, 9:15 am (Childcare available) Contact: Kerry Maxwell michael.maxwell3@gmail.com

Announcements & Events

Budget and Vision Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, February 19, Middle Hour (10:10-10:50 am)

Join us during the middle hour next Sunday, February 19th, for our town hall meeting in the chapel. We will discuss the 2017 budget and our vision as a church for this year. Nursery childcare will be available during the meeting and children's Sunday School will also be in session during this time.

Host Families Needed for Japanese Students

Wed-Mon, March 8-13

Redeemer is hoping to host 10 Japanese students, and 3 leaders from our global partner church, Grace Harbor Church in Tokyo, Japan. Grace Harbor runs these trips annually as an outreach to Japanese college students. As our global partner, this is an amazing opportunity for us to support their mission and also to let God use us as hospitable hosts for these Japanese students. The students will also be joining us for worship on Sunday March 12th. If you are interested or able to host students (and some leaders) in your home from March 8th -13th (5 nights) please contact Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org.

Redeemer "Nut-Free" Policy

You may have noticed changes to our bagels and cream cheese options on Sunday morning. Due to allergies in our congregation, we have decided to institute a "nut-free" policy at Redeemer. Going forward our refreshment options will be nut-free, and we also ask that any food brought into the church not contain nuts to keep our church family safe and healthy. Thank you for adhering to this new policy!

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.

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. 17.

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.17.

LECTURES & CLASSES – At 10:10 a.m. on Sunday, participate in engaging lectures and classes on subjects that matter. Details on p. 16.

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

Although the current state of emergency instated in Ethiopia has presented challenges, Ethiopia ACT continues to move forward in serving the local communities in Addis Ababa. Over the coming months, ACT will be adding 100 non-HIV families to their program, further extending their efforts in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of their neighbors.

A previous prayer request was for members of the Suki community who were facing the destruction of their homes. Because government focus has being shifted elsewhere, the tearing down of these homes has been put on hold, and it does not appear that it will move forward. Praise God that those residents have not been displaced, and please pray for their continued wellbeing and provision.

The Polk family continues to do well, but as always, continue to lift them up in prayer as they labor and pour themselves out for the city of Addis Ababa.

Finally, ACT is in the process of registering with the Ethiopian government and asks for prayer that the process progresses smoothly.

Prayer Requests

- For sustained strength, energy and safety for the Polk family and the Ethiopia ACT staff in Addis Ababa.
- For the current state of emergency in the country due to regional protests, and for peaceful resolution.
- That visiting teams being delayed or unable to travel would not have a negative impact on medical clinics or other services ACT provides.
- For a smooth process registering Ethiopia ACT with the government.
- For ACT to be able to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the new families being added to the program.

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 60 adults and 30 children attending the weekly service each week, and are slowly but steadily growing. Grace Harbor has had 2 more baptisms this year. Yoko was introduced to Grace Harbor at a community event and began developing friendships. After attending events regularly for 2 years she confessed her faith and became a Christian. Yoko then waited patiently for 2 more years for her husband to give approval for her baptism. This year she was finally baptized and her husband even came to the service! Mr. Suzuki, the 62-year-old pub owner and manager a local baseball team, completed his baptism classes and was baptized in early December 2016.

Last summer Grace Harbor welcomed many summer missions teams. These teams are instrumental in helping them get connected to non-Christians in the community through cultivating new relationships and hosting events. Some of these events included a Hawaiian BBQ, College outreach, Kids English Camp, and a Basketball outreach.

One of the major challenges this year is the reforming of their leadership team as they transition from being a missionary-heavy church to a Japanese church. Other challenges include the health issues with Pastor Seima's hearing problems and Pastor Fukuda's stroke from which both are miraculously recovering.

The Aoyagi family is seeing God work through their roles in the community. Seima's position as PTA chair has allowed him to make connections through which people have come to know about Grace Harbor. Naoko's involvement with Parakaleo Japan helps provide a care-network for wives in ministry.

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 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!

Websites: www.redeemercitytocity.com, www.graceharborchurch.jp

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 wtih 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

THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST

BY WAYNE GRUDEM

The Lord's Supper is not simply an ordinary meal among human beings— it is a fellowship with Christ, in his presence and at his table. We must avoid the idea that any automatic or magical benefit comes from sharing in the Lord's Supper, whether a person participates in faith or not. But when a person participates in faith, renewing and strengthening his or her own trust in Christ for salvation, and believing that the Holy Spirit will bring spiritual blessing through such participation, then certainly additional blessing may be expected.

We must be careful here to avoid the mistake of overreacting to Roman Catholic teaching and maintaining that the Lord's Supper is merely symbolic and not a means of grace. Paul says, "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation (Gk. koinonia, "sharing," "fellowship") in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation [koinonia] in the body of Christ?" (1 Cor. 10:16).

Because there is such a sharing in the body and blood of Christ (apparently meaning a sharing in the benefits of Christ's body and blood given for us), the unity of believers is beautifully exhibited at the time of the Lord's Supper. "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17). And since we are participants at "the table of the Lord" (1 Cor. 10:21), Paul warns the Corinthians that they cannot participate in the Lord's table and also participate in idol worship: "You cannot partake in the table of the Lord and the table of demons" (1 Cor. 10:21). There is a spiritual union among believers and with the Lord that is strengthened and solidified at the Lord's Supper, and it is not to be taken lightly.

This is why the Corinthians were experiencing judgment for their abuse of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:29-30). But if Paul says there will be judgment for wrong participation in the Lord's Supper, then certainly we should expect blessing for right participation in the Lord's Supper.

When we obey Jesus' command, "Take, eat" (Matthew 26:26), and go through the physical activity of eating and drinking at the Lord's table, our physical action pictures a corresponding spiritual nourishment, a nourishment of our soul that will occur when we participate in obedience and faith. Jesus says, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-6).

Certainly Jesus is not speaking of a literal eating of his flesh and blood. But if he is not speaking of a literal eating and drinking, then he must have in mind a spiritual participation in the benefits of the redemption he earns. The spiritual nourishment, so necessary for our souls, is both symbolized and experienced in our participation in the Lord's Supper.

Daily Scripture Readings

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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.

Week 6 of Epiphany

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 19, 46 / John 8:12-19

Monday

Morning: Psalms 89:1-18 / Isaiah 63:1-6 / 1 Timothy 1:1-17 Evening: Psalms 89:19-52 / Mark 11:1-11

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 97, 99, 100 / Isaiah 63:7-14 / 1 Timothy 1:18-2:8 Evening: Psalms 94, 95 / Mark 11:12-26

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 101, 109 / Isaiah 63:15-64:9 / 1 Timothy 3:1-16 Evening: Psalms 119:121-144 / Mark 11:27-12:12

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 105:1-22 / Isaiah 65:1-12 / 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Evening: Psalms 105:23-45 / Mark 12:13-27

Friday

Morning: Psalms 102 / Isaiah 65:17-25 / 1 Timothy 5:17-25

Evening: Psalms 107:1-32 / Mark 12:28-34

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 107:33-43, 108 / Isaiah 66:1-6 / 1 Timothy 6:6-21

Evening: Psalms 33 / Mark 12:35-44

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 118 / Isaiah 66:7-14 / 1 John 3:4-10

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

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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:
()

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 recieve 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 for Epiphany is by Redeemer artist Danielle Kimzey www.daniellekimzey.com