



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}



Second Sunday of Lent MARCH 12, 2017

REFLECTION

Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or commencement, Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus’ passion and celebrating Jesus’ resurrection.
- Emily Brink and John D. Witvliet

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - LUKE 23:44-46

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy and loving God, as we worship you today, we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. Amen.

CALENDAR

ADVENT	“A journey, a pilgrimage! Yet, as we begin it, as we make the first step into the ‘bright sadness’ of Lent, we
CHRISTMAS	see - far, far away - the destination. It is the joy of Easter, it is the entrance into the glory of the Kingdom,”
EPIPHANY	(Alexander Schmemmann). The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the heart of the Christian gospel,
LENT	and Good Friday and Easter are two of the most significant celebrations of the Christian year. Lent is a season of
EASTER	preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Just as we carefully prepare for
PENTECOST	big events in our personal lives... Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus’ passion and celebrating Jesus’ resurrection (From The Worship Sourcebook).

Calling

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP - PSALM 34:1-4, 8

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: Let us bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in our mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Minister: O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

People: I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Minister: O taste and see that the LORD is good;

People: happy are those who take refuge in him.

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

Amazing Grace

I Asked The Lord

(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

AMAZING GRACE

WORDS: JOHN NEWTON, MUSIC: TRADITIONAL

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun

I ASKED THE LORD

WORDS: JOHN NEWTON (1779), ALT. LAURA TAYLOR, MUSIC: LAURA TAYLOR (2004)

I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith and love and every grace
Might more of His salvation know
And seek more earnestly His face

'Twas He who taught me thus to pray
And He I trust has answered prayer
But it has been in such a way
As almost drove me to despair

I hoped that in some favored hour
At once He'd answer my request
And by His love's constraining power
Subdue my sins and give me rest

Instead of this He made me feel
The hidden evils of my heart
And let the angry powers of Hell
Assault my soul in every part

Yea more with His own hand He seemed
Intent to aggravate my woe
Crossed all the fair designs I schemed
Cast out my feelings, laid me low

Lord, why is this, I trembling cried
Wilt Thou pursue Thy worm to death?
"Tis in this way," the Lord replied,
"I answer prayer for grace and faith"

"These inward trials I employ
From self and pride to set thee free
And break thy schemes of earthly joy
That thou mayest seek thy all in Me
That thou mayest seek thy all in Me
That thou mayest seek thy all in Me"

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 - BASED ON PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4

Minister: God invites us to build and enjoy the relationships we long for with these words, “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

With honesty about how far we stray from this path of love let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

Hast Thou Heard Him, Seen Him, Known Him
WORDS: ORA ROWAN (ALT. KEVIN TWIT), MUSIC: JOEL LITTLEPAGE (2010)

What can strip the seeming beauty,
From the idols of the earth?
Not a sense of right or duty,
But the sight of peerless worth.

Captivated by His beauty,
Worthy tribute haste to bring.
Let His peerless worth constrain thee,
Crown Him now unrivaled King.

Please stand.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - MATTHEW 11:28-30

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: Listen to the words of Jesus:

“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 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.)

READING GOD'S WORD

Luke 20:1-8, 45-47

(Pages 879-880 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.

¹ One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up ² and said to him, "Tell us by what authority you do these things, or who it is that gave you this authority." ³ He answered them, "I also will ask you a question. Now tell me, ⁴ was the baptism of John from heaven or from man?" ⁵ And they discussed it with one another, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why did you not believe him?'" ⁶ But if we say, 'From man,' all the people will stone us to death, for they are convinced that John was a prophet." ⁷ So they answered that they did not know where it came from. ⁸ And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

⁴⁵ And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, ⁴⁶ "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁷ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Last Week: Tuesday & Wednesday

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.

Please stand

SONG OF RESPONSE

Before the Throne of God Above
(MUSIC ON PAGE 8)

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

WORDS: CHARITIE LEES BANCROFT (1863), MUSIC: VIKKI COOK (1997)

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

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The Heidelberg Catechism was composed in Heidelberg in 1563 by Zacharius Ursinus to teach Reformed Christianity in Germany. For close to four centuries it has remained one of the most widely used and loved catechisms of the Reformation. It has been praised for its warmth and personal nature.

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 - HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, Q. 56

Minister: What do you believe concerning the forgiveness of sins?

People: I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature, which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

OFFERTORY

Minister: Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us with your grace, that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY SONG

Instrumental Solo

JEFF MERCER

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 are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In this Lenten season of preparation and repentance as we anticipate Good Friday and Easter, let us remember that Jesus took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt. He shared our life in every way, and though tempted, was sinless to the end. Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death and by your power was raised to new life. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. 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)

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

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: Creator God, be present with your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, that we and your entire church may be called out and made whole through this supper. Show us that your mercy is greater than our sin.

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.)

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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

Rock of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)
WORDS: SANDRA MCCRACKEN, MUSIC: KEVIN TWIT

Rock of Ages, when the day seems long
From this labor and this heartache I have come
The skies will wear out, but You remain the same
Rock of Ages, I praise Your name

Rock of Ages, You have brought me near
You have poured out Your life-blood, Your love, and Your tears
To make this stone heart come alive again
Rock of Ages, forgive my sin

Chorus
Rock of Ages, Rock of Ages
Bind your children till the kingdom comes
Rock of Ages, Your will be done

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest
My desperate need for such a Savior I confess
Pull these idols out from my heart embrace
Rock of Ages, I need Your grace

Rock of Ages, broken, scorned for me
Who am I that You would die to make me free?
To give me glory, You took the death and pain
Rock of Ages, my offering

Chorus

Rock of Ages, "It is done," You cried
The curtain's torn and I see justice satisfied
Now write Your mercy here on my heart and hands
Rock of Ages, in faith I stand

Rock of Ages, my great hope secure
Your promise holds just like an anchor to my soul
Bind your children with cords of love and grace
Rock of Ages, we give You praise

Chorus

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**O God, you have so greatly loved us,
long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.
Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves,
our wills, and our works,
a continual thank-offering to you,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

Before the Throne of God Above

WORDS: CHARITIE LEES BANCROFT (1863), MUSIC: VIKKI COOK (1997)

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

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

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.

BLESSING - 1 PETER 5:10-11

After you have suffered a little while,
the God of all grace,
who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ,
will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.
To him be the dominion forever and ever.

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 Game Night

Tuesday, March 14, 7:30pm

Ladies, join us this Tuesday for Game Night! Come enjoy fellowship and some friendly competition. Bring your game face and some snacks or dessert to share. Feel free to bring a friend too! We will gather at the home of Emily Patterson in Newport Beach. Contact Kerry Maxwell, michael.maxwell3@gmail.com, with questions or to RSVP.

Lenten Reading Schedule

If you are joining us for our Lenten Reading Group on *The Final Days of Jesus*, please see the readings we will be discussing each week below:

Date	Pages	Sections
March 12	1-44	Intro, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday
March 19	47-93	Wednesday, Thursday
March 26	95-143	Friday
April 2	143-167	Friday
April 9	169-end	Saturday/Sunday

Middle Hour

Lectures & Classes

WINTER SCHEDULE

Sundays, January 8 - April 9, 10:10-10:50 am
April 16 - Children's Easter Party

UPCOMING ADULT CLASSES

Meaning of Marriage

March 12 - April 9
Temple Bat Yahm, Morgan Chapel
Facilitator: Rev. Adam Feichtmann

Modern culture would have you believe that everyone has a soul mate; that romance is the most important part of a successful marriage; that marriage does not mean 'til death do us part, but merely for as long as my needs are being met; and that when serious differences arise, divorce is the best solution. According to the Bible, all of these modern-day assumptions miss what marriage is all about. For five weeks, we will watch Timothy and Kathy Keller's *The Meaning of Marriage* video-based Bible study, where they draw a profound portrait of marriage from the pages of Scripture that neither idealizes nor rejects the institution but points us back to the relationship between God and man. Optional resources, *The Meaning of Marriage* book and study guide, are available for sale at the book table.

Lenten Reading Group

March 12 - April 9
Temple Bat Yahm, MPR Room 10
Facilitator: Jamie Pickavance

This group will be discussing the book *The Final Days of Jesus*, about the most important week of the most important person who ever lived. This book will also be a great complement to Pastor David's Lenten preaching series on Jesus' final days in the Gospel of Luke. Some copies of the book will be for sale at the book table. See the weekly reading assignments on the announcements page.

UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS

Apr 30 - Redeemer Spring Brunch
May 7 - Safe Families Presentation | Brewer Family

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
clint@komarinvestments.com
949.903.4769

Central County

Contact: Shawn Monterastelli
smonterastelli@hotmail.com
949.933.0085

North County

Contact: Amber Fox
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

Newport Beach

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

University Hills (UCI)

Reinkensmeyer Home
Sundays, 5:00-6:30 pm
Contact: Dave Reinkensmeyer
dreinken@uci.edu
949-856-1976

Irvine

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

Costa Mesa

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

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

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 been 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

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. 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.

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

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 2 of Lent

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 8, 84 / Mark 3:31-4:9

Monday

Morning: Psalms 56, 57, 58 / Jeremiah 1:11-19 / Romans 1:1-15

Evening: Psalms 64, 65 / John 4:27-42

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 61, 62 / Jeremiah 2:1-13 / Romans 1:16-25

Evening: Psalms 68 / John 4:43-54

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 72 / Jeremiah 3:6-18 / Romans 1:28-2:11

Evening: Psalms Psalm 119:73-96 / John 5:1-18

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 70, 71 / Jeremiah 4:9-10,19-28 / Romans 2:12-24

Evening: Psalms 74 / John 5:19-29

Friday

Morning: Psalms 95, 69 / Jeremiah 5:1-9 / Romans 2:25-3:18

Evening: Psalms 73 / John 5:30-47

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 75, 76 / Jeremiah 5:20-31 / Romans 3:19-31

Evening: Psalms 23, 27 / John 7:1-13

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 93, 96 / Jeremiah 6:9-15 / 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

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