

REDEEMER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome

Welcome to Redeemer Presbyterian Church! We are glad that you have joined with us to worship God. Please stay after the service and get to know others in our community who are calling Redeemer Presbyterian Church “home.” If you have any questions about our church, feel free to contact us using the information on the back of the bulletin.

When you arrive for worship, please observe silence as you prepare to enter into God’s Divine Service. Silence your cell phone, listen to the prelude, read the Words of Preparation and the Scripture lessons in the back of the bulletin, and join others in prayer and meditation.

Our Worship

Our service is intentionally structured to reflect our belief that worship is God’s service to us, his people. By design, there are three parts to our worship: the Service of Entrance, the Service of the Word, and the Service of the Table.

The **Service of Entrance** begins when the choir sings the Introit, followed by our Hymn of Invocation, Call to Worship, and Prayer of Adoration. We will then join in a Corporate Confession of Sin, hear God’s Declaration of Absolution, and respond with the Gloria and Hymn of Gratitude or Psalm.

The **Service of the Word** will include readings from the Lectionary (a calendar-based system for reading through the Bible) along with corporate responses of song and prayer. The sermon is God’s Word to us and we ask that you listen attentively, asking the Holy Spirit to apply his Word to you in a particular way.

The **Service of the Table** begins with a Corporate Confession of Faith, followed by the Passing of the Peace, and the Collection of Tithes and Offerings. Our service concludes with the Lord’s Supper and Benediction. Our church partakes of the Lord’s Supper every week. We welcome to the table all baptized Christians who are trusting in Christ alone for their salvation, have made public profession of their faith, and are part of a local church. We offer both wine and grape juice (located in the center rings) in the communion tray. If you have any questions, please speak with a pastor.

Your Children

We love kids! And we try to make them feel welcome during our worship service. You can help your children profit from the service by working through the bulletin with them. If your child needs a break from the service, please feel free to sit in the Narthex where you can still hear the service. You can also take young children to the Nursery. A private space is provided in the Nursery for nursing mothers.

Between Services

Please join us in the courtyard for a time of fellowship with coffee and breakfast snacks. Our School of Discipleship classes have suspended for the winter break, and will resume on January 14 with classes for all ages.

Liturgical Color: Purple – the color of penitence and fasting as well as the color of royalty
to welcome the advent of the King

Hearing enhancement devices available – please ask an usher.

WiFi: RedeemerPrivate | Password: wireless@office

THE DIVINE SERVICE

December 10, 2023

The Second Sunday in Advent

In Preparation



Please observe silence as you read, pray, and meditate.

PRELUDE

Michael Phillips

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, Op. 67, No. 29— Max Reger (1873-1916)

Savior of the nations, come, show yourself the virgin's son.
Marvel, heaven, wonder, earth, that our God chose such a birth.
No man's power of mind or blood, but the Spirit of our God,
Made the Word of God be flesh, woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

2 Peter 3:8-14

Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that at his second coming we may worship him in purity; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Service of Entrance



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Here a maid was found with child, virgin pure and undefiled.
In her virtues it was known God had made her heart his throne.
Then stepped forth the Lord of all from his pure and kingly hall;
God of God, becoming man, his heroic course began.

❖ HYMN OF ENTRANCE

Georg Weissel, 1642

TRURO

Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2. A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot
3. O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
4. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is
Rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for



draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
ho - li - ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty in dis - tress.
hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with pray'r and love and joy.

5. Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

6. So come, my Sov'reign, enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
Until the glorious crown be won.

Minister: Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low:

Minister: And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

People: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

Minister: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

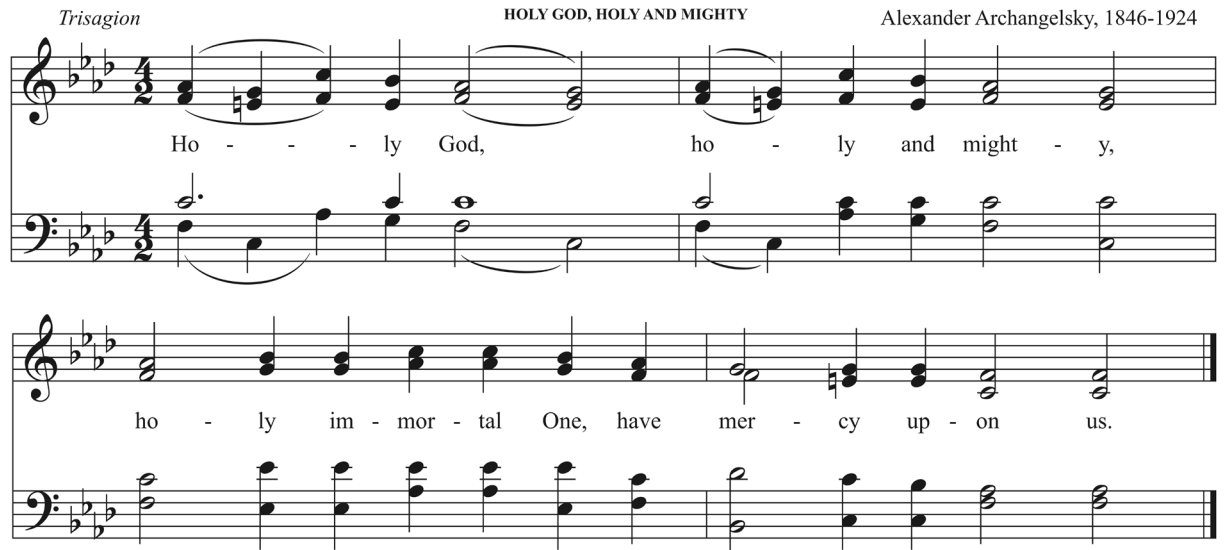
Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

... world without end. Amen.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Trisagion HOLY GOD, HOLY AND MIGHTY Alexander Archangelsky, 1846-1924



Ho - - - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,
ho - ly im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Minister: Hear what the LORD our God says, “The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

Minister: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

People: Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Minister: Hear the Word of the Gospel: “Christ has died for our sins and been raised for our justification.” All you who repent of your sin and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, rejoice and be glad and give glory to the Lord who has taken away all of your sins in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

❖ Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

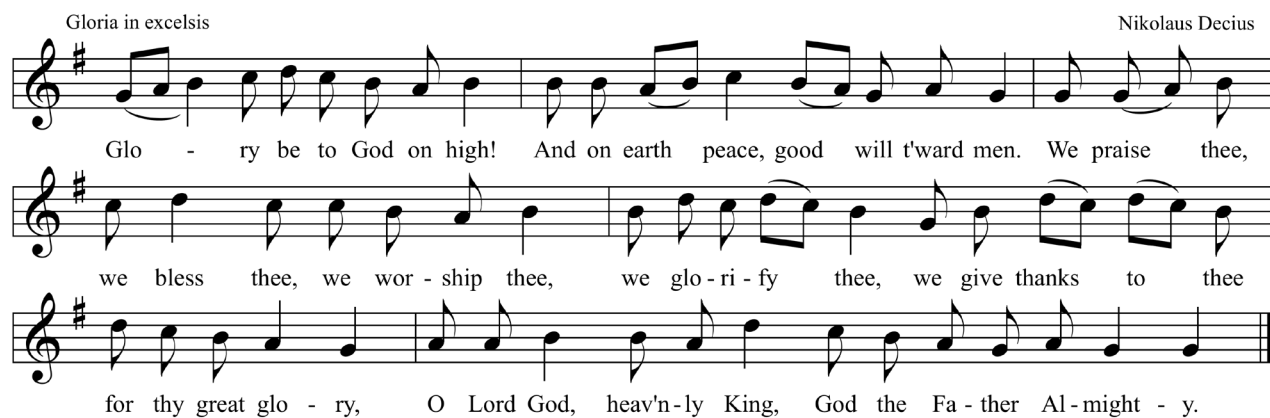
People: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouth will declare your praise.

❖ THE GLORIA AND HYMN OF GRATITUDE

Gloria in excelsis Nikolaus Decius



Glo - ry be to God on high! And on earth peace, good will t'ward men. We praise thee,
we bless thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give thanks to thee
for thy great glo - ry, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.

Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Swedish melody, 17th cent.



1. Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2. God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
3. Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4. His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too should bring,
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of Glo - ry fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions, now a - dore him!
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's Word!

The Service of the Word



❖ THE PSALTER

Psalm 85

Minister: Lord, you have been gracious to your land;
People: **you have turned away the captivity of Jacob.**
You have forgiven the offence of your people
and covered all their sins.
You have taken away all your displeasure
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
Restore us then, O God our Savior,
and let your anger cease from us.
Will you be displeased at us for ever,
and will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to another?
Will you not turn again and quicken us,
that your people may rejoice in you?
Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
I will hearken to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again.
For his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall flourish out of the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
Indeed, the Lord shall show goodness,
and our land shall give its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and he shall direct his going in the way.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Lasset uns frohlocken – Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Lasset uns frohlocken,
es nahet der Heiland, den Gott uns verheißen.
Der Name des Herrn sei gelobet in Ewigkeit.
Halleluja!

Let us rejoice!
The Redeemer is coming, whom the Lord has promised.
The name of the Lord be praised for ever.
Hallelujah!

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

❖ OUR RESPONSE

Charles Coffin, 1676-1749 WINCHESTER NEW *Musikalisches Handbuch*, Hamburg, 1690

1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2. *Then* *cleansed* *be* *ev - 'ry* *life* *from* *sin; make*
3. We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our
4. *Stretch* *forth* *your* *hand,* *our* *health* *re - store,* *and*
5. All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose

nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
straight the *way for* *God with - in,* *and* *let us* *all our*
ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
make us *rise to* *fall no more; oh,* *let your* *face up -*
ad - vent has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare *for* *Christ to come* *and* *en - ter* *there.*
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us *shine* *and* *fill the* *world with* *love* *di - vine.*
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

WELCOME

At this time, please sign and pass the attendance pads down the row.

INTERLUDE

The Service of Installation

Jon Herr and Danny Morgan



INTRODUCTION

Rev. Eric Landry, moderator

QUESTIONS AND VOWS OF INSTALLATION

- Leader: Are you now willing to serve this congregation as their associate pastors, agreeable to your declaration in accepting its call?
- Pastor: I do.
- Leader: Do you conscientiously believe and declare, as far as you know your own heart, that, in taking upon you this charge, you are influenced by a sincere desire to promote the glory of God and the good of the Church?
- Pastor: I do.
- Leader: Do you solemnly promise that, by the assistance of the grace of God, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge all the duties of a pastor to this congregation, and will be careful to maintain a deportment in all respects becoming a minister of the Gospel of Christ, agreeable to your ordination engagements?
- Pastor: I do.

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION OF REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- Leader: Do you, the members of this congregation, continue to profess your readiness to receive Jon Herr and Danny Morgan, whom you have called to be your associate pastors?
- People: We do.**
- Leader: Do you promise to receive the word of truth from their mouths with meekness and love, and to submit to them in the due exercise of discipline?
- People: We do.**
- Leader: Do you promise to encourage them in their labors, and to assist their endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?
- People: We do.**
- Leader: Do you engage to continue to them while they are your pastors that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish them with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for their comfort among you?
- People: We do.**

DECLARATION OF THE MODERATOR

I now pronounce and declare that Jon Herr and Danny Morgan have been regularly elected, ordained, and installed as pastors of this congregation, agreeable to the Word of God, and according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America; and that as such they are entitled to all support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Marcus Serven

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

❖ THE EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:1-6

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

❖ PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MORNING SERMON AND CHARGE TO THE PASTORS

Rev. Eric Landry

"Who is sufficient for these things?"

2 Corinthians 3:1-6

The Service of the Table



❖ CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Unison: 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you!

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words that the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you."

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;

People: **the world, and they that dwell therein.**

HYMN OF GRATITUDE TO GOD

James Montgomery, 1821, 1828

CRÜGER

Johann Crüger, 1598-1662



1. Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2. He comes with com - fort speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong;
3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4. O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed;



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.
his name shall stand for - ev - er - that name to us is Love.

- ❖ Minister: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

DOXOLOGY TALLIS CANON Thomas Tallis, c. 1567

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heav'n - ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Minister: We love you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. We present you with these gifts, which came first from your hand, as part of our sacrifice of praise. Use them, O God, for your glory and our good. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

People: Amen.

❖ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our Lord God!

People: **It is good and right to do so!**

Minister: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when he comes again in glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS JESAIA DEM PROPHETEN Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sab - a - oth!* Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sab - a - oth!
 Ho - ly is God, the Lord of Sab - a - oth! Be - hold, his glo - ry fill - eth all the earth!

* One of the many biblical names for God; in this case the Lord God of hosts or angelic armies.
 Pronounced "Sah-bah-oat"

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (2 Cor. 11:23-24)

Johann Olearius, 1611-1684

FREU DICH SEHR

L. Bourgeois' *Genevan Psalter*, 1551



1. "Com - fort, com - fort these my peo - ple, speak of peace!" so says our God.
2. Yes, our sins the Lord will par - don, blot - ting out each dark mis - deed.
3. Now the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
4. Straight must be what long was crook - ed; make the rough - est plac - es plain!



"Com - fort these who sit in dark - ness groan - ing un - der sin's dread rod.
All that well de - served his an - ger he no more will see nor heed.
call - ing us to true re - pent - ance, for the king - dom now is here!
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, read - y for his ho - ly reign!



To my peo - ple I pro - claim par - don now in Je - sus' name.
We who lan - guished man - y a day un - der guilt now washed a - way,
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey, oh, pre - pare for God a way,
Here the glo - ry of the Lord stands so gra - cious - ly re - vealed



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, that their war - fare now is o - ver!"
we ex - change our pin - ing sad - ness for his com - fort, peace, and glad - ness!
let the val - leys rise to meet him, let the hills bow down to greet him!
that all peo - ples see the to - ken that God's Word is nev - er bro - ken!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." (2 Cor.11:25)

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

SOUTHWELL

William Damon, c. 1540-c. 1591



1. What off - 'ring shall we give or what a - tone-ment bring
2. For all the blood of beasts on priest - ly al - tars slain
3. But Christ, the heav - 'nly Lamb, takes all our sins a - way—
4. In faith I lay my hand up - on his head di - vine



to God by whom a - lone we live, high heav'n's e - ter - nal king?
could nev - er give the con - science peace or wash a - way its stain.
a sac - ri - fice of no - bler name and rich - er blood than they.
while as a pen - i - tent I stand and there con - fess my sin.

5. So I look back to see
The weight he chose to bear
When hanging on the cross for me—
Because my guilt was there.

6. Believing, we rejoice
To know our sins forgiv'n;
We bless the Lamb with heart and voice
And join the praise of heav'n.

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ DEPARTING HYMN

Magnificat

Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

IN DIR IST FREUDE

Giovanni Gastoldi, c. 1556-c. 1622

1. My soul re - joic - es, my spir - it voic - es— Sing the
 2. His arm now bar - ing, his strength de - clar - ing— Sing the

great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior has shown me
 great - ness of the Lord! The proud he scat - ters, their rule he

fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
 shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - res - sion

bles - sing, join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly might - y and
 halt - ed; the meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; emp - ty, the

ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
 wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the

sure - ly shall rest se - cure - ly on all who fear him, love and re -
 to - ken all that was spo - ken to A - br'ham's off - spring God is ful -

vere him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
 fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

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LESSONS

Psalm 85

Lord, you have been gracious to your land;
you have turned away the captivity of Jacob.
You have forgiven the offence of your people
and covered all their sins.
You have taken away all your displeasure
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
Restore us then, O God our Savior,
and let your anger cease from us.
Will you be displeased at us for ever,
and will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to another?
Will you not turn again and quicken us,
that your people may rejoice in you?
Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
I will hearken to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again.
For his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall flourish out of the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
Indeed, the Lord shall show goodness,
and our land shall give its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and he shall direct his going in the way.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.
A voice cries:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
A voice says, "Cry!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the Lord blows on it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.
Go on up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"
Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,
the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Sermon Lesson—2 Corinthians 3:1-6

¹Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? ²You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. ³And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

⁴Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. ⁵Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Redeemer Calendar

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- Sun, Dec 10** 8:45 & 11:15 a.m. **The Divine Service**, Rev. Eric Landry preaching
— **Installation of Associate Pastors**, in both Divine Services
6:00 p.m. **Annual Congregational Meeting**, Covenant Hall
Mon, Dec 11 7:00 p.m. **Women's Bible Study** (via Zoom), contact Tami White
Thu, Dec 14 9:30 a.m. **Theology Study Group**, Room 208, contact Marcus Serven
10:00 a.m. **Journey of Motherhood**, Library, child care provided, contact Alaina Torrey
Sat, Dec 16 8:30 a.m. **Men's Shoot Out at Capital City Clays**, lunch afterwards, contact Rick Mealer
6:00 p.m. **Young Adults Hymn Sing & Happy Hour**, Strickland home, contact Danny Morgan

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- Sun, Dec 17** 8:45 & 11:15 a.m. **The Divine Service**, Rev. Eric Landry preaching
10:15 a.m. **Missions Presentation: Safe Families**, Room 206
Mon, Dec 18 7:00 p.m. **Women's Bible Study** (via Zoom), contact Tami White
Sun, Dec 24 8:45 & 11:15 a.m. **The Divine Service**, Rev. Eric Landry preaching
4:00 & 6:00 p.m. **Service of Nine Lessons & Carols**, nursery care provided
Sun, Jan 7 — **Redeemer Connect**, brief reception in Room 100 for newcomers
Sun, Jan 14 — **School of Discipleship classes and Evening at Redeemer resume**
12:30 p.m. **Intro to Redeemer class**, contact Danny Morgan
Fri, Jan 19 7:30 p.m. **Holbrook Organ Series**, Donald Meineke, organist

Presentation from *Safe Families*

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 17, between services in Room 206 to hear about the mission and values of an organization called Safe Families for Children. They provide support and host homes for families who are isolated and in crisis, until parents can get back on their feet. Learn about their model, support systems, and even how we can help! More info: safe-families.org.

Epiphany Feasts Next Month

It's time to plan for our January Epiphany Feasts, which take place in host homes across the Austin area. Watch for details to come soon, and be ready to RSVP for a gathering near you!

Fellowship Opportunities: Dec 16

Men's Shootout at Capital Clays

Redeemer men, please join us at 8:30 a.m. for a fun time at Capital City Clays. Plan to go to lunch together afterwards at Lazarus Brewing on Airport Blvd. around 11:30. Contact Rick Mealer with any questions: freedomfire@snakebite.com.

Young Adults Hymn Sing & Happy Hour

Young adults will gather from 6 to 9 p.m. for a festive time at the Stricklands, 1701 Alguano Rd., with songs of the season and happy hour refreshments.

Special Exhibit: *God with Us*

Be sure to take some time to visit our exhibit in the narthex: "God with Us," a display of engravings, etchings, and woodcuts from the 1500s to the 1700s, which tells the story of our Savior's incarnation. The display includes scenes that convey the Annunciation, Visitation, and the birth of Christ, with angels, shepherds, and magi represented as well. We are grateful to Dewayne and Faith Perry for sharing these prints from their collection.

Christmas Ornaments Fund Missions

Our beautiful ornaments in two designs are made of laser-cut wood, and all the proceeds go to RPC Missions! They will be available for purchase in the narthex for the next couple of weeks.

Missions Spotlight: Hill House

In December, we are featuring the ministry of Hill House, a ministry located on the campus of the University of Texas. Scan the code to learn more about Hill House:



PASTORS

Rev. Eric Landry, Senior Pastor: elandry@redeemerpres.org

Rev. Jon Herr, Associate Pastor: jherr@redeemerpres.org

Rev. Danny Morgan, Associate Pastor: dmorgan@redeemerpres.org

Rev. Dr. George Dupere, Chief Musician: gdupere@redeemerpres.org

Rev. Dr. Marcus Serven, Pastor of Christian Discipleship: mserven@redeemerpres.org

STAFF

Dan Allen, Facilities Manager: dallen@redeemerpres.org

Catherine Collier, Office Manager: ccollier@redeemerpres.org

Grace Einkauf, Director of Children's Choirs: geinkauf@redeemerpres.org

Nate Esbenshade, Interim Youth Director: nesbenshade@redeemerpres.org

Susanna McBee, Director of Small Groups: smcbee@redeemerpres.org

Lisal McDonald, Nursery Coordinator: macfam61990@gmail.com

Carol Waller, Director of Christian Education: cwaller@redeemerpres.org

ELDERS

session@redeemerpres.org

Dan Allen

Rick Boccock

Gerson Brisola

Scott Brister

Ken Kieley

Eric Landry

Landy Ligon

Bret Mercer

Barry McBee

Joel Pafford

Randy Scott

Joshua Torrey

DEACONS

rpcaustindeacons@googlegroups.com

Ben Haguewood

David Hendrix

Micah Koch

Victor Longstreth

Mike Matlock

Lee Maverick

Chris Price

