

July 31, 2022

Reflection

The peace of God is first and foremost peace with God; it is the state of affairs in which God, instead of being against us, is for us. No account of God's peace which does not start here can do other than mislead.

— J. I. Packer

Christ alone can bring lasting peace—peace with God—peace among men and nations—and peace within our hearts.

— Billy Graham

It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it.

— Eleanor Roosevelt

Use the time before the service as an opportunity to prepare for worship, quiet your heart, and meet with Christ. Feel free to read the reflection quotes to the left. As a courtesy, please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices for the duration of the service.

Why liturgy?

'Liturgy' simply means the elements and sequence of the worship. Every church has a liturgy, whether or not it's stated or talked about. It's a way of telling a story. Our liturgy tells the true story of God making all things good, the world and humanity turning against Him, and His persistent forgiving love rescuing His people through Jesus Christ, who is making all things new in Himself. Every week our liturgy tells us the good news that God saves sinners and shapes them into a new people for the good of the world.

While some of the ways we worship might be foreign to you, we encourage you to try them on for a while and see if you can't benefit from them. Written prayers read in unison are meant to work the same way songs do—they give a common voice to our personal devotion as we each meditate on their meaning. Learning liturgy, C.S. Lewis said, is like learning to dance. It's awkward at first, but after a while you focus not on the individual steps, but on the One you are worshiping.

Our worship begins each week with a **call to worship**. We are gathered here today because God, our Creator, desires to have a relationship with us and has made a way possible for it through His son, Jesus Christ. Whether we realize it or not, He is the one calling us to Himself—today and every day.

Text in **bold** is read together by the entire congregation. Plain text is read by one of the worship service leaders.

Call to Worship | 1 Chronicles 29:11-13

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

**Yours is the kingdom, O LORD,
and you are exalted as head above all.**

Both riches and honor come from you,
and you rule over all.

In your hands are strength and might,
to exalt and give strength to all.

**And now we thank you, our God,
and praise your glorious name.**

O Worship the King | Song of Praise

O worship the King, all glorious above
And gratefully sing His power and His love
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend

Words: Robert Grant (1826)

Music: Johann Haydn (1861)

Prayer of Approach

Only a Holy God | Song of Adoration

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God
Only my Holy God

Words and Music: Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson,
Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson (2016)

Why do we sing?

As God's people gather for worship, we focus our attention on God and away from ourselves by singing together. We sing praises to God for who He is and what He has done. We sing because it is the best and most complete response that we can utter.

Confession happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other. Because sin is so pervasive in our lives, we are called to come before the Father with honesty and transparency, confessing our sin and brokenness, and asking for forgiveness and healing through Jesus Christ.

Renewal is experienced as we acknowledge our need for mercy and celebrate the abundance of God's grace toward us.

We confess **corporately** to show our unity even in our brokenness.

We confess **individually** in order to own our failings toward God and toward humankind in thought, word and deed.

In this quiet moment, ask God to simply lead you to rest in His goodness. Confess what's taken on saving power for you. Turn away from what you think makes you righteous. Cry out for new affections and love for Christ—only these can change you and cause you to walk in newness of life.

Confession of Sin

Father, you sent your one and only Son as the ultimate act of sacrificial love, and all who put their faith in him are forgiven and adopted into your family. And you and the Son sent the Holy Spirit to indwell your people so that we may bear fruit.

Though you love us, adopted us, and empower us, we have sinned.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

We confess that we have used our words to slander, gossip, and tear down others, even those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

We confess we have used, despised, and assimilated into our city rather than seeking its welfare.

Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

We confess that we often choose selfishness over sacrifice, comfort over faithfulness, and hatred over love.

Father, have mercy upon us. Forgive us of all our wrongs, and cause us to bear fruit by your Spirit, for the sake of Jesus your Son. Amen.

Private Confession

Assurance of Grace | Psalm 40:1-3

I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

Steadfast | Song of Assurance

I will build my house
Whether storm or drought
On the rock that does not move
I will set my hope
In Your love, O Lord
And Your faithfulness will prove
You are steadfast, steadfast

By the word You spoke
All the starry host
Are called out by name each night
In Your watchful care
I will rest secure
As You lead us with Your light
You are steadfast, steadfast

I will not trust
In the strength of kings
On Your promise I will stand
I will shout for joy
I will raise my voice
Hallelujah to the Lamb!
You are steadfast, steadfast

In the moment of emptiness
All was fulfilled
In the hour of darkness
Your light was revealed
In the presence of death
Your life was affirmed
In the absence of holiness
You are still God

You are steadfast, steadfast
You are steadfast, steadfast

Words and Music: Sandra McCracken, Leslie Jordan
and Josh Silverberg (2016)

When we **affirm our faith** together it reminds us that we are part of an ancient and global faith. We join with believers throughout the ages and across the continents in declaring the truth of the gospel and the Christian faith.

Affirmation of Faith | **Based on Colossians 1:15-20**

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.
For in Him all things in heaven and on earth were created:
things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers;
all things have been created through Him and for Him.
He Himself is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.
And He is the head of the body, the church;
He is the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead,
so that He might come to have first place in everything.
For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through Him God was pleased
to reconcile to Himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of His cross.**

Prayers of the People

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your 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 yours is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

We give thanks to God and bring
our needs to Him.

Community Life

Announcements at a Glance

See page 15 for full details.

Men's BBQ August 3

City Kids August 6

Seen-Years August 26

Youth Day in Sonoma August 27

God speaks to us through the reading of His Word.

Scripture |

Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Sermon | Of the Spirit | Peace

Rev. Darrell Brooker

God speaks to us through the preaching of His Word.

A **sermon** is not just teaching for living, it is mainly a time when Christ encounters His people through His Word. The sermon is only one aspect of the total worship experience. A question to ask yourself as you leave the service is not “Did I enjoy the sermon?” but rather “Did it lead me into deeper, heartfelt worship?”—for every sermon should show us Jesus and lead us to worship Him.

The Eucharist is the definitive action practiced in the Christian community that keeps Jesus Christ before us as the Savior of the world and our Savior, and ourselves as sinners in need of being saved. The Eucharist is the sacramental act that pulls us into actual material participation with Christ (eating and drinking bread and wine) as He gives His very life “for us and for our salvation” . . . The Eucharist puts Jesus in His place: dying on the cross and giving us that sacrificed life. And it puts us in our place: opening our hands and receiving the remission of our sins, which is our salvation.
—Eugene Peterson

The Spirit takes the common elements of bread and wine and feeds us spiritually with the body and blood of Jesus, for our nourishment and growth in grace, and so strengthens us to be sent out into the world as God's agents of His generous hospitality.

The Lord's Supper

Welcome to the Table

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**All: Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

Leader: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Leader: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
Feed on them in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Who is invited to take part?

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus who acknowledge their sins against God and their neighbors and confess their need for the grace of Christ to partake of this meal. If you are a Christian and haven't yet been baptized, please talk with one of our pastors; we would be honored to baptize you. We also ask that children wait to partake in the Lord's Supper until they have met with the Elders and professed faith.

What if I am not ready?

If you or your children are not ready to partake in the Lord's Supper, you are invited to come forward and ask for prayer. You may also remain in your seat and use the prayers provided below as you meet with God at this time.

What is the process?

After those who remain seated are served, come forward by rows using the center aisle and return to your seat using the outside aisles. We will wait until all are served to partake of the elements together. Please note we serve wine in communion. If you cannot receive wine, white grape juice is available on the communion trays. A gluten-free option is also available.

Prayer for those taking communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, your death and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Prayer for those searching for truth

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 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 author and perfecter of my faith. 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.

There Is One Gospel | Song of Sending

There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity
It is my story, my Father's plan
The Son has rescued me
Oh what a Gospel, Oh what a peace
My highest joy and my deepest need
Now and forever He is my light
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel to which I cling
All else I count as loss
For there, where justice and mercy meet
He saved me on the cross
No more I boast in what I can bring
No more I carry the weight of sin
For He has brought me from death to life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel where hope is found
The empty tomb still speaks
For death could not keep my Saviour down
He lives and I am free
Now on my Saviour, I fix my eyes
My life is His and His hope is mine!
For He has promised I, too, will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And in this Gospel the church is one
We do not walk alone
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Words and Music: Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson (2022)

Benediction | Based on Philippians 4:7

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Questions or Prayer

If you have questions concerning the sermon or any part of the service this morning, or would like someone to pray for you, please come to the front immediately after the service today and speak with one of the pastors.

Refreshments

We have coffee and refreshments every Sunday following the service. Please stick around and meet new people, and even learn how our church can become your home.

How Do I Connect at Redeemer?

Give Us Seven | Worship is the heartbeat of our life together. To get to know us better, we ask that you “give us seven.” Join us for seven Sundays over the course of a couple of months. In doing so, you’ll come to learn who we are and what we believe, and experience the mission to which God has called us.

Meet With Us | If you’re interested in meeting with a pastor, we’d love to buy you coffee and get to know you. Getting to know long-time members is another great way to know about us, and to be known.

Join the Community | While worship is the heartbeat of our community, we know that to grow in the Christian faith we must experience the gospel in the context of life with others. To that end, we encourage everyone to join a Community Group where we come together to eat, study, pray, and encourage each other throughout the week.

Serve | God builds his kingdom through his people. Your gifts, talents, and resources are needed at Redeemer, not only to support what God is doing in our midst, but also to ensure that the good news of the gospel is taking shape throughout our community.

Community Groups

Community Groups are places of care and community where we live the Christian life together. Belonging to a Community Group is the best way to truly belong to our church. Contact mike@redeemersr.org.

Online

WiFi Network: Redeemer Guest
Password: redeemer

Children

We value safety, fun, and learning about Jesus for all of our children. We currently provide a nursery (age 0-2) and preschool (age 2-5) in the Faith Lutheran Preschool building. Contact mike@redeemersr.org.

Do You Need Care?

We are seeking to be a church where people feel known and cared for. We’d love to know how we might serve you. Can we pray for you? Do you need spiritual counsel? Do you need financial or physical assistance? Would you like to talk to a pastor? Contact darrell@redeemersr.org.

Giving

Offering Basket: Located in the foyer on the Welcome Table

Mail: Redeemer Presbyterian Church
4930 Newanga Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Online: Visit redeemersr.org or connect directly to our online giving portal using the QR code to the right



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Calendar | July 31-August 6

Sunday	9:30AM	Christian Formation Class
	10:45AM	Worship
Tuesday	10:00AM	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	12:00PM	Congregational Prayer (Zoom)
	6:00PM	Men's BBQ
Thursday	6:45PM	Bennett Valley Community Group
	7:30PM	Westside Community Group
Saturday	7:30AM	Men's Group
	10:00AM	City Kids Festival

Announcements

City Kids Festival

This coming Saturday, August 6, is our annual opportunity to partner with the Redwood Gospel Mission and other churches in serving families in need in our community. Our contribution to the backpacks that will be distributed this year are 422 pencil pouches for 3rd-6th graders. Volunteer opportunities include: loading a trailer on Friday in the late afternoon or early evening, setting up on Saturday morning at Bayside Church (this year's location for the Festival), staffing a booth for the day or part of the day, and at the end of the day helping with take down, loading the trailer, and unloading at Redeemer. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Candy Hall at 707-528-1382 or cshall4@sonic.net.

Men's BBQ

We want to help the men of Redeemer and friends meet one another and connect! Join us at the church this Wednesday, August 3, at 6:00PM for a BBQ. Bring your own meat to BBQ along with a salad or dessert to share and something to drink. Contact Rick Hall 707-528-1382 or rahall4@sonic.net.

Seen-Years

Our August Seen-Years' gathering is scheduled for Friday, August 26. We are scheduling an "End of Summer" outing where we will travel by SMART Train to San Rafael to have lunch, and return via SMART Train to Santa Rosa. So mark your calendars. You don't want to miss this fun time. More details to follow. If you have any questions, contact Rick Hall at 707-528-1382 or rahall4@sonic.net.

Youth Fun Day in Sonoma

The Palmgren's have arranged for a fun day in Sonoma at their friend's house on August 27 from 3:00-7:00PM. There is a pool with a water slide, a pond stocked with fish, a zipline, and so much more. All youth (grade 7 and up) are invited and encouraged to bring along a friend. We will arrange a meeting place to carpool from Santa Rosa to Sonoma. Please RSVP to Marcie Trebe at dmtrebe@comcast.net.

Weekly Prayer

Please join us for weekly prayer each Wednesday from 12:00-12:30PM. If you do not receive the Zoom link that is emailed out weekly, contact Mike.

Weekly Update

If you would like to receive our weekly email update, contact the church office at office@redeemersr.org.

Front cover photograph by Megan Collins

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). If you would like to know more about our denomination, or are moving and need recommendations for churches, please speak to one of our pastors.

Unless otherwise noted, scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version 2001 Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers.

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