

March 12, 2023

Reflection

Plato said, “How can a man be happy when he has to serve someone,” while Jesus said, “I am among you as the one who serves” (Luke 22:27).

— Darrin Patrick

Here is a spiritual principle: We cannot exercise love unless we are experiencing grace. You cannot truly love others unless you are convinced that God’s love for you is unconditional, based solely on the merit of Christ, not on your performance. John said, “We love because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19). Our love, either to God or to others, can only be a response to His love for us.

— Jerry Bridges

Love is not a feeling in your chest; it is bending down to wash another’s feet.

— Andrew Peterson

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**. God is the one who gathers us into His presence and has made the way for us to have this relationship by Jesus His Son.

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

Call to Worship | From Isaiah 12:2-6

Behold, God is our salvation;
we will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is our strength and our song,
and He has become our salvation.

With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And we will say in that day:

**“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon His name,
make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted.”**

Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Prayer of Approach

O Day of Rest and Gladness | Song of Praise

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright
On thee, the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune
Sing 'Holy, holy, holy' to the great God Triune

On thee, at the creation, the light first had its birth
On thee, for our salvation, Christ rose from depths of earth
On thee, our Lord victorious, the Spirit sent from heav'n
And thus on thee, most glorious, a triple light was giv'n

Thou art a port protected from storms that round us rise
A garden intersected with streams of paradise
Thou art a cooling fountain In life's dry, dreary sand
From thee, like Pisgah's mountain,* we view our promised land

New graces ever gaining from this, our day of rest
We reach the rest remaining to spirits of the blest
To Holy Ghost be praises, to Father, and to Son
The church her voice upraises to Thee, blest Three in One

Christopher Wordsworth (1862)
Christopher Miner (1997)

* In Deuteronomy, the Lord ordered Moses to the top of Mount Pisgah to reveal the "Promised Land" to the people of Israel.

Come, Thou Fount | Song of Invitation

Come, Thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the Name! I'm fixed upon it
Name of Thy redeeming love

Hitherto Thy love has blessed me
Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Bought me with His precious blood

Oh to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Oh that day when freed from sinning
I shall see Thy lovely face
Full arrayed in blood-washed linen
How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry
Bring Thy promises to pass
For I know Thy pow'r will keep me
Till I'm home with Thee at last

Robert Robinson (1758)

Asahel Nettleton (1825)

Why do we sing?

We sing when we gather together to praise God for who He is and what He has done. We focus our attention towards Him and away from ourselves, rather than any sort of performance. Our singing with heart, mind, and voice is a whole-person response to Him.

Confession happens when we recognize the pervasiveness of sin in every aspect of our lives. We come before God with humility and honesty in our sinfulness, asking Him to show mercy upon us to heal our broken conditions and change our sinful patterns.

We confess **corporately** in unity, recognizing we are all sinners in need of grace.

We confess **individually** as we lay our own personal sins at the foot of the cross.

God gives His **assurance of grace** to all who trust in Jesus and repent of their sins. This is His word which declares to us that our sins are forgiven in Jesus alone, and is a moment worthy of rejoicing.

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, Your Word declares that whoever would be great must be a servant. So, forgive our selfish desire to have others serve us. You call us to lovingly pour out our lives for those around us. But our hearts are deceitful, desperately wicked, and relentlessly self-focused. When we do honor, care for, and serve others, we secretly hope that people are watching and noticing so that our humility will be applauded and praised. How unlike our Savior we are. You gave up all power to become weak and helpless. You took on our frail flesh in order to obey and suffer in our place. You came not to be served but to serve, and to give Your life as a ransom for many.

Private Confession

Assurance of Grace | Philippians 2:8-11

And being found in human form, Jesus humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Oh Give Thanks (Psalm 107) | Song of Assurance

We were wand'ring in the desert
With our souls so starved and weak
We were hungry for a homeland
We did not know how to seek
But we lifted up our voices
To the only One who hears
And the God of mercy
Came and brought us near

We were locked out of the garden
And our backs bent down with pain
In the shadow of death's darkness
We were slaves to sin and blame
Then we cried out in our labor
To the only One who hears
And the God of mercy
Wiped away our tears

*Oh give thanks to the Lord
For His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost
And our Father brought us home
To a safe dwelling place
To a feast of joy and laughter
Oh give thanks to the Lord
For He is good!*

We were fools in our rebellion
With our hunger strike of pride
We were sick and growing closer
To the death we should have died
Then He heard of our condition
And He called us by our names
And the God of mercy
Took away our shame

We were far out on the ocean
Making wealth and chasing dreams
But the waves of great destruction
Brought us tremb'ling to our knees
Then we cried like drunken sailors
To the only One who hears
And the God of comfort
Took away our fears

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 1 Peter 1:18-21**

We know that we were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to us from our ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, which lose their value, but with the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose Him as our ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days He has been revealed for our sake. Through Christ we have come to trust in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that our faith and hope are set on God.

Community Life

Announcements at a Glance

See page 15 for full announcement details.

- **Youth Game Night** March 26

God speaks to us through
the reading of His Word,
so we pay careful attention
to what He says.

Scripture | John 13:1-21

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he. ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

²¹After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me."

Sermon | A Basin and Towel

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.

Sermon Series | The Gospel of John

When John wrote his account of Jesus, he was very intentional about contextualizing the narrative to a Greek audience. Their culture was saturated with gods and John used metaphors they already knew to help explain who Jesus is and why His claims were so bold. Since we’re living in a 21st-century western culture, we set out to explain some of these cultural metaphors and norms, enabling us to consider Jesus—Consider the claims He makes. Consider what He asks of us. Consider what our response will be to His bold claims.

But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

~John 20:21

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 our pastor; 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.

What Love, My God | **Song of Communion**

What love, my God, would bring You down to earth?
What king would take a low and lonely birth?
Yet to this dark and broken place You came
To sleep beneath the stars that You had made

What love, my God, would send the Way of Life
To walk the road, rejected and despised?
That You might know the weakness I possess
And be my rock of strength and righteousness

*O Your love, my God, like a flood
As heaven opened up, pouring out on us
O praise the King who came to the world
In His love like a mighty flood*

What love, my God, could hold You to the tree
To bear that overwhelming debt for me?
The Son of heaven leaves the Father's side
The Healer bleeds, the Life was made to die

What love, my God, so gracious and extreme
Was strong enough to come and fight for me?
To go through hell and down into the grave
And raise me up to see You face to face

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson,
Michael Farren (2016)

Jesus, with Thy Church Abide | **Song of Sending**

Jesus, with Thy church abide
Be her Savior, Lord, and Guide
While on earth her faith is tried
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

Keep her life and doctrine pure
Grant her patience to endure
Trusting in Thy promise sure
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

May she one in mission be
One in truth and charity
Bringing all to faith in Thee
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

May she guide the poor and blind
Seek the lost until she find
And the brokenhearted bind
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

May she holy triumphs win
Overthrow the host of sin
Gather all the nations in
We beseech Thee, hear us
We beseech Thee, hear us

Thomas Pollack (1871)
Christopher Miner (1997)

Benediction | From Revelation 1:5-6

To Him who loves us
and has freed us from our sins by His blood,
and made us to be a kingdom,
priests to serve His God and Father,
to Him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

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 our pastor.

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 our pastor, he’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 darrell@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 children@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 | March 12-18

Sunday	10:45AM	Worship
Tuesday	10:00AM	Women's Bible Study
	6:00PM	Brush Creek Community Group
Wednesday	6:45PM	Bennett Valley Community Group
Thursday	6:30PM	Rincon Valley Community Group
	7:00PM	Eastside Community Group
	7:30PM	Westside Community Group
Saturday	7:30AM	Men's Group

Announcements

Short-Term Mission Trip Opportunity

There is a short-term mission trip opportunity from June 17-24 at Warm Springs Indian reservation near Bend, Oregon. 22 spots are available for youth and adults to serve, a great opportunity for families, couples and singles to serve alongside one another. We will be helping with practical needs during the mornings and assisting with youth programs in the afternoons. If interested, please contact Dave Palmgren at 707-319-2050 or dave.palmgren1@gmail.com.

Annual Report

If you missed our congregational meeting and would like a copy of the 2023 Annual Report, please contact our Treasurer, Randy Gallegos, at randy@redeemersr.org.

Redeemer Youth Game Night

Join us Sunday, March 26, at 5:00PM for a night of fun, fellowship, and food. Invite your friends and brush up on your board and card game skills! We'll be hanging out at the Trebe's home (2244 Montecito Ave, Santa Rosa). RSVP to Marcie 707-529-1844 or Jake 707-494-9418. Hope to see you there!

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.

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