

**March 19, 2023**

## Reflection

The most fundamental reason Jesus Christ went to the cross is not His love for us (though that is true), but rather His desire to obey His Father's will.

— D.A. Carson

Unless there was no other way for us to be redeemed, the cross makes no sense . . . If there was any way to save the world other than by Jesus' death on the cross, then His death was unnecessary and foolish. Would not a viable alternative make a mockery of Jesus' own agonized words in the Garden of Gethsemane: "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me" (Matthew 26:39)? The cup was not removed, for there was no other way.

— Iain Duguid

On that cross, Christ endured the holocaust of God's wrath against our sin and exhausted it.

— Michael Lawrence

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.

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### 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 | Nehemiah 9:5-6**

Stand up and praise the Lord your God,  
for He lives from everlasting to everlasting!

**Blessed be Your glorious name,  
which is exalted above all blessing and praise!**

You are the Lord, You alone.

**You made the skies and the heavens and all the stars.  
You made the earth and the seas and everything in them.  
You preserve them all, and the host of heaven worships You.**

## **All Creatures of Our God and King | Song of Invitation**

All creatures of our God and King  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou, burning sun with golden beam  
Thou, silver moon with softer gleam  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless  
And worship Him in humbleness  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son  
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All the redeemed washed by His blood  
Come and rejoice in His great love  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Christ has defeated ev'ry sin  
Cast all your burdens now on Him  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He shall return in pow'r to reign  
Heaven and earth will join to say  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Then who shall fall on bended knee?  
All creatures of our God and King  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

St. Francis of Assisi, William Henry Draper,  
Jonathan Baird and Ryan Baird

### **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.

## **Prayer of Approach**

### **Crown Him with Many Crowns |**

#### **Song of Praise**

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne  
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save  
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight  
But downward bends His wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above  
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love  
Crown Him with many crowns, as thrones before Him fall  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, for He is King of all

Matthew Bridges (1852)  
George J Elvey (1868)

**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.

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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

**Our Father, we praise You for being a God who confronts our sins and comforts us by Your grace. We confess that we are quick to minimize Your glory and dismiss Your grace. We confess that we neglect Your commands and forget Your promises. We acknowledge our sin and turn from it. In Your Son, may we comprehend the full depth of His suffering and sacrifice to deal with our sin. By Your Spirit, may we be comforted by Your grace and sustained by Your promises. Amen.**

## Private Confession

### Assurance of Grace | 2 Corinthians 5:21

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

## **Known and Loved** | Song of Assurance

God, You were there from my beginning  
For I was crafted by Your hands  
You see my hopes and hesitations  
My days are written in Your plan

If You have seen my weakest moments  
And still You love me even then  
I need no greater confirmation  
That, God, Your goodness has no end

*I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness  
No need for hiding, here in His light  
This truth I treasure, my peace forever  
Is being known and loved by Him*

I trust with Jesus it is finished  
For He has paid my every debt  
No need to pull it all together  
For what is broken He will mend

Though I can't see the path before me  
I know the One who knows the way  
And as I walk His hand will guide me  
Until I see Him face to face

Tiarne Tranter, Jaywan Maxwell,  
Fiona Aghajanian (2022)

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

## **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.**

## Community Life

### **Announcements at a Glance**

*See page 15 for full announcement details.*

- **James and Layah Petropolous** March 26
- **Youth Game Night** March 26
- **Men's Fellowship BBQ** April 5

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

## Scripture | John 18:1-12

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" <sup>5</sup>They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?" <sup>12</sup>So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him.



## Sermon | The Garden

Rev. Darrell Brooker

God speaks to us through **the preaching of His Word.**

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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 21<sup>st</sup>-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

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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.

## **Gethsemane** | Song of Communion

To see the King of heaven fall  
In anguish to His knees  
The Light and Hope of all the world  
Now overwhelmed with grief  
What nameless horrors must He see  
To cry out in the garden:  
'Oh, take this cup away from Me  
Yet not My will but Yours  
Yet not My will but Yours'

To know each friend will fall away  
And heaven's voice be still  
For hell to have its vengeful day  
Upon Golgotha's hill  
No words describe the Savior's plight—  
To be by God forsaken  
Till wrath and love are satisfied  
And every sin is paid  
And every sin is paid

What took Him to this wretched place?  
What kept Him on this road?  
His love for Adam's cursed race  
For every broken soul  
No sin too slight to overlook  
No crime too great to carry  
All mingled in this poisoned cup  
And yet He drank it all  
The Savior drank it all  
The Savior drank it all

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend (2009)

## **In Christ Alone** | Song of Sending

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
'Til He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend (2001)

## **Benediction | Ephesians 3:17-19**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://redeemersr.org) or connect directly to our online giving portal using the QR code to the right



## Staff

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## Calendar | March 19-25

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

## Announcements

### James and Layah Petropolous

Following our service next Sunday, March 26, there will be a reception to meet and get to know James and Layah Petropolous. James is currently interning at a sister church in Sacramento and is visiting Redeemer as an associate pastor candidate.

### Redeemer Youth Game Night

Join us next 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!

### Men's Fellowship BBQ

We want to help the men of our church connect with one another! Join us at the church on Wednesday, April 5, at 6:00PM for a BBQ. Bring your own meal to BBQ along with a salad or dessert to share and something to drink.

### Intro to Redeemer

Are you interested in membership at Redeemer or a better understanding of who we are as a church? We are offering an *Intro to Redeemer* class on Sunday, April 23, from 12:30-2:30PM. This class will review our core values, church distinctives, and explore what membership entails. Lunch will be provided. If interested, contact Darrell.

### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Join us for a special Maundy Thursday service on April 6 at 7:00PM.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:randy@redeemersr.org).

### **Weekly Update**

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