

February 11, 2024

Reflection

You have made us for Yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee.

— Augustine

Of all that have tried the selfish experiment, let one come forth and say he has succeeded. He that has made gold his idol, has it satisfied him? He that has toiled in the field of ambition, has he been repaid? He that has ransacked every theater of sensual enjoyment, is he content? Can any answer in the affirmative? Not one!

— Samuel Johnson

The passionate pursuit of true, deep, and lasting satisfaction always leads to Jesus.

— David Platt

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 worshipping.

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 Psalm 95

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

Come, Thou Almighty King | Song of Rejoicing

Come, Thou Almighty King
Help us Thy name to sing
Help us to praise
Father, all glorious
O'er all victorious
Come and reign over us
Ancient of Days!

Come, Thou Incarnate Word
Gird on Thy mighty sword
Our pray'r attend
Come, and Thy people bless
And give Thy Word success
Spirit of holiness
On us descend!

*All Glory be to the Father
All Glory be to the Son
All Glory be to the Spirit
The Blessed Three in One*

Come, Holy Comforter
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour
Thou who almighty art
Now rule in ev'ry heart
And ne'er from us depart
Spirit of pow'r!

To Thee great One in Three
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see
And to eternity
Love and adore!

Felice De Giardini (1757)

Prayer of Approach

O for a Thousand Tongues | Song of Praise

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise
The glories of my God and King
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God
Assist me to proclaim
To spread thro' all the earth abroad
The honors of Your name

Jesus! the name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrows cease
'Tis music in the sinner's ears
'Tis life and health and peace

He breaks the power of cancelled sin
He sets the prisoner free
His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me

He speaks and, listening to His voice
New life the dead receive
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice
The humble poor believe

Glory to God, and praise and love
Be ever, ever given
By saints below and saints above
The church in earth and heaven

Charles Wesley (1739)

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

Father,
You are of purer eyes than to look upon sin,
but You have also promised mercy through Jesus Christ
to all who repent and believe in Him.
We confess that we have sought fulfillment
and satisfaction apart from You.
We have dealt unjustly and unkindly with our neighbors.
We have not sought first Your kingdom
and Your righteousness.
You have revealed Your love to us in Christ
and have offered us pardon and salvation in Him;
but we have turned away.
We have run into temptation
and committed the sin we should have hated.
Have mercy on us, Father, and in Your Son
grant us forgiveness, cleansing, and hope. Amen.

Private Confession

Assurance of Grace | Colossians 1:21-23

Once you were alienated from God and were His enemies, separated from Him by your evil thoughts and actions. But now He has reconciled you to Himself through the death of Christ in His physical body. As a result, He has brought you into His own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before Him without a single fault. But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.

Living Hope | Song of Assurance

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The King of Kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

*Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Phil Wickham (2017)

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 | Heidelberg Catechism Q. 27 & 28

**We believe in the almighty and ever-present power of God
by which He upholds heaven and earth and all creatures,
and so rules them that
leaf and blade, rain and drought,
fruitful and lean years, food and drink,
health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—
all things, in fact, come to us
not by chance
but from His fatherly hand.**

**Therefore we can be patient when things go against us,
thankful when things go well,
and for the future we can have
good confidence in our faithful God and Father
that nothing will separate us from His love.
All creatures are so completely in His hand
that without His will
they can neither move nor be moved.**

Community Life

Announcements at a Glance

See page 15 for full announcement details.

- **Intro to Redeemer Today**
- **Youth Spring Conference** March 1-3
- **Congregational Meeting** March 17

Scripture | Daniel 5:1-6, 17-31

King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand.

² Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. ³ Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. ⁴ They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

⁵ Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, opposite the lampstand. And the king saw the hand as it wrote. ⁶ Then the king's color changed, and his thoughts alarmed him; his limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

¹⁷ Then Daniel answered and said before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another. Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king and make known to him the interpretation. ¹⁸ O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father kingship and greatness and glory and majesty. ¹⁹ And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whom he would, he killed, and whom he would, he kept alive; whom he would, he raised up, and whom he would, he humbled. ²⁰ But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he dealt proudly, he was brought down from his kingly throne, and his glory was taken from him. ²¹ He was driven from among the children of mankind, and his mind was made like that of a beast, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. He was fed grass like an ox, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, until he knew that the Most High God rules the kingdom of mankind and sets over it whom he will. ²² And you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, though you knew all this, ²³ but you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And the vessels of his house have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored.

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

²⁴ “Then from his presence the hand was sent, and this writing was inscribed. ²⁵ And this is the writing that was inscribed: Mene, Mene, Tekel, and Parsin. ²⁶ This is the interpretation of the matter: Mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; ²⁷ Tekel, you have been weighed in the balances and found wanting; ²⁸ Peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed with purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made about him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed.

³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Sermon | The Writing on the Wall

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.

Series | Daniel: Living as Exiles

Often we read the book of Daniel in one of two ways—either as a book about a heroic man whose righteousness should inspire us to keep the faith, or as a roadmap to the end times that can, through careful study, tell us the day and hour (or nearly so) of Christ’s return. But both sadly miss the bigger picture—that God saves a sinful and weak people; He preserves young men from impurity and old men from lions; He answers prayer and interprets dreams; He exalts the humble and humbles the proud; He vindicates the faithful and vanquishes the profane; He rescues covenant-forsaking people by returning them to the land of the covenant; and He promises a glorious future to those with a sinful past. God is the hero of this story.

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.

The Goodness of Jesus | Song of Communion

Come you weary heart now to Jesus
Come you anxious soul now and see
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears
Rest here in His wondrous peace

*Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus
Satisfied, He is all that I need
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus*

Come find what this world cannot offer
Come and find your joy here complete
Taste the living water, never thirst again
Rest here in His wondrous peace

Come and find your hope now in Jesus
He is all He said He would be
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart
Rest here in His wondrous peace

Fiona Aghajanian, Harrison Druery, Michael Farren,
Jaywan Maxwell, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson (2018)

On That Day | Song of Sending

I believe in Christ, risen from the dead
He now reigns victorious, His kingdom knows no end
Through His resurrection death has lost its hold
I know on that final day I'll rise as Jesus rose

*On that day, we will see You
Shining brighter than the sun
On that day, we will know You
As we lift our voice as one
Till that day we will praise You
For Your never ending grace
And we will keep on singing
On that glorious day*

What a blessed hope, though now tired and worn
We will spend eternity around our Saviour's throne
Though we grieve our losses, we grieve not in vain
For we know our crown of glory waits beyond the grave

Hallelujah, what a day it will be
For at home with You my joy is complete
As I run into Your arms open wide I will see
My Father who is waiting for me

Scott Lavender, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson,
Nigel Hendroff, Michael Farren (2022)

Benediction | Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, so that by the Holy Spirit you may
abound in hope.

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 our pastors.

Refreshments

We have coffee and refreshments each 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 james@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) across the breezeway from the church sanctuary and preschool (age 2-5) and elementary (up to age 11) 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



Staff

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Calendar | February 11-17

Sunday	10:45AM	Worship
	12:30PM	Intro to Redeemer
	6:00PM	Redwood Gospel Mission Ministry
Tuesday	10:00AM	Women's Bible Study
	6:00PM	Brush Creek Community Group
	6:00PM	Parktrail Community Group
Wednesday	6:00AM	Men's Prayer
	6:30PM	Marlow Community Group
Thursday	6:30PM	Calistoga Community Group
	6:30PM	Rincon Valley Community Group
	7:00PM	Eastside Community Group
	7:30PM	Westside Community Group
Saturday	7:30AM	Men's Group

Announcements

Redwood Gospel Mission Ministry

Redeemer hosts a service at the Redwood Gospel Mission (101 6th Street) in Santa Rosa on the second Sunday of each month from 6:00-7:00PM. During these services we provide worship music, a gospel message, and a personal testimony. If anyone would like to attend or participate, contact Angie Culberson at 916-743-5314 or angiejculberson@gmail.com.

Road to Real Change Banquet

Redeemer is sponsoring tables for the Redwood Gospel Mission's annual banquet on Friday, February 16, from 6:00-8:30PM at the Mary Agatha Furth Center (8400 Old Redwood Hwy, Windsor). The purpose of this event is to introduce those in our community who have a heart for impacting the lives of men and women with life-controlling issues. If you would like to attend, contact Angie Culberson (916-743-5314 or angiejculberson@gmail.com) or the church office.

Redeemer Youth

We encourage all middle school and high school students to join as we hangout, play games, and have discussions. Our next meetup is February 25 at the Aharonian's home (3303 Thorn Road, Sebastopol). Please contact James for more info.

Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, March 17, following our worship service.

New Women's Bible Study

Our Women's Bible Study has just started a new course on the Gospel of Mark. This is a good opportunity for the practice of studying God's Word and praying with other women. The group meets at the home of Marie Gillespie (870 Hardstone Court) on Tuesdays at 10:00AM. Please contact Marie (314-323-3506) for more information.

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mary Ellen Carlson on the passing of her son Michael. We pray for God's grace and peace during the days and weeks ahead as his loss is mourned. A memorial service will be held for Michael on February 15 at 10:30AM at the church.

Meal Ministry

The meal ministry at Redeemer is a practical, loving way we can serve one another. For those in need, please don't hesitate to let us know by contacting Janene in the office or Meal Coordinators Anne-Marie Fassler or Tami Soler. Also, if you have the desire to provide a meal for someone and are not currently on the e-mail list, please contact Anne-Marie (am.fassler@gmail.com) or Tami (tamisol28@gmail.com).

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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