

To all who are weary and desire rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who sin and need a Savior, Redeemer opens wide her doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



January 14, 2024 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Season of the Cross: Green for Ordinary Time

Ordinary time runs between Epiphany and Lent. Ordinary Time has traditionally been devoted to seeking our Lord in the simple, ordinary day-in and day-out rhythms of life. It is a time in which we are all invited to order our lives around Christ's life and teaching.

Call to Worship: Psalm 106:1-2

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reminds us of who God is and what He expects from us.

Leader: Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

ALL: Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord, or declare all his praise?

Leader: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Let all the people say,

People: Amen! Praise the Lord!

Song of Ascent

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (Psalm 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, bodies, for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Reading of the Law: Luke 6:27-36

While the law cannot justify us or make us righteous; it is a teacher given to lead us to Christ, the fulfiller of the law.

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Prayer of Adoration & Confession

We pray together, praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

Song of Repentance

In this song of repentance we acknowledge our sin and our need of a Savior.

Turn Your Eyes

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 5:6-11

We read God's Word together and are reminded that grace and mercy are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Greeting

In Jesus, we have not only been reconciled to God, we have also been reconciled to one another. Therefore, we greet one another as brothers and sisters.

Song of Praise and Celebration

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done to save us

God So Loved His Mercy Is More

Sacrament of Baptism

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it marks, tangibly to our senses, how real God's promise is for all who will trust in Him (seal).

Leo Alvan Wyatt

Worship Through Giving: Give Online at redeemerwh.org/give

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Kids' Worship Dismissal

Children through fifth grade are dismissed for kids' worship.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

We again express in prayer our gratitude to God for what he has done and ask him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and the world.

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

2 Samuel 9:1-13

Song of Response & SendingWe respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

Jesus Thank You

Benediction

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you; May the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace, Both now and forevermore. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

9:1 And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" 2 Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" And he said, "I am your servant." 3 And the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet." 4 The king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "He is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar." 5 Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar. 6 And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, "Mephibosheth!" And he answered, "Behold, I am your servant." 7 And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 8 And he paid homage and said, "What is your servant. that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?"

9 Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson. 10 And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. 11 Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. 12 And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants. 13 So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

Pg. 260 (2 Samuel 9:1-13 ESV)

Resources

Dale Ralph Davis, **2 Samuel**Paul Miller, **A Loving Life**Eugene Peterson, **Leap Over a Wall**

Discussion Questions

- 1. Prayerfully reflect on your heart, circumstances, relationships, etc. How did you "come" into worship today?
- 2. Where did the gospel "dwell in you richly" in the service today? In the prayers? In the singing? In the sermon?
- 3. Specifically, how were you led to turn from sin and trust in Jesus?
- 4. What is the one thing from the sermon this morning that you would most want to pass on to someone else?

Sermon Series: II Samuel: The Kingdom **Sermon Title:** The Kingdom of Hesed

Date: January 14, 2024

Intro: If you ever really made it, how would you celebrate?

I. ADJECTIVAL LOVE

"Hesed is a large word. No single word in our language is adequate to translate it, so we revert to the use of adjectives to bring out the distinctive quality and broad reach of this love." - Eugene Peterson

II. DERIVATIVE LOVE

"We are the Lord's Mephibosheths." - Dale Ralph Davis

III. COVENANTAL LOVE

"Hesed is one-way love. Love without an exit strategy." - Paul Miller

Takeaway: Love your enemies. Love the vulnerable.



Luke informs us from the beginning (1:1–4) that his is not the only Gospel to have been written nor the only Gospel account that could be written (cf. John 21:25). Nevertheless, the church has always recognized the great gift that the third Gospel is to us. There are many beautiful and essential teachings of Jesus and pictures of the gospel that come to us from Luke alone.

While the historical and theological witness of all four Gospels contains many consistent themes, Luke describes for us the gospel and its application in several specific and important ways. At the broadest level we learn from this Gospel account that the gospel is multi-faceted and full-orbed. That is, the gospel is explained and applied as being about our whole lives, physically and spiritually, externally and internally, for now and for the future, in our relationship with God and with others. The gospel is not simply a message about religion and the "religious" portion of our lives. Rather, Luke's presentation helps us see clearly that the gospel of Jesus is about the comprehensive blessedness of God available to us through Jesus Christ.

At a more specific level Luke retells the stories and teachings of Jesus in a way that consistently emphasizes that the gospel is a matter of the heart, the inner person, not mere external religion. Jesus constantly reveals the heart motivations behind our actions and pushes us toward opening our hearts in humility toward God. As a result, the gospel in Luke is often presented as a call to reevaluate everything in the world according to God's perspective, not ours. This means valuing humility over prestige, mercy over justice, favor with God over favor with people, and—especially challenging to us—valuing a rich relationship with God over the power of money.

To emphasize this comprehensive understanding of the gospel, Luke uses a variety of complementary images to describe it. The gospel includes the message of peace, the offer of forgiveness of sins through repentance, the promise of inheriting eternal life, the invitation to enter the kingdom of God, and the joy of being with Jesus as a disciple. In all of this, the gospel is good news because it announces the grace and peace that have now come to sinners in Jesus Christ.

Announcements

BUILD: BUILD is a time to gather as a church family, share a meal, and get trained in our gospel tools. We'll meet weekly on Wednesday nights through **January 31**. **Dinner will begin at 5:30pm, classes will begin at 6:30pm.**

- 0-3yrs | Childcare
- PreK4-5th Grade | Catechism
- Youth & Adults | Community Bible Reading, A Praying Life, Person of Jesus

Women's Retreat: Registration for our Women's Retreat **closes on January 21.** The retreat will be **February 23-25, 2024 at the Orange Lake Resort in Orlando.** Please visit: **redeemerwh.org/retreat** to register. Join us as we "Behold our extraordinary God amidst everyday ordinary life."

Men's Groups: Men, there are two opportunities for you to plug in: Tuesday mornings from 7-8am in the Fellowship Hall to read the daily Community Bible Reading. And on Tuesday afternoons from 4-6 pm we'll meet at Grove Roots for casual drop-in fellowship.

Women's Bible Study: Come and join the women of Redeemer as God unveils his best for each of us and the profound mystery of His plan. Discover what the Spirit of God desires to reveal to you through the pages of the book of Hebrews.

You can join us either on Monday nights (beginning January 15) via Zoom from 6:30-8pm or Thursday mornings (beginning January 18) at Redeemer from 9:30-11am.

Get Connected: The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter (**redeemerwh.org/newsletter**) and our mobile app (**redeemerwh.org/app**).

Worship Playlists: Follow our weekly set list on Spotify and Apple Music so that you can become familiar with the songs that we'll be singing on Sundays. You can find the playlist on the "RedeemerWH" app (above) or at: **(redeemerwh.org/worship)**.

Our Mission

Our mission is to make Jesus' invisible kingdom visible in Winter Haven, Polk County, and the world.

Church Planting

One of the ways we hope to accomplish our mission is by planting new churches throughout Polk County. We proudly partner with Renew Polk (renewpolk.org) and the Florida Church Planting Network (flchurchplanting.org).

Community Groups

We also meet during the week in homes for what we call Community Groups. They are intended to be the primary "church" experience for all who are a part of Redeemer. If you are interested in visiting a community group, contact Jonathan Winfree, ionathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org.



2024 GOAL: \$50,000 **RECEIVED:** \$300