

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 28, 2024 – Fourth 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 51:15-19

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

Leader: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

#### People: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leader: Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem; then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

# **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.

## Be Thou My Vision

## Reading of the Law: Psalm 5:4-6

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

For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

## **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:** Psalm 5:7, 11–12 We read God's Word together and are reminded that grace and mercy are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you... But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O LORD; you cover him with favor as with a shield.

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

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go Only a Holy God

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 12:1-25

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

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

#### 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.

12:1 And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had very many flocks and herds, 3 but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. 4 Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." 5 Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, 6 and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

7 Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. 8 And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. 9 Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' 11 Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. 12 For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun." 13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. 14 Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die." 15 Then Nathan went to his house.

And the LORD afflicted the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he became sick. 16 David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. 17 And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. 18 On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm." 19 But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They said, "He is dead."

Proclamation of God's Word (cont.)

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

20 Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate. 21 Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food." 22 He said, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, 'Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' 23 But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me."

24 Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba, and went in to her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And the LORD loved him 25 and sent a message by Nathan the prophet. So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

Pg. 264 (2 Samuel 12:1-25 ESV)

#### Resources

Dale Ralph Davis, **2 Samuel**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:** Il Samuel: The Kingdom **Sermon Title:** Confronting Grace

**Date:** January 28, 2024

# I. PURSUING GRACE

"You may succeed in unfaithfulness; but Yahweh will chase after you." Dale Ralph Davis

#### **II. DISCIPLINING GRACE**

"'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved..." John Newton

# III. RESTORING GRACE

"David's enormous sin was wildly outdone by God's grace... it is always a mistake to concentrate attention on our sins; it's God's work on our sins that's the main event." Eugene Peterson



# The book of Isaiah is a message of warning and hope.

Though Israel will face the consequences of their rebellion, Isaiah's prophetic words are full of hope for the day when God would restore his people to himself. This hope would be embodied through God's servant, "Immanuel," who will one day establish a new Israel and God's Kingdom on Earth. Isaiah's prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

# Waiting for a New Jerusalem

Like Elijah, Jeremiah, and the other prophets, Isaiah was called by God to deliver his words to Israel. The book of Isaiah is filled with sobering accounts of Israel's sin and rebellion and warnings of their coming judgement. But along with warnings, Isaiah also offers a message of hope—a suffering servant, a coming Messiah, who would come to establish God's Kingdom on Earth and create a new Jerusalem.

For generations, Isaiah's words have encouraged thousands of people who have waited in anticipation for the Messiah and for God to set right all that has been wronged.

## Guide to the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah lived in Jerusalem during the latter half of Israel's kingdom period and spoke to the leaders of Jerusalem and Judah on God's behalf. Isaiah brought with him a warning about God's judgment, telling Israel's corrupt leaders that their rebellion against the covenant with God would come at a cost. Isaiah also said that God would use the great empires of Assyria and later Babylon to judge Jerusalem if they persisted in idolatry and oppression of the poor.

However, that dire announcement was also combined with a message of hope, as Isaiah believed deeply that God would one day fulfill all his covenant promises. He trusted that God would send a king from David's line to establish his Kingdom on Earth and lead Israel in obedience to the laws of the covenant made at Mount Sinai. This was how God's blessing and salvation would flow outward to all nations, just as God promised to Abraham. It's this messianic hope that compelled Isaiah to speak out against the corruption and idolatry of Israel and its leaders.

The book has a complex literary design, but there is one simple way to see how it all fits together. Chapters 1-39 contain three large sections that develop Isaiah's warning of judgment on Israel, culminating in an event pointed to at the end of ch 39, the fall of Jerusalem and the exile of its people to Babylon. But chapters 1-39 also present a message of hope, that after the exile, God's covenant promises would be fulfilled. Chapters 40-66 pick up that promise and develop it further.

#### **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

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 via Zoom from 6:30-8pm or Thursday mornings 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, jonathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org.



**2024 GOAL:** \$50,000 **RECEIVED:** \$1.105