

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.



February 25, 2024 - Second Sunday of Lent

# Season of the Cross: Purple for Lent

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and runs 40 days through Holy Week. It is a reminder of Jesus' own 40 days in the wilderness, where He fasted and was tempted. Lent is a time of repentance and fasting, of preparation and penitence, as we look ahead with anticipation to His death and resurrection.

## Call to Worship: Psalm 69:32-35

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

Leader: You who seek God, let your hearts revive. For the LORD hears the needy and does not despise his own people who are prisoners.

People: Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them. For God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah.

# **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.

O God of Mercy Hear Our Plea

# Reading of the Law: John 20:21-23

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.

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

## **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).

## Confession of Sin: Based on Daniel 9

In a culture that avoids talk of sin and culpability, regular prayers of confession foster honesty and openness in our relationship with God. We confess sin in the context of the covenant Lord's love shown to us through Jesus Christ. We offer our confession as part of a covenantal relationship.

Leader: O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments.

People: We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayers of your servants and to our pleas for mercy. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive.

## **Song of Repentance**

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

Jesus I Come

## Assurance of Pardon: 1 Peter 2:9-10

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

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**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

You've Already Won Abide

# 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.

Matthew 28:16-20

## **Sacrament of Communion**

The ritual meal of Communion is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the work Christ did for our salvation (sign) and communicates the grace and mercy we have been given (seal) as a result of His death and resurrection.

We Will Feast In the House of Zion

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

### O Church Arise

### 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 (cont.)** 

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

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Pg. 835 (Matthew 28:16-20 ESV)

### Resources

Darrell Guder, *Missional Church*Tim Keller, "*Why Do We Plant Churches?*"
Charles Van Engen, *God's Missionary People* 

# **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:** Gospel Movement **Sermon Title:** Why Plant Churches? **Date:** February 25, 2024

**Hook:** Why plant churches?

### I. THE SEND-ING

"The church does not exist for us. We are the church and we exist for the world." -Erwin McManus

# II. THE SEND-ER

"God is a missionary God." – Jurgen Moltmann

Takeaway: Single hearted-ness!

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

### "THE PASSOVER"

# **SCRIPTURE: Exodus 12:1-13 (ESV)**

The account of the Passover with which Israel begins its exit out of Egypt and slavery is in many ways the central story of the Old Testament. It is meant to speak profoundly to God's people. On the one hand, it is a reminder that unless God intervenes and covers us, we are in the same condition as everyone else: part of a rebel creation that stands under God's judgment and condemnation. That is always part of our identity as human beings and without it we cannot walk in humility either before God or others.

On the other hand, it is a reminder that the primary thing God wants from us is trust. He wants us to trust that he is merciful and that he cares for us. He wants us to trust that he desires to save and not condemn us. That is why he became incarnate in the person of Jesus. And he wants our lives to issue in the acts of obedience that manifest our trust in him – whether that is putting blood on our doorposts and eating the Passover meal as was the case for the Israelites, or remembering Jesus' death which saved us when we celebrate the Lord's Supper and then living lives of forgiveness and generosity. Is your life being characterized by this kind of humility and trust? If not, why not?

### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, grant me to so deeply feel my need for your mercy and to know your provision of it that humility and obedient trust might be profoundly manifest in my life. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Taken from Redeemer NYC's Daily Lenten Devotional

Visit redeemerwh.org/lent for more resources

#### **Announcements**

Membership Course: Redeemer's membership course is divided into four parts, corresponding to the parts of our theological vision – Gospel, City, Movement – and our membership vows. We'll meet once a month between February and May (the date/time is TBD). Sign up online at redeemerwh.org/membership if you are interested in participating. If you are unable to attend every class there will be an opportunity to makeup the missed material. Childcare will be provided.

Person of Jesus Study: Join us for the Person of Jesus study on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30pm (thru March 20) in the sanctuary. Childcare will be provided. This is a co-ed study open to anyone even if you participated in the other tracks during Build.

Men's River Trip: We're planning an overnight canoe trip down a 20 mile segment of Peace River March 14-15. If you would like to participate, visit redeemerwh.org/river to sign up. The cost will be \$20 per person and covers your canoe rental.

A Praying Church: We're excited to host Paul E. Miller, author of A Praying Life and A Praying Church, on Friday, April 12 (6-8:30pm) & Saturday, April 13 (8am-12:30pm). Paul will give us a vision for and practical experience in praying as a community. This is a free event that is open to the public, and we encourage you to attend! You can register at: redeemerwh.org/prayer.

**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 Ashley Bennett, ashmbennett1013@gmail.com.



**2024 GOAL:** \$50,000 **RECEIVED:** \$2,892