



REDEEMER

WINTER HAVEN

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.



March 10, 2024 – Fourth 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 40:1-3

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

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

All: He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire;

Leader: He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

All: He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

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.

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)

Reading of the Law: Psalm 40:4, 11-13, 16-17

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.

Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!... As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me! For evils have encompassed me beyond number; my iniquities have overtaken me, and I cannot see; they are more than the hairs of my head; my heart fails me. Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!... But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!" As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!

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.

Child of the King

Confession of Sin: "Confession & Petition" from the Valley of Vision

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: HOLY LORD, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find thy mind in thy Word, of neglect to seek thee in my daily life.

All: My transgressions and short-comings present me with a list of accusations, But I bless thee that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ.

Leader: Go on to subdue my corruptions, and grant me grace to live above them. Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings of the mind bring my spirit into subjection, but do thou rule over me in liberty and power.

All: Go on with thy patient work, answering 'no' to my wrongful prayers, and fitting me to accept it.

Leader: Purge me from every false desire, every base aspiration, everything contrary to thy rule.

All: I thank thee for thy wisdom and thy love, for all the acts of discipline to which I am subject, for sometimes putting me into the furnace to refine my gold and remove my dross.

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

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 consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

There is a Fountain
Before the Throne of 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.

Matthew 5:1-3, 13-15

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.

Come Ye Sinners

Song of Response & Sending

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

Good and Gracious King

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.

1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Pg. 809 (Matthew 5:1-3, 13-15 ESV)

Resources

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, ***Cost of Discipleship***

Sinclair Ferguson, ***The Sermon on the Mount***

Tim Keller, ***Blessed Self-forgetfulness***

Peter Kreeft, ***Back to Virtue***

Dallas Willard, ***The Divine Conspiracy***

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: The Beatitudes: Kingdom People

Sermon Title: The Poor In Spirit

Date: March 10, 2024

Hook: *What makes for a happy, successful life?*

I. THE BEAUTY OF HUMILITY

*"God creates out of nothing. Until a man is nothing, God can make nothing out of him."
– Martin Luther*

II. THE DEADLY SIN OF PRIDE

"Pride is the cosmic put-on. The fantasy that we can make it as little gods." – Lewis Smedes

III. THE KINGDOM COME

"The gospel of the kingdom is that no one is beyond beatitude." – Dallas Willard

Takeaway: *"We will empty ourselves of pride so we can be filled with God's Spirit." – Eugene Peterson*

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

“THE SUFFERING SERVANT”

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:1-6 (ESV)

Jesus was extraordinary in many ways. But if you were to judge his life by the standards of the world, by most accounts he would be considered a failure. He was poor, rejected, and died a difficult and shameful death. In the ways that others pursue comfort, power, and recognition, he did not.

Even in his outward appearance, there was no indication whatsoever that he was the creator and sustainer of the universe. He had no beauty or majesty that would have caused others to envy him, even though he was the very source of all beauty. More than that, he was utterly rejected and despised, a man of sorrows, to the point that people turned away and hid their faces from him. He was stricken, afflicted, pierced, chastised, crushed and suffered beyond all comprehension. All this and he was the most innocent and righteous person who ever lived.

Jesus went through all these things in order that we would never have to. He experienced sorrow and grief in a way that we ourselves could never have endured. He was punished for sin, though he himself never sinned. The last verse tells us that we are all like sheep — foolish, helpless and desiring to go our own way, but the Lord laid on him the iniquity of us all. Though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we by his poverty might become rich.

PRAYER

Father, we marvel at the humility and compassion of your Son. It is only through his wounds that we are healed. Renew us daily in the joy of our salvation and help us to live in light of even greater things to come. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Lenten Devotionals & Playlists

Available on our app

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. **The first session is Sunday, March 17, following the worship service.** Visit redeemerwh.org/membership to sign up online if you are interested in participating. There are materials that we'd like for you to go through prior to attending, visit our membership page for more information.

Communicants Class: The communicant's class is a four-week course that is required for children to become communing members of the church. If your child is interested in participating or if you would like more information on what communicant's classes are, please register them: redeemerwh.org/communicants. The classes will be on **Sunday mornings during Kids Worship (Apr 7 - 28).**

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.

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.

MISSION
FUND

2024 GOAL: \$50,000
RECEIVED: \$4,676

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