



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 17, 2024 – Fifth 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 115:1-4, 8-13, 16-18

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

All: Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

Leader: Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands... Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them. O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

All: The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron; he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

Leader: The heavens are the LORD's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man. The dead do not praise the LORD, nor do any who go down into silence. But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

All: 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.

Lord from Sorrows Deep I Call

Reading of the Law: James 4:7-10

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.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

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 Isaiah 41

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: Lord, you have "called the generations from the beginning" and you are "the first and with the last". You are almighty while we are weak and yet you have chosen to strengthen even us, your servants.

All: Lord God, we confess that we sinned against your Holy Name. We have abused, neglected, and taken advantage of the strength that you have afforded us. Despite that, you pursue us. Thank you, Lord, for being patient and loving toward us. Help us draw our strength from the love and power of your Holy Spirit so that we can be free from the power of sin and live a life that worships you.

Song of Repentance

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

Child of the King

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 126:4-6

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

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb! Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

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
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

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 5:1-2, 4, 13-16

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 As You Are

Song of Response & Sending

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

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

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.

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...
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted...

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. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Pg. 809 (Matthew 5:1-2, 4, 13-16 ESV)

Resources

Rebecca DeYoung, *Glittering Vices*

Joseph Epstein, *Envy*

Peter Kreeft, *Back to Virtue*

Jonathan Pennington, *The Sermon on the Mount & Human Flourishing*

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: Those Who Mourn

Date: March 17, 2024

Hook: *Are you happy enough to be a crier?*

I. HAPPY SADNESS

"Finite sorrows fertilize the soul's soil so that the plant of infinite joy can grow." – Peter Kreeft

II. THE DEADLY SIN OF ENVY

"Envy is the consuming desire to have everybody as unsuccessful as you are." – Frederick Beuchner

III. STREAMS IN THE DESERT

"Our troubles are the dark chariots of bright grace." – I.B. Cowman

Takeaway: *"We will share the sufferings of others rather than avoid them." - Eugene Peterson*

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

“THE LAMB”

SCRIPTURE: John 1:29-34 (ESV)

In Genesis 22, Abraham took his only son Isaac to Moriah because God had commanded him to offer Isaac as a burnt offering. Isaac questioned his father, “Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham responded to his child that “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” As Abraham was about to sacrifice his own son on the altar, God stopped him and provided a ram to take the place of Isaac.

Jesus is the Lamb that God provided to take away all sins. Abraham did not have to sacrifice his only son, because God chose to sacrifice his son to atone for our sins. Because of this, God views us in the way he viewed his son when John saw the Spirit descend from heaven upon him. He calls us, both men and women, his beloved sons, with whom he is well pleased (Matthew 3:17).

We no longer have to live in anxiety laboring to justify our existence. Our justification is in Christ, the perfect, spotless Lamb of God who took away our sins and the sins of the world.

PRAYER

God, our Father, we thank you that we are your beloved sons with whom you are well pleased. We pray that you will work deep into our being the truth that we no longer have to labor for our salvation, but we can find rest knowing our identity is in the Lamb of God. Give us an understanding of the depth of the sacrifice that was made to atone for our sin so we may fall more in love with you to grasp who we are and who we shall become. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Lenten Devotionals & Playlists

Available on our app

Announcements

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.

Holy Week Person of Jesus: (Mon. Mar 25 — Fri. Mar 29, Noon) is an opportunity to slow down and look at the way Jesus loved. Seeing the pattern - and power - that he has given us to love in the same way. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

Good Friday: (Mar 29, 6:30pm) is a reflective service where we meditate on the Passion and Cross of Christ. We will have childcare for Good Friday through pre-K4.

Easter Sunday: (Mar 31, 9 & 10:30am) we will have two identical worship services with childcare through 5th grade.

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: \$5,327

redeemerwinterhaven.org | (863) 298-9849
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