



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 24, 2024 – Palm Sunday

Season of the Cross: Red for Holy Week

Since the early church, Christians have observed the week leading up to Easter as a time of particular devotion. The first Sunday of Holy Week is commonly called "Palm Sunday." It's important to capture the irony of the day. This is the day on which Jesus entered the city in triumph, but as a part of his journey to the cross; this is the week in which the crowd's cries of "Hosanna" would soon turn to "Crucify him!"

Call to Worship: Zechariah 9:9/Matthew 11:28-30

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

Leader: Rejoice greatly! Shout aloud! Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey.

Leader: To the weary and heavy laden he says, "Come to me, and I will give you rest."

All: Lord, we come to you for rest!

Leader: The king says, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart."

All: Your yoke is easy, and Your burden is light.

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.

Jesus What a Friend for Sinners

Reading of the Law: Psalm 37:1-11

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.

Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

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: From the Worship Sourcebook

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: Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and later pronounced, "Crucify him," we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Remembering the events of Jesus' last week helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a savior, a savior—praise God—we have in Christ. In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.

All: O King of Glory, we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint, our performance as citizens of your kingdom treasonous. For our treason you died, Lord Jesus. For our restoration, you rose again. Draw us closer to you in this Holy Week, that our eyes may catch the vision of your tears, and our hearts, the wonder of your grace. By the Holy Spirit's continuing discipline, let us be loyal and loving servants of the King. Praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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: Romans 4:4-8

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

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

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

The Lion and the Lamb
Hallelujah! What a Savior

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, 5, 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.

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Song of Response & Sending

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

Hosanna

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... 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

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, 5, 13-16 ESV)

Resources

Peter Kreeft, *Back to Virtue*

Dane Ortlund, *Gentle and Lowly*

Charles Spurgeon, *The Beatitudes*

Thomas Watson, *The Beatitudes*

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 Meek

Date: March 24, 2024

Hook: *Does Christianity work?*

I. THE MEEK

"The God revealed in the Scripture deconstructs our intuitive predilections and startles us with one whose infinitude of perfections is matched by his infinitude of gentleness." – Dane Ortlund

II. THE WILL-FULL

"When men let forth passion, they let in Satan. He does not possess himself whom passion possesses." – Thomas Watson

III. THE VICTOR

"Nice guys finish first!" – James Montgomery Boice

Takeaway: *"We will hone our passions to a skilled gentleness." - Eugene Peterson*

“THE COMING KING”

SCRIPTURE: Zechariah 9:9-10 (ESV)

In the Ancient Near East, a king entered cities riding on a warhorse in order to convey his military power, particularly when he was entering into newly conquered cities where his rule may have been regarded as illegitimate or met with suspicion or outright rejection. The exception to this custom was when a beloved king entered his own capital city. There he would ride in on a donkey — the benevolent king.

The prophet Zechariah speaks of a day when Jerusalem would see her king return. He would conquer the enemy once and for all, secure a lasting salvation and establish a new reign of peace for all. This hope of the true king, riding on a donkey, led the crowd to shout: “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” when they saw Jesus riding into Jerusalem, yes, on a donkey.

And yet this crowd soon became the angry mob that cried for blood: “Crucify Him!” Jesus, who was once welcomed as the returning king, would be met with the violent rejection of a hostile people. The true king returned to his capital city to find that it had betrayed him. Yet still, he mounted a donkey, not a warhorse, and entered in peace. And he won the ultimate victory for his treacherous people by submitting himself to their violence — **our** violence — confirming our guilt and achieving our forgiveness in one decisive victory. The enemy this king would conquer turned out to be us, and the cost of the victory we longed for was the death of our beloved king. And he did it. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

PRAYER

Lord, we rejoice and shout aloud that you would give your life to pay the price for our treachery. We praise you as our beloved king we have been waiting for. Come reign in our heart, our lives and our city. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Holy Week Playlist



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)**.

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: \$5,531

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