



# 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.*



*April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday*

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## **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 123:1-3a

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

Leader: To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

**ALL: Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.**

Leader: Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us.

## Song of Ascent

*The first song we sing together guides us as we "go up" or approach the presence of God to worship Him. This song is meant to rouse us to worship and awaken our hearts.*

All Glory Laud and Honor

## Reading of the Law: Isaiah 53:3-7

*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.*

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

## Prayer of Adoration and 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: 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.**

## **Assurance of Pardon:** 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

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

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## **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*

Hosanna  
Man of Sorrows

## **Worship Through Giving:** Give Online at [redeemerwh.org/give](https://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 kindergarten** 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.*

Mark 15:1-15, 20, 24-27, 33-39

## Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.*

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontus Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic (universal) church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## 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.*

The Power of the Cross

## Song of Response & Sending

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

It Is Well

## 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 And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. 2 And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." 3 And the chief priests accused him of many things. 4 And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." 5 But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

6 Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. 7 And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. 8 And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. 9 And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" 10 For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. 12 And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" 13 And they cried out again, "Crucify him." 14 And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." 15 So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

20 And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him....24 And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. 25 And it was the third hour when they crucified him. 26 And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." 27 And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left.

33 And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 35 And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." 36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." 37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. 38 And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Pg. 852 (Mark 15:1-15, 20, 24-27, 33-39 ESV)

## Family Worship/Group 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:** Mark: Walk In His Ways

**Sermon Title:** The Cross

**Date:** April 2, 2023

## **I. THE SUBSTITUTION**

*"The concept of substitution may be said, then, to lie at the heart of both sin and salvation." - John Stott*

## **II. A FELT DARKNESS**

*"And this is the dark, this is the dark before the dawn." - Andrew Peterson*

## **III. "IN THIS WAY"**

*What about the way Jesus died produced the confession of the Centurion? What's your response?*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *1 Corinthians*

The gospel—the good news of what God has done for sinners through Jesus Christ—permeates 1 Corinthians. The letter opens with a celebration of the cross of Christ (1 Cor. 1:18–31), closes with an emphasis on Christ’s resurrection (1 Cor. 15:3–58), and repeatedly presents Christ and the gospel as the essence of Paul’s preaching (1 Cor. 2:1–5; 3:10–11; 9:16; 15:1–8).

Readers of 1 Corinthians should be alert for four pervasive gospel themes. First, human beings—including believers in Christ—desperately need God’s grace. Every problem Paul addresses stems from the fact that we have profoundly flawed spiritual priorities. Our need is so great that only Christ, who is the very wisdom and power of God, can redeem us (1 Cor. 1:22–25).

Second, our hope is in Christ, and not in our own perfection. As clearly as any other portion of Scripture, 1 Corinthians demonstrates that God’s people, both individually and in community, can develop serious spiritual “blind spots.” Yet we need not despair, because the work of Christ makes genuine repentance and transformation possible.

Third, where the grace of the gospel is at work, holiness will result. On the one hand, this means that we must not soften the book’s radical demands for holy living, for these reflect the transforming power of the gospel. On the other hand, it means that we must not neglect the book’s emphasis on the gospel as the power by which we fulfill these demands.

Fourth, Christians are called to apply the gospel to everyday life. Where our faith intersects with culture, the potential for compromise abounds; where we disagree with other believers about Christian freedom, conflict can erupt. But whatever the problem, we must pursue the glory of God and the good of others, even at great cost to ourselves—in short, we must embody the priorities of the cross (1 Cor. 10:31–11:1).

First Corinthians is addressed to people who desire spiritual maturity. Some seek maturity through displays of wisdom and eloquence, some through a complete break with the circumstances of their pre-Christian lives, and some in the exercise of personal freedom. But as Paul reminds us, the gospel is not, “I am wise, I am pure, I am free.” Rather, the gospel boasts in nothing but “Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:2). To the human mind it seems foolish to hope that we could be saved through the cross of Christ, with its associations of weakness and shame. But it is at the cross that God’s wisdom, power, and glory are fully revealed—along with the true nature of self-sacrificial love. Because love never ends (1 Cor. 13:8) and because we long to see God’s power over all things displayed forever (1 Cor. 15:28), we must never lose sight of the cross. True maturity will take us deeper into the gospel of Christ crucified, but never beyond it.

## Announcements

**Holy Week Person of Jesus: (Tue. Apr 4 — Fri. Apr 7, Noon)** This 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. **NOTE: We're beginning Tuesday instead of Monday due to the Heart for Winter Haven Golf Tournament.**

**Maundy Thursday: (Apr 6, 6pm)** This is when we celebrate Jesus' last meal with his disciples before his arrest. We gather in Covenant Hall and share a meal together as families. Following the meal, we have a short worship service and communion at our tables. **There is no childcare for Maundy Thursday as we will be sitting together as families.**

**Good Friday: (Apr 7, 6pm)** This is a reflective service where we meditate on the Passion and Cross of Christ. **We will have childcare for Good Friday through kindergarten.**

**A Praying Church:** Two "A Praying Church" Prayer Groups have recently begun to meet on Sunday Mornings in the Redeemer Conference Room. **These groups meet from 8:15-8:45am and 9:45-10:15am.** These two groups help us to pray for specific needs from within our church and from around the world. All are welcome to join.

**Student Ministry Fundraiser: Sunday, April 16, following the second service,** we are hosting a lunch to raise scholarship money for students to attend summer camp! Come support the student ministry in Covenant Hall where students will serve lunch and wait tables. Price per plate is whatever you are willing to pay to help send students to camp. Lunch will be followed by a silent dessert auction. If you have a dessert you think others would enjoy, please reach out to Austin Snively at [austin@redeemerwinterhaven.org](mailto:austin@redeemerwinterhaven.org).

**Family Fest: During the student ministry fundraiser Sunday, April 16,** we will be having an event for families with a bubble train, inflatables, and face painting. You won't want to miss this! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend!

**Get Connected:** The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter ([redeemerwh.org/newsletter](http://redeemerwh.org/newsletter)) and our mobile app ([redeemerwh.org/app](http://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](http://redeemerwh.org/worship)).



MISSION  
FUND

**GOAL:** \$50,000  
**RECEIVED:** \$4,191

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