



# 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.*



*May 12, 2024 – The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

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## **Season of the Cross:** Gold for Eastertide

All the hopes and expectations of Christians are realized in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, making Easter the most celebrative day of the church year. Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of fifty days of Eastertide—the season leading up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, exploring the ramifications of Easter for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

## Call to Worship: Psalm 19

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

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, righteous altogether.

**People: More to be desired are they than gold... sweeter also than honey.**

Leader: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

## 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.*

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

## Reading of the Law: Romans 6:14-18

*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.*

14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. 15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

## 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).*

## Song of Repentance

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

Psalm 42 (I Will Praise You Again)

## **Assurance of Pardon:** Galatians 3:10-14

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

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." 12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

## **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.*

## **Songs 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*

It Was Finished Upon that Cross  
Cornerstone

## **Sacrament of Baptism**

*The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it marks, tangibly to our senses, how real God's promise is for all who will trust in Him (seal).*

Mark Lawhorn

## **Receiving New Members**

*As was the case for believers in the Old and New Testaments, we are called to publicly confess our faith in the grace of God, to participate in the rituals of entrance into the people of God (circumcision in the Old and baptism in the New), and to acknowledge our membership with His people.*

Bryce Copeland, Mark Lawhorn

## **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 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 5:17-20; 43-48

## **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.*

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Pg. 810 (Matthew 5:17-20; 43-48 ESV)

## Resources

Skye Jethani, *What if Jesus Was Serious*

Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Sermon on the Mount*

Dallas Willard, *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 Sermon on the Mount: Kingdom Ethics

**Sermon Title:** An Exceeding Righteousness

**Date:** May 12, 2024

**Hook:** *Does a message of grace de-incentivize obedience?*

## **I. FULFILLING THE LAW**

*"Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 5:20)*

## **II. DOING MORE**

*"If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others?" (Matthew 5:47)*

## **III. IMAGING GOD**

*"You therefore must be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48)*

**Application:** *Be perfect!*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *Galatians*

## Protecting the Truth

Grace permeates Galatians. The letter is about protecting the truth of the gospel, which declares what God has done in Christ for sinners. The gospel cannot be supplemented by human effort or obedience. If human obedience is “dialed in” to any degree, salvation is impossible. Rescue from sin must be all of grace. And this is what God has done in Jesus.

Paul wrote the letter to a group of Christians whom false teachers had infiltrated. Among these newly established congregations, the false teachers (or “Judaizers”) were teaching “a different gospel” that required Gentiles to adopt Jewish works of the law in order to be justified before God. Paul reminds these congregations of the sufficiency of the gospel he preached among them. Any attempt to add to the gospel by human effort becomes a denial of grace and renders Christ’s death pointless.

The Christian life from beginning to end is the result of God’s grace and is empowered by the work of the Holy Spirit. We begin by grace and move on by grace. The supreme demonstration of God’s provision for sinful humanity is seen in the death and resurrection of Jesus. When people try to cooperate with God for their salvation, with works of the law being “their part” and the cross being “God’s part,” the cross is emptied of its significance. There is nothing a Christian can do to add to what Christ has done to rescue us from the eternal consequences of sin, and any effort to supplement his saving work demonstrates a lack of understanding of the gospel. Human effort will not transform the heart of the sinner. Such internal transformation through the work of the Holy Spirit results in a new life conforming to Christ’s character. The Spirit is given by God to indwell and enable the Christian to reflect more closely the moral character of our Savior).

Galatians is a declaration of freedom from the condemnation of sin and from a performance mindset. Looking to Christ, the culmination of all the promises of the Old Testament, sinners can be freely counted righteous in him. Perhaps nowhere in the Bible is this clearer than in Paul’s letter to the Galatians.

From *The Gospel Transformation Bible*,  
"The Gospel in Galatians"

## Announcements

**Officer Nominations:** We have begun the process of nominations for the offices of elder and deacon. Please take the time to read and pray over the qualifications for elder & deacon submitting a nomination. You can find that information and submit an online nomination at: [redeemerwh.org/nominations](https://redeemerwh.org/nominations). **Nominations will end May 31.**

**Water Day:** During the summer our Children's Ministry is hosting monthly events for children and their parents. **On Saturday, June 1, from 9:30am-12pm at Redeemer** we'll have a Water Day with inflatable water slides. Children **MUST** be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

**Women's Ministry:** There will be no women's Bible study this summer. Instead, we will join the Men's Ministry **at Grove Roots from 4-6pm on June 18 & July 23**. In the place of formal gathering times, we'd encourage those with pools to open their homes to moms that are home with their children during the summer. If you are hosting a group from Redeemer, Vicky would be happy to help facilitate lunch for everyone. We hope this summer can be a time of refreshment as well as new friendships – especially across generational lines. If you'd like to host or help with lunches, contact Vicky Portlock ([vicky@redeemerwinterhaven.org](mailto:vicky@redeemerwinterhaven.org)) or 863-289-1516.

**Get Connected:** The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter ([redeemerwh.org/newsletter](https://redeemerwh.org/newsletter)) and our mobile app ([redeemerwh.org/app](https://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](https://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](https://renewpolk.org)) and the Florida Church Planting Network ([flchurchplanting.org](https://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](mailto:ashmbennett1013@gmail.com).

MISSION  
FUND

**2024 GOAL:** \$50,000  
**RECEIVED:** \$9,206

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