



# 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.*



*August 27, 2023 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

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### **Season of the Cross:** Green for Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time is the long season that takes up three quarters of the church year. This portion of Ordinary Time runs between Pentecost and Advent. Ordinary Time has traditionally been devoted to seeking our Lord in the simple, ordinary day-in and day-out rhythms of life. It is a time in which we are all invited to order our lives around Christ's life and teaching.

## Call to Worship: Psalm 103

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

**People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love

**People: Bless the Lord!**

Leader: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love. As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

**People: Bless the Lord!**

Leader: For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**People: Bless the Lord!**

Leader: The steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

**People: Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

## 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.*

How Great Thou Art

## Reading of the Law: Psalm 32:1-5

*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 one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

## 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.*

Psalm 42 (I Will Praise Him Again)

## **Assurance of Pardon:** 1 John 1:8-2:2

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

## **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*

Come Ye Sinners  
O Come to the Altar

## **Confession of Faith:** First Catechism Q61-63

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

Q61. What does it mean to believe in Christ?

**A: To trust in Christ alone for my salvation.**

Q62: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?

**A: No. I cannot repent and believe unless the Holy Spirit changes my heart.**

Q63: How can you get the help of the Holy Spirit?

**A: God has told us to pray for the Holy Spirit's help.**

## **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 9:9-13

## **Song of Response & Sending**

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

Nothing But the Blood

## **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.*

9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. 10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 12 But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Pg. 814 (Matthew 9:9-13 ESV)

## Resources

Ray Ortlund, *The Gospel*

Charles Spurgeon, *"Guests for the Royal Feast"*

Philip Yancey, *What's So Amazing About Grace?*

## 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:** A Church: For the City

**Sermon Title:** A Church for Sinners

**Date:** August 27, 2023

**Hook:** *Who are you praying for — that they would come to faith in Jesus? (Think and pray specifically for that person throughout the sermon this morning.)*

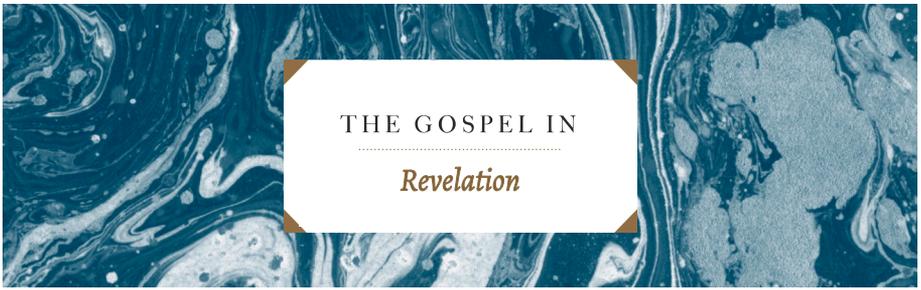
## **I. THE MAGNETISM OF GRACE**

*"Jesus' teaching consistently attracted the irreligious while offending the Bible-believing religious people of his day." – Tim Keller*

## **II. THE MOTOR OF MERCY**

*"Jesus came to invite outsiders, not to coddle insiders." – Eugene Peterson*

**Takeaway:** *A church for sinners!*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *Revelation*

John has built the unique application of the gospel he provides in Revelation into the very structure of the book.

The opening (Rev. 1:1–8) and closing (Rev. 22:6–21) reveal things as they are and promise that Jesus is coming soon. Then the letters to the seven churches in the world (Rev. 1:9–3:22) are matched by the concluding depiction of the church in glory in the new heaven and earth (Rev. 21:1–22:5). In the midst of his tribulation and the struggles of the churches, John is given a throne-room vision that includes Christ conquering and opening the scroll (Rev. 4:1–6:17). This is matched near the end of the book by his vision of Christ returning to conquer, set up his thousand-year kingdom, then open the scrolls for judgment (Rev. 19:11–20:15). John's vision of the sealing of the 144,000 saints and the trumpets that bring plagues (Rev. 7:1–9:21) is paralleled by his vision of the redemption of the 144,000 and the outpouring of the bowls of wrath (Rev. 14:1–19:10). John is attested as a true prophet as he eats the scroll-like Ezekiel (Rev. 10:1–11), and the churches are warned against the deception of the false prophet (Rev. 13:11–18).

The two complementary accounts of Satan's war on the church as it proclaims the gospel (Rev. 11:1–14; 12:1–13:10) frame the centerpiece of the book, in which "the kingdom of the world" becomes "the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ" at the blast of the seventh trumpet (Rev. 11:15–19). This structure proclaims that Christ is Lord, so that though Satan is persecuting the churches and though they are small and beleaguered, they will yet hold fast the word of God and testimony of Jesus, with the expectation that their patient endurance will be rewarded.

Gospel faith makes people right with God and produces gospel faithfulness, which reaps gospel reward. The book of Revelation is a triumphant vision of God's final victory over all the forces of evil in the world. This final victory is secured because of the blood of the Lamb that purifies God's people for his ultimate reign. Revelation is filled with the gracious purposes of God, to strengthen his people.

From *The Gospel Transformation Bible*,  
"The Gospel in Revelation" written by James M. Hamilton Jr

## Announcements

**BUILD:** BUILD is a time to gather as a church family, share a meal, and get trained in our gospel tools. We meet weekly on Wednesday nights **through September 13.** **Dinner begins at 5:30pm, classes begin at 6:30pm.**

- 0-2 yrs | Childcare
- Infants-PreK | Catechism
- K-5th Grade | Catechism
- Youth & Adults | Community Bible Reading, A Praying Life, Person of Jesus

**Women's Bible Study:** Come and join the women of Redeemer as God unveils his best for each of us and the profound mystery of His plan. Discover what the Spirit of God desires to reveal to you through the pages of the book of Hebrews. It will be worth the journey as you delve into the wonder and majesty of Jesus, the treasure of all treasures waiting to be discovered, embraced, and enjoyed.

You can join us either on **Monday nights (Sep 11 — Nov 6) via Zoom from 6:30-8pm** or **Thursday mornings (Sep 21 — Nov 16) at Redeemer from 9:30-11am.**

**Mothers of Toddlers (MOTS):** How does a morning meeting with other moms, uninterrupted breakfast, relevant speakers, and just having adult time sound like to you? **Starting September 12th, at 9:15,** pregnant moms thru moms who have a kindergartener are invited to attend this ministry of Redeemer for the community and our members. Babysitting provided. For more information call Debbi Crosby at (863) 604-4091.

**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 Jonathan Winfree, [jonathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org](mailto:jonathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org).

MISSION  
FUND

**GOAL:** \$50,000  
**RECEIVED:** \$15,298

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