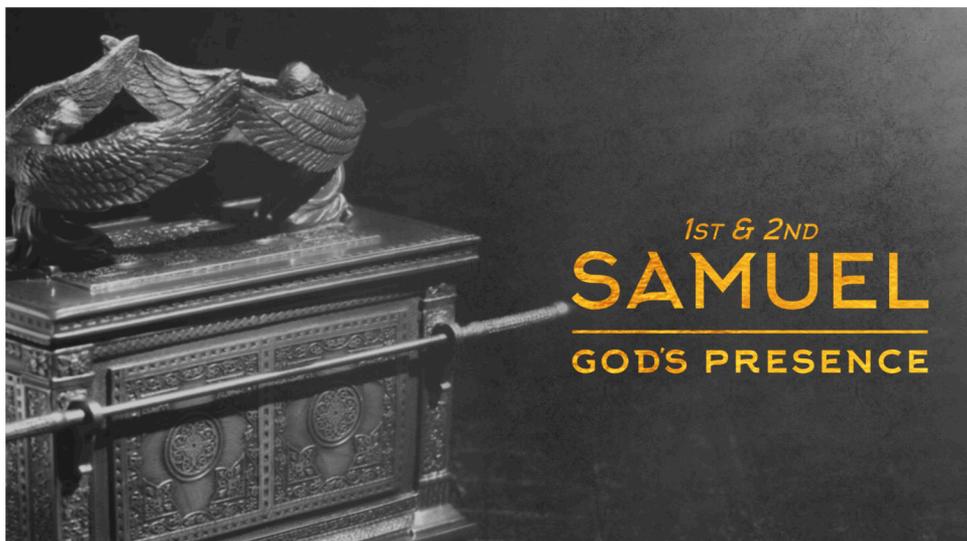




# REDEEMER

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.*



1ST & 2ND  
**SAMUEL**  
GOD'S PRESENCE

September 24, 2023 – Seventeenth 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:** Isaiah 40:28-31

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

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard?

**People: The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.**

Leader: He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

**People: He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.**

Leader: Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

**People: But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.**

## **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 Creatures of Our God and King

## **Reading of the Law:** Deuteronomy 8:1-3

*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.*

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

## **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.*

Reign In Us

## Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 130

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

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

## 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*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed  
I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)

## Confession of Faith: First Catechism Q11-15

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

Q11: Can you see God?

**A: No. I cannot see God, but he always sees me.**

Q12: Does God know all things?

**A: Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.**

Q13: Can God do all things?

**A: Yes. God can do all his holy will.**

Q14: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

**A: In the Bible alone.**

Q15: Who wrote the Bible?

**A: Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.**

## 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.*

1 Samuel 12:20-22, 24-25; 13:1-15

## **Song of Response & Sending**

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

Ancient of Days

## **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.*

20 And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. 21 And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. 22 For the LORD will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself.

24 Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. 25 But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

Pg. 234 (1 Samuel 12:20-22, 24-25 ESV)

1 Saul lived for one year and then became king, and when he had reigned for two years over Israel, 2 Saul chose three thousand men of Israel. Two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent home, every man to his tent. 3 Jonathan defeated the garrison of the Philistines that was at Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear." 4 And all Israel heard it said that Saul had defeated the garrison of the Philistines, and also that Israel had become a stench to the Philistines. And the people were called out to join Saul at Gilgal. 5 And the Philistines mustered to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude. They came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Bethaven. 6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in trouble (for the people were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in rocks and in tombs and in cisterns, 7 and some Hebrews crossed the fords of the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. 8 He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. 9 So Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. 10 As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him and greet him. 11 Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, 12 I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the LORD.' So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering." 13 And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the LORD your God, with which he commanded you. For then the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought out a man after his own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you." 15 And Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal. The rest of the people went up after Saul to meet the army; they went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people who were present with him, about six hundred men.

Pg. 234 (1 Samuel 13:1-15 ESV)

**Sermon Series:** I & II Samuel: God's Presence

**Sermon Title:** The Kingdom Lost, Part I

**Date:** September 24, 2023

## **I. THE "FIGHTING" KING**

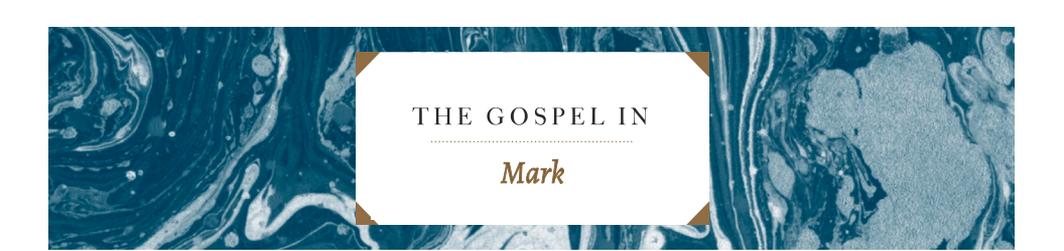
*Israel quickly discovers who they asked for is who they got as a king.*

## **II. "YOU DID NOT COME..."**

*How do you respond when common sense seems to make more sense than waiting on the Lord?*

## **III. THE PROMISE AND PRESENCE OF THE PRINCE**

*How does Jesus fulfill Samuel's words to Saul and the people?*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *Mark*

The Gospel of Mark is presented in a way that demonstrates the fulfillment of Old Testament promises. Yahweh will come to pardon—and to rule over—his people.

The origin of this pursuit goes back to God's establishment of his good creation, as he places Adam, Eve, and their offspring in a relationship with himself that is creational (living in God's creation), covenantal (living in light of God's faithfulness and commands), and kingly (living under God's rule and in pursuit of the cultural mandate). After the fall of mankind, God pursues his purposes especially by means of his redemptive call of Abraham as the father of his people. Trust in God's provisions will mark the pattern of progressive redemption, including Israel's exodus from Egyptian slavery (Exodus 13–19) and the giving of the Mosaic law. God's pursuit also takes the shape of temporary mediators (judges and kings).

God keeps his promise alive that he will purify a people for himself by establishing and ruling over a holy nation. That nation repeatedly fails in its calling and experiences the disciplines of division and exile, but God never abandons his people. Centuries after the return from Babylonian exile (cf. Ezra and Nehemiah), John the Baptist announces in the desert—a place of preparation, purification, and testing—the great intervention of Yahweh promised by the prophets. Thus, while Isaiah 40 initially points to Israel's return from exile, Mark makes it clear that the prophet was ultimately pointing to the coming of Jesus.

As Mark continues his account, Yahweh surprisingly “comes in sandals” in Jesus, through whom we ultimately see the divinity the prophets had promised. Yahweh thus comes in the earthly presence of the eternal Son to begin fulfilling the messianic kingdom expectations of the Old Testament. Jesus, the eternal Son of God, initially proclaims the kingdom of God, then later inaugurates it through his death and resurrection. Through these actions that ultimately conquer sin and the effects of the fall, Jesus turns out to be the eternally ruling, messianic King.

The ultimate purpose of Mark in the context of God's unfolding redemptive-historical pursuit of his people is to testify to Jesus' summons of grace—that is, his summons to discipleship. Discipleship in Mark represents nothing less than God's ultimate restoration of his universal people to the original creation-design and purpose—namely, to “walk with God” and to be restored as true image-bearers of God. This restoration gradually overcomes the marks of the fall, based on Christ's substitutionary atonement, healing, example, and teaching. Jesus' sovereign call to surrendered discipleship redresses Adam's sinful independence and disobedience. Discipleship is not merely a certain code of conduct for the disciples. Being a disciple of Christ means joining the people of God in God's creation, coming under his eternal covenant and kingly rule, and living in dependence on God rather than independence from him. We ultimately see that discipleship in Mark flows from dependence upon the Master's captivating and exemplary person, formative teaching, and atoning work.

In short, the Gospel of Mark shows that Jesus comes as the fulfillment of Old Testament hopes and promises that God would graciously restore his wayward people. Mark's Gospel is just that—gospel. It is good news.

## Announcements

**Person of Jesus:** Join us for POJ on **Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30pm (thru Nov 15)** childcare provided. This is a time 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.

**Women's Retreat:** Ladies, registration is now open our upcoming Women's Retreat **February 23-25, 2024**. Please visit: [redeemerwh.org/retreat](https://redeemerwh.org/retreat) to register. Join us as we "Behold our extraordinary God amidst everyday ordinary life."

**Membership Course:** Redeemer's membership course is divided into four parts, corresponding to the parts of our theological vision - Gospel, City, Movement - and our membership vows. The course will take place **on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm (Sep 27, Oct 18, Nov 8, Nov 29)**. Visit [redeemerwh.org/rsvp](https://redeemerwh.org/rsvp) if you are interested in participating. If you are unable to attend every class there will be an opportunity to makeup the missed material. Childcare will be provided.

**Men's Groups:** Men, there are two opportunities for you to plug in: **Tuesday mornings from 7-8am in the Fellowship Hall** to read the daily Community Bible Reading. And on **Tuesday afternoons from 4-6 pm we'll meet at Grove Roots** for casual drop-in fellowship.

**Renew Polk Worship:** On **Sunday October 29**, Renew Polk will be hosting a combined worship gathering **at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 5pm**. This evening is an opportunity to hear updates on how God is moving in and through church plants here in Polk County while also praying for the gospel to continue to bear fruit in our area. The guest speaker will be Mission to North America coordinator Irwyn Ince. We hope to see you there!

**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:** \$16,223

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