



# 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.*



# GALATIANS

KEEP YOURSELF  
IN GOD'S LOVE

*October 20, 2024 – Twenty-second 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 136:1-3

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

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good

**People: His steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods

**People: His steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords

**People: His steadfast love endures forever.**

## **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:** Colossians 2:6-7

*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.*

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

## **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.*

I Need Thee Every Hour

## **Assurance of Pardon:** Colossians 2:8-15; 2:20-3:3

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

8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. 9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

...11 In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. 13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

20 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— 21 "Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch" 22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? 23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. 3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in 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.*

## 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*

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us  
There is One Gospel

## 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.*

Galatians 4:8-20

## **Song of Response & Sending**

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

Shepherd

## **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.*

8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years! 11 I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.

12 Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. 13 You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, 14 and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. 15 What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. 16 Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? 17 They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. 18 It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, 19 my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! 20 I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

Pg. 974 (Galatians 4:8-20 ESV)

## Resources

Tim Keller, *"Ministers and the People" sermon*

David Powlison, *Speaking the Truth in Love*

John Stott, *The Message of Galatians*

Ed Welch, *When People are Big and God is Small*

**Sermon Series:** Galatians: Keep Yourself in God's Love

**Sermon Title:** Friends Don't Let Friends...

**Date:** October 20, 2024

**Hook:** *Who do you anguish over?*

## **I. AN IDOL FACTORY**

*"The human heart is a perpetual idol factory." - John Calvin*

## **II. CORPORATE FLESH (AND FLATTERY)**

*"People are our favorite idol." - Ed Welch*

## **III. TRUE FRIENDSHIP**

*"No good deed goes unpunished." - Elphaba, from Wicked*

**Takeaway:** *Make God big!*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *Amos*

In three ways, the Old Testament book of Amos is essential for a robust understanding of the gospel. First, Amos was written with God's people in mind. While Amos 1:2–2:3 includes judgments against the nations surrounding Israel, the bulk of the book is directed at Israel (with Judah, the southern kingdom, included). Importantly, the restoration of all the nations called by God's name in Amos 9:11–15 brings the book full circle, as those once judged are ultimately blessed under a new affiliation. As such, the audience is both particular and universal. New Testament quotations from Amos refer to both of these groups. When quoted by Stephen in Acts 7, the words of Amos anticipate the covenant family of Israel as the audience. Yet eight chapters later (Acts 15:16–17), James will reference the book of Amos in terms of what God is saying to all the families of the earth (i.e., the Gentiles). Thus, Amos has something to say to ancient Israel as well as to the whole world—even to us.

Second, Amos was written with practicality in view. Christians often quote Amos for its emphasis on social justice, and rightly so. Yet we must learn to handle this emphasis properly. Amos's condemnation of Israel's life of luxury and laziness at the expense of the poor should not be treated in a way that reduces the heart of Christianity merely to social ethics. The heart of Christianity is the gospel. The necessary societal implications of the gospel must not be confused with the gospel itself. Both are crucial; our challenge is to understand how mercy is integral to the Christian's identity without reducing the entirety of the Christian message to doing acts of mercy. To see the gospel as a call merely to extend mercy to others without rooting this in the gospel's call to receive God's mercy toward us as sinners is to lose the gospel itself.

Lastly, Amos's use of poetry reveals the intensity of God's relationship with the world. The book is largely a blistering declaration of God's impending judgment on Israel and the world. In fact, Amos uses a phrase for eschatological (end-time) judgment—"the day of the Lord" (Amos 5:18–20)—that the New Testament repeatedly echoes. That this judgment is expressed in poetry surprises many readers. And this raises the question: why did God give us Amos in poetic verse rather than in legal arguments? After all, in our day, poetry is often the language of love and not lawsuit. Yet poetic language can also express anger, disdain, or lament. As such, it is the genre best suited to convey the idea of God as a divine warrior, driven on by an emotive sense of justice that is at the same time grounded in love.

## Announcements

**Person of Jesus Study:** Join us for the Person of Jesus study on **Thursdays from 12-1pm (through November 21)** in Covenant Hall. Lunch & Childcare will be provided. This is a co-ed study open to anyone.

**Renew Polk Worship Service:** On **Sunday, October 27**, Renew Polk will be hosting a combined worship gathering at **The King's Church (730 S Florida Ave) at 5:30pm**. 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. Consider making this a Community Group outing.

**Fall Fest:** Our Fall Fest & Chili Cook Off is **Saturday, November 16 at 4pm in the Twelve Oaks Neighborhood (879 Twin Oaks Ln)**. We'll have inflatables and a hayride for the kids; and of course, a bunch of chili!! So get your recipes ready and invite some friends!

**Women's Bible Study:** Our Women's Bible study has resumed on **Thursdays from 10-11:30am in the Blue Room**. We're going through Vaughan Robert's book *God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible*.

**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:** \$29,011

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