



# 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

*November 24, 2024 – Christ the King Sunday*

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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 34:1-3

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

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

**People: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!**

## **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.*

God So Loved

## **Reading of the Law:** 1 Corinthians 1:18; 26-31

*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.*

18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. 30 And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## **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*

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

## **Assurance of Pardon:** 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

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

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh...

...a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

## 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*

Come As You Are  
What a Beautiful Name

## 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.*

Chris and Naomi Van Alstine (communing)  
Phoebe Van Alstine (non-communing)

## 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 6:11-18

## **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 Was Finished Upon That Cross

## **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.*

11 See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. 12 It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. 16 And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

17 From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Pg. 975 (Galatians 6:11-18 ESV)

## Resources

John Andrew Bryant, ***A Quiet Mind to Suffer With***

Tim Keller, ***"Boasting in the Cross"*** sermon

John Stott, ***The Cross of Christ***

N.T. Wright, ***Surprised by Hope***

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

**Sermon Title:** The Cross (All Caps)

**Date:** November 24, 2024

**Hook:** *What is the "all caps" of Christianity?*

## **I. BOASTING**

*"Perhaps the less we have the more required we are to brag." - John Steinbeck*

## **II. THE CROSS**

*"It wasn't History or Affliction - or the way they live in us as the body's terror, the mind's screaming, the soul's despair - that would get to decide what things are. It was the Cross that would get to decide what things are." - John Andrew Bryant*

## **III. NEW CREATION**

*"What is to be true of you in the future must begin to be true in the present, or it will be called into question whether you are really on track in the first place." - N.T. Wright*

**Takeaway:** *Bear the marks of Jesus.*



## THE GOSPEL IN

### *Zephaniah*

## Rebellious People, Faithful God

The prophetic books of the Old Testament are in the Bible to say the same thing to us over and over: people are rebellious, even God's people, but God himself insists on doing his people eternal good anyway. That is what one prophet after another is trying to drive into our heads and hearts. And because rebellious people are unable to work their way out of their waywardness, God will take matters into his own hand to secure their deliverance.

Zephaniah follows this familiar pattern. The book begins with a declaration of the judgment that is coming on God's people and on God's enemies, but by the end of the book we see assurances of God's saving love that might seem to contradict his earlier declarations of judgment. How can God treat his people mercifully when justice calls for requisite judgment?

The final answer to this dilemma is not fully given in the Old Testament, though the entire Old Testament is a snowballing anticipation of the answer. God's justice and mercy resolve only in the life, death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus Christ. On the cross, God's perfect justice is satisfied; but at the same time, his infinite mercy is displayed. Christ died not for his own sins but for the sins of his people, for all who trust in him. But that plan is not fully revealed at every point in the Old Testament prophecies. The book of Zephaniah joins other Old Testament prophetic books in heightening our suspense and causing us to sit on the edge of our seats, wondering how God will be gracious to his people when they deserve to be forsaken. Yet what is shadowy in the Old Testament comes into the clear light of day in the New Testament: God's own Son was forsaken so that we never will be.

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

## Announcements

**Thanksgiving Service:** Our annual Thanksgiving Service will be **Wednesday, November 27 at 6pm**. This is a brief service where we give thanks to God for who He is and all that He has done. Childcare will be available through Pre-K.

**Christmas Party:** Our Christmas Party is **Sunday, December 8 at 5pm at the Grove Roots' Packing House (302 3rd St SW)**. This event is for adults only. We're looking forward to celebrating with everyone!

**Santa's Run Fest:** The Winter Haven Optimist Club's "Santa's Fun Run For Our Kids" is **Saturday, December 14**. If you're looking to run, the event will have a 5K, 10K, and a kids' sprint. See links in the weekly email for volunteer opportunities or to register to run.

**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:** \$31,573

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