REDEEMER
WINTER HAVEN

October 2, 2022 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Call to Worship: Exodus 34:5-8

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

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

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: Isaiah 55:1-3; 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.

"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David... "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

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 Shall Not Want

Assurance of Pardon: John 6:47-51

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

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

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

Living Waters
House of the Lord

Confession of Faith: First Catechism 9-13

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

Q9. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.

Q10. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere.

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.

Worship Through Giving: Give Online at **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.

Announcements & Kids' Worship Dismissal

*Children **through kindergarten** 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: Mark 6:32-52

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

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

We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontus Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic (universal) church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

The ritual meal of Communion is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the work Christ did for our salvation (sign) and communicates the grace and mercy we have been given (seal) as a result of His death and resurrection.

Song of Response & Sending

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

Goodness of God

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.

Fulfilled Promises

The Gospel of Mark is presented in a way that demonstrates the fulfillment of Old Testament promises. This is clear right from the start, as Mark begins his account by focusing on the fulfillment of Isaiah 40:3 in John the Baptist, who prepares Israel for the comforting arrival of Yahweh to his people (cf. Mal. 3:1). Yahweh will come to pardon—and to rule over—his people (Isa. 40:1–11).

John the Baptist's preparatory ministry marks the continuation of God's long-standing, gracious pursuit of his people (Mark 12:1–6; cf. Heb. 1:1).

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) (Gen. 1:28; 2:16, 18).

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 (Exodus 20–23). 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 (see note on Mark 14:53–65) by establishing and ruling over a holy nation (Israel; see Isa. 40:10–11). 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 (Isa. 40:1–2), Mark makes it clear that the prophet was ultimately pointing to the coming of Jesus (Mark 1:1–13).

As Mark continues his account, Yahweh surprisingly "comes in sandals" in Jesus, through whom we ultimately see the divinity the prophets had promised (e.g., Mark 2:5–12; 9:2–13; 12:1–12). Yahweh thus comes in the earthly presence of the eternal Son to begin fulfilling the messianic kingdom expectations of the Old Testament (Isa. 40:10–11). 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 (2 Sam. 7:16).

Good News

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" (Gen. 5:22–24) and to be restored as true image-bearers of God (Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49; 2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 3:10). 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.

From ***The Gospel Transformation Bible***,
"**The Gospel in Mark**" written by Hans F. Bayer

Proclamation of God's Word

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

32 And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. 35 And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. 36 Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" 38 And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." 39 Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. 41 And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44 And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

45 Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, 49 but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, 50 for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." 51 And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, 52 for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

Pg. 841 (Mark 6:32-52 ESV)

Family Worship/Group 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?

Resources

Martyn Lloyd-Jones, ***Spiritual Depression***

Michael Reeves, ***Rejoice and Tremble***

Paul Miller, ***A Praying Life***

Sermon Series: Mark: Walk In His Ways
Sermon Title: Come Away and Rest
Date: October 2, 2022

Summary: Jesus is inviting us to come away and rest.
1) WHY we don't rest;
2) HOW we can rest; and
3) WHEN we will (finally) rest.

I. TAKE HEART

"If you want to experience the life of Jesus, you have to adopt the lifestyle of Jesus." - John Mark Comer

II. IT IS I

"Jesus is the 'I AM' in the midst of the storm." - James Edwards

III. DO NOT BE AFRAID

"Oh! that a great God should be a good God... this should make us tremble." – John Bunyan

Announcements

Two Services: Due to our growth this year we are transitioning to **2 Sunday worship services on October 9th. The identical services will be at 9 & 10:30am**. In order to do so, we need more volunteers for Kids' Worship, contact Tammy Henderson for more info at **tammy@redeemerwinterhaven.org**.

BUILD Fall 2022: Runs weekly on **Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30pm through October 12**. We have classes for all ages:

- Infants – PreK | Catechism
- K – 5th | Catechism
- 6th – 12th | Youth Group
- Adults | Faithful Presence

Get Connected: The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter **(redeemerwh.org/newsletter)** and our mobile app **(redeemerwh.org/app)**.

MISSION FUND

GOAL: $50,000
RECEIVED: $36,725