

# 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.*



*November 13, 2022 – Twenty-third 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 46

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

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, and very present help in trouble.

**People: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam...**

Leader: Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth!"

**ALL: The Lord of hosts is with us!**

## 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.*

Build My Life

## Reading of the Law: Isaiah 57:14-15

*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.*

And it shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way." For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

## 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*

Spirit

## Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 10:19-26

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

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water...

...Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

## 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*

It Was Finished Upon That Cross  
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

## Confession of Faith: First Catechism 38-42

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

Q38. How sinful are you by nature?

**A. I am corrupt in every part of my being.**

Q39. What is the sinful nature that we inherit from Adam called?

**A. Original sin.**

Q40. Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?

**A. No. Our hearts must be changed before we can believe in Jesus and go to heaven.**

Q41. What is this change of heart called?

**A. The new birth, or regeneration.**

Q42. Who can change a sinner's heart?

**A. The Holy Spirit alone.**

## 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.*

## Announcements & 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: Mark 9:30–37, 42–50

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

## Song of Response & Sending

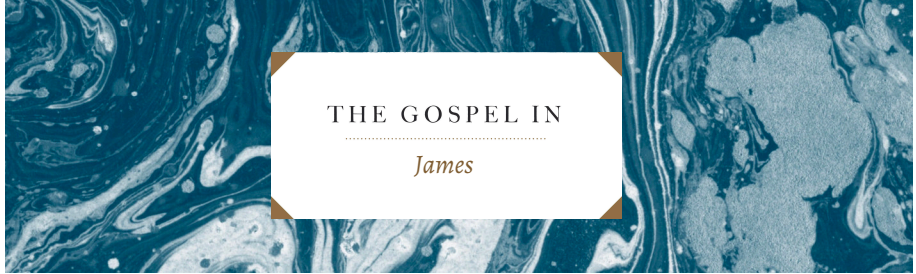
*We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.*

Guide My O Thou Great Jehovah

## 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.



## Instructions for Christian Living

James is a beloved epistle, eminently practical and full of vivid exhortations to godly living. The author presents profound counsel on numerous essentials: trials, poverty, riches, justice, speech, worldliness, and prayer. His clarity and prophetic urgency call readers to action, but his assessment of our failures is almost too penetrating, as it exposes our inability to perform what he commands—driving us to the ever-present refuge of the gospel. Yet at the same time James stirs us to action, to the obedience that is a hallmark not of bare external conformity but of living faith: “Be doers of the word, and not hearers only” (Ja. 1:22).

Since James demands what readers cannot render, we struggle to resolve the tension between those demands and our inability to attain them. We might expect James to discuss justification here, but he never mentions that or the cross, resurrection, or atonement. Indeed, the absence of these elements has prompted some to doubt the canonicity of James. Further, while he uses Jesus' name twice (Ja. 1:1; 2:1), both are passing references, not expositions of his life and saving work.

With 59 commands in 108 verses, James declares King Jesus' royal law (Ja. 2:8). He insists that obedience is a prime mark of true religion: "Whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it" (Ja. 2:10; cf. Ja. 3:1; 4:17). The hasty reader could therefore miss the gospel in James. If James merely commands, his clarity is a burden and his commands ultimately condemn.

## Mercy Triumphs When We Fail

We will begin to understand the gospel intentions of the book by noting that James 1:26–27 structures the book when he declares that "anyone [who] thinks he is religious" will show it in three ways. He will "bridle his tongue," watch over "orphans and widows in their affliction," and keep himself "unstained" by the world. Remarkably, James next demonstrates that everyone fails to meet these standards. We must control the tongue, yet no one can tame the tongue (Ja. 3:8). We must care for the needy—orphans and widows—yet we're willing to wish them well and do nothing (Ja. 2:15–17). We must avoid the pollution of the world, yet our envy and quarrels prove our worldliness (Ja. 4:1–4).

If no one has true religion, then all are liable to judgment. Still, James says "mercy triumphs over judgment" (Ja. 2:13; 5:11). The climax of the epistle, James 4:6, explains how mercy triumphs. No one controls the tongue, cares for the needy, or stays unstained, but God "gives more grace. Therefore it says 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.' Here "it" means all Scripture, which attests to God's grace for the humble. James reinforces the lesson in James 4:10, commanding, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you." That is the gospel according to James: No one is obedient, no one consistently demonstrates true religion. Therefore, the Father who gives good gifts (Ja. 1:5, 17) gives the supreme gift of saving grace to the humble.

Further, the wisdom to understand such grace is from above (Ja. 1:17–18), as God grants needed understanding generously and without reproach to whomever asks (Ja. 1:5). We therefore understand that, though none can meet God's requirements, he grants the wisdom needed to navigate this world and the next to all who simply have faith to ask his aid (Ja. 1:6)—this is undeniable grace.

From *The Gospel Transformation Bible*,  
"The Gospel in James" written by Dan Doriani

## Proclamation of God's Word

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

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, 31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." 32 But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. 35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." 36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

42 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. 43 And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 48 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' 49 For everyone will be salted with fire. 50 Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Pg. 844 (Mark 9:30-37, 42-50 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

James Edwards, *Mark*

Tim Keller, *King's Cross*

Chris Hutchinson, *Rediscovering Humility*

Andrew Murray, *Humility*

**Sermon Series:** Mark: Walk In His Ways

**Sermon Title:** Receiving Little Ones

**Date:** November 13, 2022

## **I. DEMANDING HUMILITY**

*"If you ask me what the essential thing in the religion and discipline of Jesus Christ is, I shall reply: first, humility; second, humility; and third, humility." – St Augustine*

## **II. DEMANDING HOSPITALITY**

*"Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14).*

## Announcements

**Sing the Gospel w/ Jeremy Casella:** We're excited to host Jeremy Casella (of Indelible Grace) **TONIGHT at 6:30pm**. He will lead us in an evening of worship, songs and stories. This is a FREE event. All are invited and welcome to join.

**Thanksgiving Service:** Our annual Thanksgiving Service will be **Wednesday, November 23 at 6:30pm**. 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 PreK.

**Christmas Party:** Our Christmas Party will be **Sunday, December 4 at 5pm at the Grove Roots' Packing House (302 3rd St SW)**. This event is for adults only.

**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)).



MISSION  
FUND

**GOAL:** \$50,000  
**RECEIVED:** \$37,515

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