

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 City Church opens wide its doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent

Season of the Cross: Purple for Advent

The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions—past, present, and future. In Advent, we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us—people who wait for the second coming. In Advent, we heighten our anticipation for the ultimate fulfillment of all Old Testament promises, when the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away. In this way Advent highlights for us the larger story of God's redemptive plan.

Advent Introduction

Every year, for the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, we observe the season of Advent. The word Advent means “a coming or an arrival.” The coming of Jesus affected a first-order reversal of all previous arrangements – an altogether new creation *ex nihilo*, out of nothing. This expectation was announced by the prophet Ezekiel ahead of time: “Things shall not remain as they are. Exalt the low, and bring low that which is exalted” (Ezekiel 21:26). Indeed, the post-Christmas *kosmos* is something entirely new. It turns the world upside down and refuses to pick up what falls out of its pockets. A kingdom of grace. To join in, all you need is need. The kingdom belongs to those who humble themselves and receive it like a little child, because that is, of course, how the great King entered the world. He became a little child. His humility is our salvation. His salvation is our humility.

Each Sunday during Advent, we will emphasize a different theme related to humility – drawing from the gospel promise that, in the wake of the Incarnation, the last shall be first and the first shall be last (Mark 10:31; Luke 13:30; Matthew 20:16; Matthew 23:12). Jesus’ coming has upended the world. It is too big a truth to believe it and not be changed. If you believe, it can’t help but upend you too.

Song of Advent

In this song of advent we acknowledge our need of a Savior and anticipate His return.

O Come O Come Emmanuel

Advent Theme: Hope

Today we light a candle to remind ourselves of the **hope** of Jesus’ second coming. For now, there is so much wrong that seems to go unpunished and so much good that goes unnoticed. Sin and injustice are rewarded, while righteousness is held in contempt. It will not always be this way. One day, very soon, God will bring the world into judgment. The sin and injustice that were rewarded will finally be dealt with. The beauty that went unnoticed, and unknown, will be revealed and celebrated. It will be quite a shake up. Some who are last will be first, and some who are first will be last (Luke 13:30).

Advent Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

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

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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).

Assurance of Pardon: Titus 2:11-14

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

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

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 Behold the Wondrous Mystery
Once In Royal David's City

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 & Kid's 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.

Luke 13:22-30; Ezekiel 17:22-24

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.

Bread of the World In Mercy Broken

Song of Response & Sending

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

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

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: See Below for Pew Bible Page Numbers
A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.

22 He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' 26 Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' 27 But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' 28 In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. 29 And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. 30 And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Pg. 873 (Luke 13:22-30 ESV)

22 Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23 On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. 24 And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

Pg. 704 (Ezekiel 17:22-24 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?

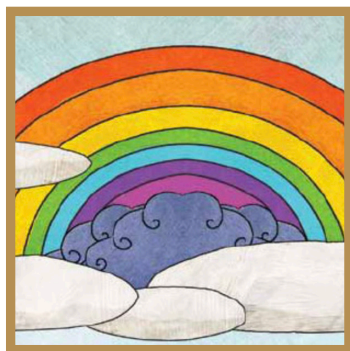
Sermon Series: Advent: The One
Sermon Title: Hope in the Final Judgment
Date: November 27, 2022

Notes:

the Jesus Storybook Bible[®]

2022 Advent

WEEK 1 – A New Beginning



"My covenant is between me and you and every living creature with you ... Here is the sign of the covenant I am making. I have put my rainbow in the clouds" GENESIS 9:12-16

"Noah," God said. "Things have gone wrong. People have filled my world with hate instead of love. They are destroying themselves ... and each other ... and my world. I must stop them. First, we'll build an ark. A storm is coming ... but I will rescue you." When the ark was ready, God said, "All aboard!" and Noah's family and all the animals climbed inside. And it started raining. Finally, the rain stopped. - Sally Lloyd-Jones, JSB

Rainbows can remind you Jesus loves you with his Wonderful, Never-Stopping, Never-Giving-Up, Unbreaking, Always-and-Forever Love.

Dec. 1: The Story And The Song
Dec. 2: The Song Of Creation

Dec. 3: The Terrible Lie
Dec. 4: A New Beginning

Announcements

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.

Christmas Eve: For our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve service we will have two services here at Redeemer. **Those services will be at 4 & 5:30pm**. Childcare will be available through pre-k.

One Service: We will have **one abbreviated worship service at 10am on December 25 and January 1**. There will be no kids' classes those days.

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).

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).



MISSION
FUND

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

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