



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.



August 11, 2019 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Song of Gathering and Preparation

We prepare our hearts, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

We Are Listening

Call to Worship: Psalm 63:1-3

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

Leader: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

Congregation: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

Congregation: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

Congregation: We watch and wait for the Word of God.

Songs of Adoration

We respond to God's invitation with songs of praise. These songs are designed to draw our attention to the wonder and glory of God.

Be Thou My Vision
All I Have Is Christ

Reading of the Law: Hebrews 3:12-19

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.

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

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: John 5:24-25

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 hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

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

In Christ Alone
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Worship Through Giving

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

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

Matthew 13:1-23 (see insert)

Song of Response

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

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

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.*

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear."

10 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" 11 And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "'You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive. 15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.' 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. 17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

18 "Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Pg. 818 (Matthew 13:1-23 ESV)

Discussion Questions

1. Are you a good listener? Who do you know that's a good listener? What's that person like?
2. Why do you think we have such a hard time listening? What are the spiritual and cultural factors that make listening so hard? Specifically, what roles does technology have in making us distracted and unlistening?
3. In the parable of the Sower there are four kinds of soil. Which are you?
4. What are your spiritual practices for listening? CBR? The sermon? What spiritual practices for listening do you need to put in place in your life.

Sermon Series: Parables of the Kingdom: Gospel Culture

Sermon Title: A Listening People

Date: August 11, 2019

I. HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

Both creation and redemption begin with listening.

II. THE UNHEARING HEART

Our hearts are hard towards God's words.

III. EARS TO HEAR

Hearing is grace. It is given by God.

Announcements

Greeting this morning is the **Reynolds** Community Group.

Women's Brunch: Ladies, mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 7 from 10am-12:30pm**. It will be a wonderful time of fellowship, friendship, & of course, delicious food. Please invite a family member, friend, or neighbor to join you. We would love a full house! Visit redeemerwh.org/brunch to sign up for food and register for childcare.

Vision Dinner/Congregational Meeting: Vision Dinner is a quarterly event where we share a meal together and reorient ourselves towards our mission. **Join us Wednesday, September 11, at 5:30p** for our next Vision Dinner. During our meeting we will vote to elect the nominees for elders and deacons. Childcare and dinner will be provided. Please RSVP at redeemerwh.org/vd.

Renew Polk Gathering: We're happy to announce the upcoming Vision & Prayer Gathering of Renew Polk churches on Sunday, **September 8, 5pm at Trinity Presbyterian in Lakeland**. Renew Polk was birthed out of the church planting momentum of Trinity and her daughter churches. Redeemer was church number 4. There are now 10 churches and we are praying that God would allow us to see 20 new churches planted throughout our county over the next 20 years! All of our churches meet jointly twice a year to worship and pray together. We hope you will join us for this special night. **Childcare will be available through pre-k, help us plan by emailing krissa@trinitylakeland.org**. Consider making this a Community Group outing.

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/RCCmusic.



PLEGGED: \$684,532

RECEIVED: \$254,328

Grace Abounding is Redeemer's campaign to raise funds for repairs and maintenance to the existing facility. Campaign information is available at graceabounding.org.

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