



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.



September 13, 2020 – Fifteenth 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.

Call to Worship: Psalm 100

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

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

All: Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

All: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

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.

All Creatures of Our God and King

Reading of the Law: Nehemiah 8:9-12

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 Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

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: Colossians 1:9-13

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

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

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

What Wondrous Love Is This?

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.

Steve & Jill Keen (9am)
Jerry & Pam Mixon (10:30am)

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: 9am

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 5:22-23; James 1:2-10; Philippians 4:4-6

Song of Response & Sending

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

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

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.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Pg. 975 (Galatians 5:22-23 ESV)

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. 9 Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, 10 and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away.

Pg. 1011 (James 1:2-10 ESV)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Pg. 982 (Philippians 4:4-6 ESV)

Proclamation of God's Word

1. Read James 1:6-7 together. Do you ever feel like that?
2. Does the world need joy? How would things change if there was more joy in our public discourse? Why is there such little joy in the world?
3. What are the spiritual obstacles to joy? (There are real emotional, psycho-somatic causes of despair and depression. They're all connected. But for this discussion, we're interested in the spiritual reasons for despair.)
4. Do you have a habit of joy? What does it mean to "count it joy" (James 1:2)? What kinds of activities does that require of you?

Sermon Series: Character in Crisis: The Fruit of the Spirit

Sermon Title: Joy in a Time of Despair

Date: September 13, 2020

I. DRIVEN AND TOSSED

Without joy, there is no stability.

II. COUNT IT JOY!

Joy is not a feeling; it is an action.

III. THE JOY OF THE LORD

"The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 9:10).

Announcements

Children's Ministry RSVP: We are excited to announce that our classrooms are open again for Children's Ministry (**currently ONLY during the 9AM worship service**).

We are asking that you would RSVP by Friday at Midnight: redeemerwh.org/rsvp

Note: *Pre-registration is NOT required to attend on Sunday, it simply will help us to prepare in the days leading up to Sunday morning.*

Online Directory: Redeemer City Church's online directory is provided for Regular Attendees and Members. The great thing about this platform is that you can upload your own photo or edit your profile's information and it automatically syncs with our database. Visit redeemerwh.org/directory to access your profile.

Women's Fall Bible Study (Sermon on the Mount): You are invited to join the women of Redeemer and listen as Jesus explains kingdom living that is just as applicable to us in 2020 as it was to the original audience seated overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

For addition information or to RSVP for either the Zoom or in-person meeting, please contact either Sally Goodwill (sallyg1110@aol.com or **863.325.5200**) or Gigi Savant (gigisavant@gmail.com or **863.258.0268**).

Mondays, 6:30-8pm in Covenant Hall following COVID protocols
(Beginning September 14)

Thursday, 9:30-11am via Zoom (Beginning September 17)

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: \$745,077

RECEIVED: \$603,458

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

redeemerwinterhaven.org | (863) 298-9849

Mobile App: redeemerwh.org/app | facebook.com/redeemerwhc