



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 17, 2019 – Twenty-third 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.

Love Comes Down

Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 145

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

Leader: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Congregation: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

Leader: Let us worship 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

Reading of the Law: John 13:34-35

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.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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: 1 John 3:1; 4:8b-11

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

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him... God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

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

Who You Say I Am
Before the Throne of God

Worship Through Giving: By Our Love

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.

Receiving New Members: 10:30am

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.

The Parrish Family

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

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

Luke 15:11-13, 20 & Psalm 103:6-14 (see insert)

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

11 And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living... 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Pg. 874 (Luke 15:11-13, 20 ESV)

6 The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. 13 As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. 14 For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Pg. 502 (Psalm 103:6-14 ESV)

Discussion Questions

1. What part of the way the father loves in Jesus' parable strikes you the most? What stands out to you? Why?
2. Do you believe God loves you the way the father in Jesus' story loves his sons? Why is it so hard to believe this?
3. Is there any limit to this kind of love? Is there a point where if the father keeps welcoming the son home, he is condoning his behavior?
4. Loving like the father requires a great deal of wisdom. Discuss the challenges to committing to love like this and to keep loving like this. Read Luke 17:3-5. If someone keeps repenting, you keep forgiving them. But what if they are not repenting?

Sermon Series: Parables of Grace
Sermon Title: Becoming the Father
Date: November 17, 2019

I. LOVED BY THE FATHER

According to Jesus, God is like the father in the parable. Do you believe he loves you the way the father in the story loves his sons?

II. LOVING LIKE THE FATHER

Being loved by the father makes it possible to love like the father. Are you committed to loving others the way God has loved you?

Announcements

Greeting this morning are the **White & Sirrine** Community Groups.

Thanksgiving Service: Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, November 27, at 6:30pm** for our annual Thanksgiving Service. This will be a brief service as we give thanks to God for who He is and all that He has done. Childcare will be available through kindergarten.

Christmas Party: Our Christmas Party will be **Sunday, December 8 at 5pm at the Sizemore's Home (227 Lake Link Rd)**. This event is for adults only. Childcare will be available at the church from 5-7pm.

Advent Decorating: If you'd like to assist us in decorating the sanctuary for Advent, we'll begin immediately after the Thanksgiving Service on **Wednesday, November 27**.

Person of Jesus Study: We're offering two opportunities to participate in The Person of Jesus Study. **Join us Wednesdays for lunch from 12-1pm or in the evening from 7-8pm**. Pizza will be provided for the lunch-time group or you can bring your own lunch. These groups will meet weekly **until Nov 20 and will reconvene in late January**.

MOPS: Are you a mom of preschool age children? Please consider joining our MOPS group, hosted at Redeemer City. MOPS, Mothers of Preschoolers, a group of moms of young children banded together to share their lives and parenting journeys. As we grow in Christ, his love pours into us, equipping us to serve one another and our community. For more information about our MOPS group, please contact Susan Walker (863) 412-1163 or Debbie Crosby (863) 604-4091.

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: \$692,375

RECEIVED: \$297,473

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

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