



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.



December 13, 2020 – Third Sunday of Advent

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." Isaiah the prophet described his day as a time of deep darkness and gloom. Yet, he knew it would not be that way forever. God's Rescuer would come! The people were expecting a King on a throne, full of power, with a sword in his fist. But, instead, Isaiah gave a birth announcement: "It's a boy!" A baby... A baby?... Yes. The boy named Jesus. His name means "God saves!" His birth would signal the birth of God's dream for the world. This upside-down way of salvation is the only thing that could turn things right-side-up again." Celebrate with us this Advent the promise of his birth. He remains the hope of the world. "For unto us a child is born; unto us a child is given."

Song for Advent

We prepare our hearts, and bodies for worship by singing about our Savior and anticipating His return.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Advent Theme: Faith

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

The world is disenchanted. Flattened out by our secular worldview. We no longer believe in anything beyond what we can touch and observe and quantify. Our lives are the worse for it. But... "To us a son is given!" A heavenly child. God Himself wrapped in human flesh... Today we light a candle as an expression of our **faith** in the One called Emmanuel. God with us. In his coming he broke through the barrier separating heaven and earth. Nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37).

Advent Reading: Isaiah 9:5-7

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.

For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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: Galatians 4:4-7

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

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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

The First Noel

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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.

Luke 1:26-27, 30-31; 34-38 *(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.

Silent Night (He Came to Save Us)

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.

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.

Proclamation of God's Word

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

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Pg. 855 (Luke 1:26-27, 30-31, 34-38 ESV)

Sermon Series: Unto Us A Son Is Born
Sermon Title: The Miraculous Birth
Date: December 13, 2020

I. THE MIRACLE

Christianity is supernatural.

II. THE LESSON

Nothing is impossible.

III. THE RESPONSE

"Let it be to me according to your word"

Announcements

Christmas Eve: This Christmas Eve we will have three candlelight services. Join us at **either 3, 4:30 or 6pm on Friday, December 24.** The same social distancing protocols as Sunday mornings will be in effect. Childcare will be available for children 3 and under.

Year End Giving: All gifts must be received in the church office, made online or postmarked by **Thursday, December 31** to be included on your 2020 Giving Statement.

Through Stained Glass: Check out our new podcast ***Through Stained Glass***. The first season is called ***How to Disagree Well***. We'll release new episodes on Wednesdays. Visit redeemerwh.org/podcast to find the podcast in your favorite podcasting apps or on the RedeemerWH app.

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).

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.

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.



PLEDGED: \$751,789
RECEIVED: \$656,274

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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