

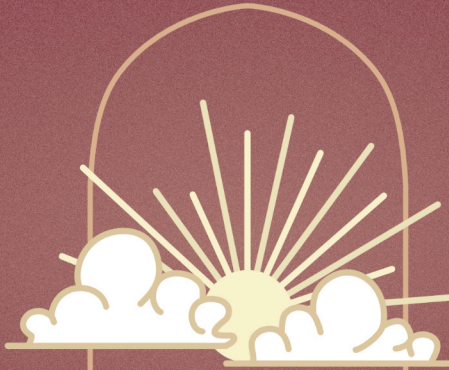


# REDEEMER

## WINTER HAVEN

*"Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!"*

*Psalm 46:10 (ESV)*



# WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY

*The Gospel of John*

*March 1, 2026 – The Second Sunday of Lent*

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## **Season of the Cross:** Purple for Lent

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and runs 40 days through Holy Week. It is a reminder of Jesus' own 40 days in the wilderness, where He fasted and was tempted. Lent is a time of repentance and fasting, of preparation and penitence, as we look ahead with anticipation to His death and resurrection.

## **Call to Worship:** Revelation 19: 1, 7

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

Leader: Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God!... Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready.

## **Song of Ascent**

*The first song we sing together guides us as we "go up" or approach the presence of God to worship Him. This song is meant to rouse us to worship and awaken our hearts.*

Jesus I Come

## **Reading of the Law:** Isaiah 62:1-5

*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.*

1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. 2 The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. 3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

## **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).*

## **Corporate Confession of Sin**

*In a culture that avoids talk of sin and culpability, regular prayers of confession foster honesty and openness in our relationship with God. We confess sin in the context of the covenant Lord's love shown to us through Jesus Christ. We offer our confession as part of a covenantal relationship.*

**People: O God, I was never meant to do it all. But that has not kept me from trying. My limitations are not due to my fallenness, but are how you have made me, and all that you have made is good.**

**I confess that I have sought an infinite capacity for myself. Yet, only you are all-powerful, all-knowing, and everywhere-for-all.**

**Forgive me for the ancient sin of wanting to be "like God" and not living in dependence and trust. You delight in my finitude. Help me to delight in your inexhaustible greatness and your inexhaustible goodness. Lead me to embrace my humanity more fully.**

**I cannot do everything...**

**...I do not have all the answers.**

**I cannot help everyone.**

**These are not faults to be overcome. Rather, they are a beneficial gift to be honored and received. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon:** Ephesians 5:25-27

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

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

## **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.*

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go  
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

## **Worship Through Giving:** Give Online at [redeemerwh.org/give](https://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.*

## **Kids' Worship Dismissal**

*Children **through first 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.*

John 3:22-31

## **Confession of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed

*As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontus Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; He descended into hell...**

**...The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic (universal) church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **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.*

The Church's One Foundation

## **Mercy Offering:** Give online at [redeemerwh.org/give](https://redeemerwh.org/give)

*As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.*

Florida Church Planting Network

## **Song of Repose and Sending**

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

Behold Our God

## **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

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***There is a prayer team available following the worship service for anyone in need of prayer.***

## Proclamation of God's Word

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

22 After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. 23 John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized 24 (for John had not yet been put in prison).

25 Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. 26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." 27 John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. 28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' 29 The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease."

31 He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all.

- John 3:22-31

## Resources

Kelly Kapic, ***You Were Never Meant to Do it All***

Zack Eswine, ***The Imperfect Pastor***

Alan Noble, ***"On Saving the World"***

R.C. Sproul, ***John***

**Sermon Series:** We Have Seen His Glory

**Sermon Title:** The Bridegroom

**Date:** March 1, 2026

**Hook:** *What makes someone a good best man or maid of honor at a wedding?*

## I. THE PLOT

*"God made the world so that his Son's heart had an outlet." - Dane Ortlund*

## II. THE PART

*"We were never meant to repent for not being everywhere for everybody all at once. We are meant to repent because we've tried to be." - Zack Eswine*

## III. THE PROTAGONIST

*"The true beauty is that we can trust God to be provident over all the suffering of the world. I don't know how he will bring it all together. But I have hope that he will. And so it's not my job to save the world. I can't do it. I tried. I keep trying. I keep failing. The world continues to suffer and I have done no good. But there is One who has done and will do good. And I can trust him. And if I trust in God's work of redemption, then I am free to do my little works of reconciliation here on earth faithfully within my finite limits and offer them as gifts." - Alan Noble*

**Takeaway:** *He must increase; but I must decrease.*

# HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONAL

## “THE CHAMPION”

### SCRIPTURE: PSALM 68:7-18 (ESV)

Psalm 68:7-18 is a song of praise for the power of God as seen in salvation. There are three movements in this passage. Verses 7-10 describe the power of God in delivering the people of Israel from their bondage in Egypt. Then, verses 11-14 recount the power of God in the present to preserve his people as they lived amongst their enemies. Finally, verses 15-18 rejoice in the power of God that will safely bring his people home to the mountain of God. These three movements describe the life of a Christian as well. How are all these wonderful truths possible? These benefits are secured for us because of our champion.

Psalm 68:18 refers to one who ascended on high, leading forth a host of captives in his train. According to St. Paul, this passage is describing Christ Jesus, particularly the victory accomplished by him through his resurrection from the dead (Ephesians 4:8). In Hebrews 12:2 we are told to keep our eyes on Jesus, the “archegos” of our faith. Although it has been variously translated as “author” or “pioneer,” the best translation would be “champion.” Jesus went toe-to-toe with sin and death and won! He fought the battle on our behalf with death and secured the victory. Now, we can rest in him, knowing that the very same power that raised Jesus from the dead is also at work in us (1 Corinthians 6:14). Do you find yourself anxious today, maybe fearful of what the future holds? Let the truth of these verses be a reminder that the power of God is present in your life because of the work of our champion. Because of him we have been brought out of bondage, are being preserved day by day, and through his grace we shall arrive safely home.

### PRAYER

Lord, we rejoice and shout aloud that you would give your life to pay the price for our treachery. We praise you as our beloved king we have been waiting for. Come reign in our heart, our lives and our city. In Christ's name. Amen.

**Taken from Redeemer NYC's Daily Lenten Devotional**



**Lenten Devotionals & Playlists**

Available on our app

## Announcements

**Membership Course:** Redeemer's membership course is divided into four parts, corresponding to the parts of our theological vision – Gospel, City, Movement – and our membership vows. The classes will be Sundays after church from 11:45am- 1:00pm (**March 8, 15, 22, 29**). Lunch will be provided, as well as childcare if needed. Please RSVP at [redeemerwh.org/rsvp](https://redeemerwh.org/rsvp), and see Jonathan for membership class booklets.

**Community Fest:** Winter Haven's Community Fest on **March 7** is a time of free family fun with games, activities and more! Redeemer will have a tent and we're looking for volunteers to help greet visitors. If you're interested in volunteering, please email Brad Scholten at [bradleyscholten@gmail.com](mailto:bradleyscholten@gmail.com).

**MOTS Garage Sale:** Our moms group, MOTS, will hold their annual garage sale **March 7th in the Fellowship Hall from 7am - 1pm**. Garage sale monies provide the childcare funding for our meetings. They would appreciate any donated items which can be dropped off on Thursday 3/5 from 1:30-6:30pm and on Friday, 3/6, from 8am-1pm.

**Community Group Open House:** If you are looking for a community group, we invite you to be part of our Community Group Open House on **March 22, April 26, and May 31** after worship. This monthly gathering is designed for those hoping to join a regular group. Lunch will be provided, and you'll experience a typical community group format—time to connect, discuss the sermon, and share prayer requests. Please sign up at [redeemerwh.org/rsvp](https://redeemerwh.org/rsvp).

**Women's Bible Study:** Our Women's Bible Study is going through the *Person of Jesus, Unit 1: Compassion* book **Thursday mornings from 9:30-11 am** until April 30. Childcare is available. We'd love for you to join us!

**Get Connected:** The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter ([redeemerwh.org/newsletter](https://redeemerwh.org/newsletter)) and our mobile app ([redeemerwh.org/app](https://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](https://redeemerwh.org/worship)).

### Our Mission

Our mission is to make Jesus' invisible kingdom visible in Winter Haven, Polk County, and the world.

### Church Planting

One of the ways we hope to accomplish our mission is by planting new churches throughout Polk County. We proudly partner with Renew Polk ([renewpolk.org](https://renewpolk.org)) and the Florida Church Planting Network ([flchurchplanting.org](https://flchurchplanting.org)).

MISSION  
FUND

**2026 GOAL:** \$50,000  
**RECEIVED:** \$3,315

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