



REDEEMER

WINTER HAVEN

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 opens wide her doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.



April 6, 2025 – The Fourth Sunday of Lent

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: Psalm 42

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

Leader: As the deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God ... My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

People: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Leader: As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

People: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

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.

Rising Sun

Reading of the Law: Psalm 15:1-5

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.

15:1 O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?
2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;
3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;
4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

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: Worship Sourcebook

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.

Forgive us our sins, O Lord. Forgive us the sins of our youth and the sins of our age, the sins of our soul and the sins of our body, our secret and our whispering sins, our presumptuous and our careless sins, the sins we have done to please ourselves, and the sins we have done to please others. Forgive us the sins that we know...

...and the sins that we know not; forgive them all because of your great goodness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song of Repentance

In this song of repentance we acknowledge our sin and our need of a Savior.

Most Merciful God

Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 5:21

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

5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of 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.

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 The Deep Deep Love Of Jesus
Rock of Ages

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.

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.

Psalms 22:1-31

Confession of Faith

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

We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. We 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. We 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.

Sing to Jesus

Mercy Offering: 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.

Southland Camps

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 Him

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.

Resources

James M Boice, ***Psalms***

Derek Kidner, ***Psalms***

Charles Spurgeon, ***Treasury of David***

Bruce Waltke, ***How to Read and Understand the Psalms***

Proclamation of God's Word

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

22:1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. 3 Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. 4 In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. 5 To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. 6 But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. 7 All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; 8 "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" 9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. 10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

22:12 Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me; 13 they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; 15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. 16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— 17 I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; 18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

22:19 But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! 21 Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! 22 I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: 23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! 24 For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. 26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. 28 For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. 29 All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. 30 Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; 31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

Sermon Series: The Psalms of Easter

Sermon Title: The Psalm of the Cross

Date: April 6, 2025

Hook: *Does it ever feel like God is far away from you?*

I. PSYCHOLOGY

"It is easy to be honest before God with our hallelujahs; it is somewhat more difficult to be honest in our hurts... So we commonly suppress our negative emotion. But when we pray the Psalms, we find that will not do. We must pray who we actually are, not who we think we should be." – Eugene Peterson

II. PROPHECY

"Jesus was indeed forsaken by God while he bore the sin of his people on the cross. This is the very essence of the atonement – Jesus bearing our hell in order that we might share his heaven." – James M. Boice

III. PRACTICE

"(Psalm 23) is doxological lament and that is what sanctifies." – Bruce Waltke

Takeaway: *It is finished!*

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

“THE CALL”

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 9:18-27 (ESV)

After spending days and nights with Jesus, witnessing his words and works first hand, Peter could make an absolute confession that Jesus was the Christ, the promised one of God. Those further from Jesus were less resolute in their faiths, often believing him to be a prophet; but those who followed him regularly knew that he was not simply a messenger, but the message itself. After Peter's confession, Jesus tried to help them understand his mission and what it looked like to follow him; but Jesus was not the kind of Messiah they were expecting, and following him was not what they thought it was going to be like.

Jesus issues a clear call to those who might follow him, that allegiance to him requires denying yourself, taking up your cross daily and following him. Then and now his words are difficult. We live in a culture that teaches us to glorify ourselves and to pursue comfort, control and the satisfaction of our desires above all else. To deny oneself and pursue the things of God can feel like death, but that is what Jesus calls us to. He tells us that to follow him, we will have to relinquish all control and endure suffering and rejection, but he also promises that this will make us like him. In him, triumph will come through suffering. Jesus is calling us to lose our lives as we know them, but only so that he might give us real and eternal life in him. Do you hear him calling you? Are you willing to deny yourself and take up your cross in order to follow him? Do you trust that he will lead you to life?

PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you that you have revealed your Son to us, that Jesus is the Christ, the deliverer we all need. Please give us the grace we need to follow you. You alone are worthy, and we want to give you our lives, but need your help to do so. In Christ's name. Amen.

Taken from Redeemer NYC's Daily Lenten Devotional



Announcements

Lent Resources: The season of Lent 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. To assist you in this season, we have **Lenten resources** on our app and website. There you will find daily devotionals as well as Spotify and Apple Music playlists.

Communion Throughout Lent: During the season of Lent, we will take Communion together weekly. As we prepare our hearts for corporate worship throughout the weeks of Lent, please also prepare your hearts to participate in the sacrament of Communion.

RUF at USF Hymn-Sing: RUF at USF is inviting their supporting churches to come and worship with them **Sunday, April 13 at 7 pm at St. Catherine's Episcopal Church** (502 Druid Hills Rd). We encourage you to attend if you are able.

Student Ministry Fundraiser: Sunday, May 18, following the worship service, we are hosting a lunch to raise scholarship money for students to attend summer camp! Come support the student ministry in Covenant Hall where students will serve lunch and wait tables. Price per plate is whatever you are willing to pay to help send students to camp. Lunch will be followed by a dessert auction. If you have a dessert you think others would enjoy, please sign up at redeemerwh.org/dos.

Family Fest: During the student ministry fundraiser Sunday, May 18, we will be having an event for families with a bubble train, inflatables, and face painting. You won't want to miss this! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend!

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/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) and the Florida Church Planting Network (flchurchplanting.org).

Community Groups

We also meet during the week in homes for what we call Community Groups. They are intended to be the primary "church" experience for all who are a part of Redeemer. If you are interested in visiting a community group, contact Ashley Bennett, ashmbennett1013@gmail.com.

MISSION
FUND

2025 GOAL: \$50,000
RECEIVED: \$4,582

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