



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



April 27, 2025 – Second Sunday of Eastertide

Season of the Cross: Gold for Eastertide

All the hopes and expectations of Christians are realized in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, making Easter the most celebrative day of the church year. Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of fifty days of Eastertide—the season leading up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, exploring the ramifications of Easter for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

Call to Worship: Psalm 96:1-4

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

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

People: Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

People: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

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.

Praise To The Lord The Almighty

Reading of the Law: Isaiah 46:1-4, 8-9

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.

46:1 Bel bows down; Nebo stoops; their idols are on beasts and livestock; these things you carry are borne as burdens on weary beasts. 2 They stoop; they bow down together; they cannot save the burden, but themselves go into captivity. 3 "Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; 4 even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.

8 "Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, 9 remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

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 3:1-4

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

3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God...

...2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

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

The Lion And The Lamb
Great Are You Lord

Sacrament of Baptism

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it marks, tangibly to our senses, how real God's promise is for all who will trust in Him (seal).

Jacob Oliver Ragsdale

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 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.

Psalm 68:1-20, 32-35

Song of Response & 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. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

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

1 God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him! 2 As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God! 3 But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the Lord; exult before him! 5 Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. 6 God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land. 7 O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, 8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel. 9 Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished; 10 your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

11 The Lord gives the word; the women who announce the news are a great host: 12 "The kings of the armies—they flee, they flee!" The women at home divide the spoil— 13 though you men lie among the sheepfolds—the wings of a dove covered with silver, its pinions with shimmering gold. 14 When the Almighty scatters kings there, let snow fall on Zalmon. 15 O mountain of God, mountain of Bashan; O many-peaked mountain, mountain of Bashan! 16 Why do you look with hatred, O many-peaked mountain, at the mount that God desired for his abode, yes, where the Lord will dwell forever? 17 The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary. 18 You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the Lord God may dwell there. 19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. 20 Our God is a God of salvation, and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

32 O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, 33 to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. 34 Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies. 35 Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

Sermon Series: The Psalms of Easter
Sermon Title: The Psalm of the Ascension
Date: April 27, 2025

Hook: *Have you ever been ebullient?*

I. THE CONTEXT

"As the ark was among the Israelites, so is Christ among His people..." - David Dickson

II. THE CHRIST

"From the gracious character of His reign it comes to pass that to be led into captivity by Him is for our captivity to cease." - Spurgeon

III. THE CHURCH

*"But thanks be to God, who gives **us** the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- 1 Corinthians 15:57*

Takeaway: *The Ascension is the assurance of His immense power and intense care. And his return!*



THE GOSPEL IN

Exodus

Exodus offers the greatest paradigmatic redemption event in the Bible prior to Christ's incarnation. As such, it is profoundly good news to captives, to those who labor in bondage to sin and misery. In addition, it shapes Christians' continued understanding of and hope for redemption. In the redemption gained through the life, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and continued ministry of Jesus, we have a new exodus, a fulfillment of what Exodus pictured for the people of God.

Exodus tells us that redemption begins with God remembering his covenant promises offered in Genesis: the promise of the death blow to our ancient Enemy through the offspring of the woman (Gen. 3:15); the promise to Abraham of an offspring through whom all the families of the earth will be blessed (Gen. 12:1–3); and the promise that Abraham's offspring will be in captivity for a time, but will return to the Promised Land (Gen. 15:13–14). Exodus opens with God remembering his covenant with Abraham (Ex. 2:23–25) and coming down to redeem his people through his chosen mediator, Moses (Ex. 3–4). Through Moses, God goes forward to redeem his people “out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” (Ex. 20:2).

Having redeemed his people, God then guides them through the wilderness and brings them to Mount Sinai to instruct them in his ways. That is always the order of the Bible: redemption, then response; grace, then law. However, the Mosaic covenant could not deliver people from their sins; it was not meant to do so—rather, it served to point beyond itself to One who would come to fulfill all the foreshadowings in the tabernacle and all the requirements of the law's “rules” (Ex. 21:1).

This Old Testament paradigm of redemption in Exodus, then, helps Christians see more clearly the ultimate redemption that God works out through Jesus, his Mediator between God and mankind (1 Tim. 2:5). In Jesus the Messiah, God acts because he remembers his covenant. His earliest promises to Adam and Eve and to Abraham find their fulfillment in Jesus (Gal. 3:7–18). And so, in Jesus, God himself comes down to deliver his people (John 1:14–18). Jesus is the Lamb of God whose blood serves as the redemption-price to deliver his people from God's wrath and the Enemy's captivity (John 1:29; Rom. 3:24–26; 1 Cor. 5:7; Eph. 1:7; 2:1–10). Those who trust in him are delivered from death itself—displayed in baptism—and brought to new life in Christ through his power (Rom. 6:1–11; 1 Cor. 10:1–4).

From *The Gospel Transformation Bible*,
"The Gospel in Exodus"

Announcements

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!

Water Day: We're excited for **Water Day, Saturday May 31, from 9:30am-12pm at Redeemer**. We will have inflatables for the kids and a Kona Ice truck. Please bring sunscreen, towels, and lawn chairs- snacks and drinks will be provided. Each child must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Summer Camps: Parents of middle and high school students, please mark your calendars for **June 9-14 (Southland High School Camp)** and **July 7-11 (Southland Middle School Camp)**. These camps are great opportunities for fellowship, worship, and fun, and we encourage all students to attend. To learn more information and register for camp, please visit redeemerwh.org/rsvp.

Women's Retreat: Ladies of Redeemer, please save the date for our **Women's Retreat, January 30- February 1, 2026**. More details will be announced in the coming months. We hope to see you there!

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: \$5,336

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