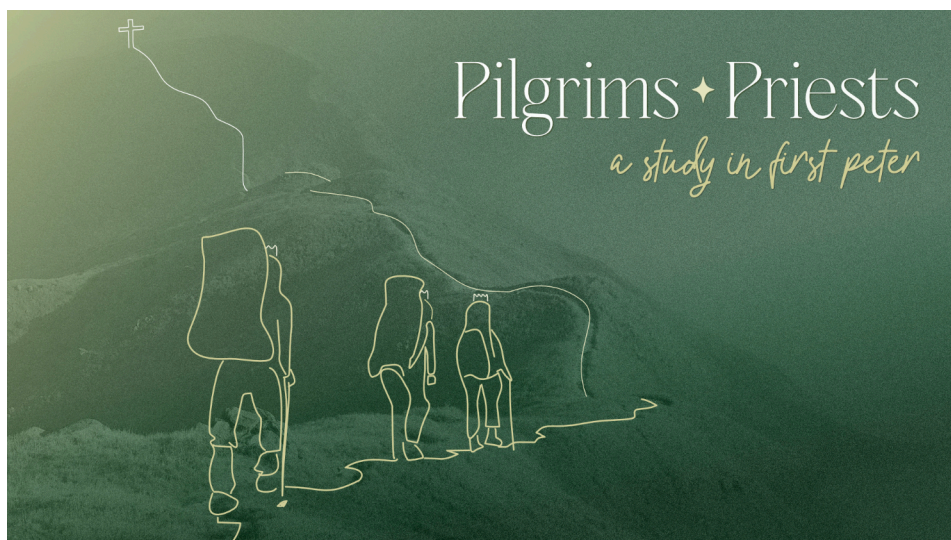




REDEEMER

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.



August 24, 2025 – Eleventh 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.

Call to Worship: Psalm 34

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

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

People: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.

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.

Great Things

Reading of the Law: Deuteronomy 10:12-16; 20-21

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.

12 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good? 14 Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. 15 Yet the Lord set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. 16 Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn.

20 You shall fear the Lord your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. 21 He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.

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 4:8b-12

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

8b God is love. 9 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. 10 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. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

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

It Was Finished Upon That Cross
He Will Be

Receiving New Members: 10:45

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.

Penelope Lawhorn (communing)

Sacrament of Baptism: 10:45

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).

Penelope Lawhorn

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 (9am) age 3 (10:45am)** 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.

1 Peter 1:22-2:8

Song of Response & Sending

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

Cornerstone

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

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 Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25 but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

2:1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." 7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," 8 and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

Pg. 1014 (1 Peter 1:22-2:8 ESV)

Resources

Edmund Clowney, *The Message of 1 Peter*

Darrell Guder, ed., *Missional Church*

Stanley Hauerwas, *Resident Aliens*

Stefan Paas, *Pilgrims and Priests*

Sermon Series: Pilgrims and Priests

Sermon Title: Holy Love

Date: August 24, 2025

Hook: *When the heat gets turned up, what comes out of you?*

I. EARNEST LOVE

"We Christians have given atheists less and less in which to believe." – Alasdair MacIntyre

II. EDIFYING LOVE

"The experience of Christian togetherness is not simply for the benefit of those who choose to participate in Christian community. A community of love rooted in the redemptive reign of God can never be an in-house enterprise." – Inagrace Dietterich

III. ETERNAL LOVE

"Christian love is the love of grace. For such love to appear the pride and selfishness of our alienation from God must be swept away. They must be replaced by a heart made new with the motives of grace." – Edmund Clowney.

Take-away: *Make Jesus your treasure!*



THE GOSPEL IN

Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy is clearly one of the most important books in the Old Testament. First, Jesus quoted the book of Deuteronomy more than any other book in the Old Testament. Second, Jesus used the book of Deuteronomy in his own life more than any other book in the Old Testament. For example, Jesus answered all three of his temptations in the wilderness with quotations from the book of Deuteronomy. Since the person of Jesus is at the very heart of the gospel and Deuteronomy was so important in his life, it should therefore not be hard to find the gospel in this last book of Moses' Pentateuch.

We can see the gospel in the overall structure of the book of Deuteronomy. While it is true that the majority of the book and the center of the book are occupied with laws and the consequences of keeping or breaking those laws, this "law" section is surrounded by grace. The first four chapters are in effect an account of how gracious God has been to Israel in the past. So, God's grace in the past serves as the context and motivation for Israel's keeping the law.

Likewise, the last four chapters are in effect an account of how gracious God will be to Israel in the future. So also, God's grace in the future serves as the context and motivation for Israel's keeping the law. Thus, in the book of Deuteronomy, the law is surrounded by grace, and keeping the law is a response to grace received and anticipated. We can also see the gospel within the central section of the book of Deuteronomy. Keeping the law in the book of Deuteronomy is a response to God's grace and not a means to earn God's favor. This truth is articulated nowhere more clearly than in the Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 5), where all of the commandments are rooted in God's gracious redemption. The apostle Paul certainly saw the gospel in the book of Deuteronomy.

In his letter to the Romans, for example, Paul drew on Deuteronomy to teach that the law reveals sin, that righteousness is by faith, that a circumcision of the heart is necessary for true obedience, that keeping the law is the way to love one's neighbor, that we should not seek personal revenge, and that we should expect Gentiles to be added to an originally all-Jewish people of God.

Finally, Jesus saw the gospel in the book of Deuteronomy. This is revealed not only in that he quoted extensively from Deuteronomy and used it in his own life, but also in that he reflected theologically on Deuteronomy. When asked, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus answered by including a quote from Deuteronomy 6:4-5: "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength'". Jesus taught that we love God because of who he is, "the Lord our God." We love him by keeping his commandments because he is our God; he is not our God because we love him by keeping his commandments. That is grace. It is gospel. And because we have received this grace, we keep the second greatest commandment, "you shall love your neighbor as yourself". We love because he loved. We extend grace because he extended grace.

Announcements

BUILD: BUILD is a time to gather as a church family, share a meal, and get trained in our gospel tools. We meet weekly on Wednesday nights **through August 27th. Dinner begins at 5:30pm, classes begin at 6:30pm.** Please join us in the following weeks even if you could not make it these past two weeks!

Get Connected Drop-In: Are you new to Redeemer or would you simply like to know more about how to connect to our church? Please join us **in the Blue Classroom after either service on September 14** for a short 30 minute meeting to learn more about Redeemer. Childcare provided, please contact Sally Goodwill at 863-325-5200.

Women's Bible Study: This fall our women's Bible study will be going through *Acts: The Power That Changes the World, Study Guide (The Gospel-Centered Life in the Bible)*. We will be meeting **Thursdays starting on September 4 in the Blue Classroom from 9:30-11am.** Childcare provided!

A Praying Church: Join us **Friday, September 5, and Saturday, September 6 at Venue 650** to hear Paul E. Miller, author of *A Praying Life* and *A Praying Church*, give us a vision for and practical experience in praying as a community. Together, we'll look at praying communities through the ages and into today and discover what—or who—makes them work. The cost is \$25, and you can register at rebrand.ly/apc_wh.

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: \$6,669

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