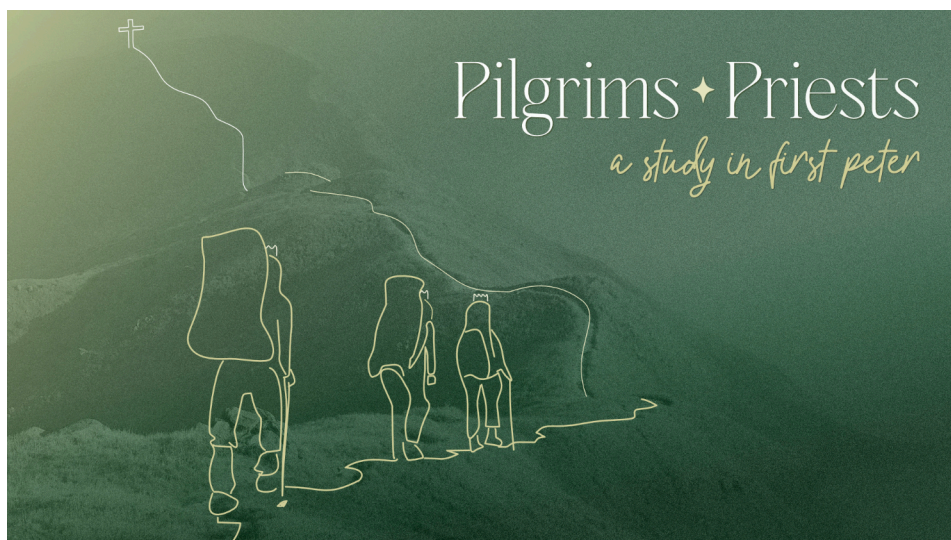




REDEEMER

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.



September 14, 2025 – Fourteenth 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: Daniel 2:20-22

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

Leader: Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belongs wisdom and might.

People: He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells 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.

Psalm 150 (Praise The Lord)

Reading of the Law: Psalm 37:1-9

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.

1 Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! 2 For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. 7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

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: Revelation 7:9-17

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

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ...

... 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Jesus Lead Us With Thy Power
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

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 2:18-25

Song of Response & Sending

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

He Will Hold Me Fast

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.

18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. 19 For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. 21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Pg. 1015 (1 Peter 2:18-25 ESV)

Resources

John Stott, ***The Cross of Christ***

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, ***Cost of Discipleship***

Tim Keller, ***"Practicing Faith in a Pagan World" sermon***

Westminster Confession of Faith, ***Larger Catechism Questions 126-130***

Sermon Series: Pilgrims and Priests

Sermon Title: A Gracious Thing

Date: September 14, 2025

Hook: *How do you respond when life is not fair?*

I. BE SUBJECT

"Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust (1 Peter 2:18).

II. A GRACIOUS THING

"If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, it is a gracious thing in the sight of God" (1 Peter 2:20).

III. MINDFUL OF GOD

"Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21).

Take-away: *The Cross is a calling.*



THE GOSPEL IN

Joshua

A Story of Grace

From the beginning to the end of the book of Joshua, the formula is repeated: God gives and Israel inherits. The spotlight is not on Joshua's moral example or on timeless principles of conduct but on Yahweh's fulfillment of a historical promise. Even Joshua's name ("Yahweh Saves!") points away from himself to the real hero of the story. Joshua is a story of grace.

God's gracious covenant with Abraham in Genesis 15 involved key promises, including a temporal land and nation (the "type," or beginning of a pattern) and an everlasting inheritance for all nations through his descendant—Jesus Christ (the reality to which the type pointed; see Gal. 3:16). Though entering land is a gracious gift (Deut. 7:6–9; 9:4–8), remaining God's holy nation did depend on Israel's obedience to the covenant. This echoes Adam's testing in Eden, with the consequent promise of life or death, blessing or curse, enjoyment of God or exile (Ex. 19:4–8; 24:3, 8; Deut. 11:17, 26; 28:1–68). Even after heeding the voice of the serpent, Adam and Eve received God's gracious promise of a Savior, the seed (or "off-spring") of the woman, who would crush the serpent's head (Gen. 3:15). Would this seed be Israel? Was Israel the fulfillment of God's promise? In spite of much genuine faith and obedience under Joshua, already this book hints at the tragic verdict: "But like Adam they [Israel] transgressed the covenant" (Hos. 6:7). The nation of Israel was not the ultimate seed of God's promise but rather was God's instrument for providing it (that is, for providing him).

God's Authority

Like the spies Joshua sent into Jericho, the apostles were an advance force for the conquering purposes of God. But the means of their conquest were quite different. Jesus rebuked James and John for wanting to execute holy war on Samaritans that had rejected the gospel (Luke 9:51–56). Their mission was to preach the gospel of Christ's kingdom. Jesus similarly instructed the 72 to fulfill their mission not by force but by preaching (Luke 10–12), giving them "authority to tread on serpents" (Luke 10:19). However, it is Satan—the real Enemy behind the earthly enemies—whose head is finally being crushed (Luke 10:17–20; cf. Rom. 16:20).

Our God yet retains the physical and spiritual authority to do as he wishes for the whole world. When Christ returns, he will judge the whole earth, together with his saints (1 Cor. 6:2). His victory will be more powerful and forceful than anything that we read about in the book of Joshua; it will mark the final destruction of evil and the establishment of everlasting righteousness and peace. Through Joshua's conquest we discern the power of God's might through an incredibly flawed nation, but only in the Seed that would come through Joshua's people do we see the true purpose and end of God's conquering promises. Unlike the wars of old that led only to more bloodshed and misery, Christ's global judgment and victory when he comes again will truly be the war to end all wars (Matt. 3:11–12; 24:27–25:46; Rev. 17:1–20:15).

Announcements

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 today** for a short 30 minute meeting to learn more about Redeemer.

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 in the Blue Classroom from 9:30-11am**. Childcare provided, please contact Sally Goodwill at 863-325-5200.

Faith and Work: Our men's ministry is having a collection of fall gatherings centered on the idea of integrating faith & work. More details to come. In the meantime, please mark your calendars:

- **September 25**, 6-8pm, The Exchange-Magnolia (250 Magnolia Ave. SW, Suite 200)
- **October 24**, 3:30-8pm, Country Club of Winter Haven
- **November 20**, 6-9pm, Brown's Sea Plane Base

We're Hiring: We're looking for a new director of our women's ministry. This is a part-time position. To see the job description or apply, please visit redeemerwinterhaven.org/employment.

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: \$8,089

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