



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

September 20, 2026 — Seventeenth 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: Acts 17:24-28

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

Leader: The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth... that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

People: In him we live and move and have our being.

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.

Behold Our God

Reading of the Law: Romans 1:18-25

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.

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, 25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

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).

Song of Repentance

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

Sing to Jesus

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 3:21-25a

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

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

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

Rock of Ages
Good and Gracious King

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught this prayer to guide His people in how to pray (Gospel of Matthew 6:9–13). When we pray it together, we address God as our Father, ask for His kingdom to come, depend on Him for daily provision, seek forgiveness, and look to Him for strength to walk in faithfulness.

Proclamation of God's Word

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

John 8:31-59

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 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

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

Sermon Series: We Have Seen His Glory

Sermon Title: The I AM

Date: September 20, 2026

Hook: *Do you ever feel like you are inwardly out of control?*

I. GOD: THE I AM

"God has of himself all that he has, while other things have nothing of themselves. And they, having nothing of themselves, have their only reality from him." - Anselm

II. KNOWING GOD: THE TRUTH THAT FREES

"The truth will set you free, but first it will (tick) you off." - Gloria Steinham

III. OF GOD: SONS NOT SLAVES

If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father." - J.I. Packer

Takeaway: *Become child-like, not child-ish.*

Proclamation of God's Word

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

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. 38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

39 They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

48 The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" 49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51 Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." 52 The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" 54 Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' 55 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." 57 So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Discussion Questions

1. When do you feel the most out of control emotionally? How is it a signal that things are not right with you spiritually?
2. Why do you think the truth of Jesus often provokes anger or defensiveness before it brings freedom? Where do you see that dynamic in John 8:31–59?
3. Think back to how you answered the first question. What gospel truth do you most need to hear? What is the truth that could set you free, if you believed it whole-heartedly?
4. What is the difference between relating to God as a slave versus as a son or daughter? How does the Assurance of Pardon from Romans 3:21–25a help us rest in the freedom and status Jesus gives?
5. Discuss the difference between being child-like and being child-ish.

Resources

Matthew Barrett, *[None Greater](#)*

Tim Keller, *[Galatians study](#)*

J.I. Packer, *[Knowing God](#)*

Michael Reeves, *[Rejoicing in Christ](#)*

Announcements

Growing Deep for Greater Reach: Thank you for your incredible generosity and continued prayers! Commitments and gifts are still being received as we look toward our **November 15th dedication**. Commitment cards are available Sundays, or you can complete the commitment form online. redeemerwh.org/campaign

Women's Bible Study: Ladies, this fall we will meet **Thursday mornings from 9:30-11am (through November 19)** in the Lakes Room. The study is based on *Colossians: Fullness of Life in Christ* by Lydia Brownback. Childcare is available.

The study is also be available **via Zoom on Monday nights**. Contact Sally Goodwill to be included: sallyg1110@aol.com.

Smart Giving Workshop: At this workshop, Tim Townsend, President of the PCA Foundation will provide an introduction to estate planning concepts and tools, and show participants how to maximize how much they can give for Kingdom impact by employing tax efficient giving strategies. **Thursday, October 1, 6-8pm.** redeemerwh.org/workshop

Family Worship & Prayer Night: Join us next Sunday, **September 27**, as we gather as a church family for an evening of worship and prayer. Childcare available through age 3.

Women's Event: Art for the Heart, Thursday October 8, from 6-8pm in the Lakes Room. Join us for a night of friendship and working side by side in an interactive, simple, relaxing art workshop. We'll connect with our hearts, to each other, and our Savior as we make a collage project together. Drinks and snacks included. redeemerwh.org/art

Men's Night: Back by popular demand...BBQ Competition! Saturday, **October 17, from 5-8pm at Jack Brown's Seaplane Base**. Bring your best BBQ dish for a friendly - yet serious! - competition. There will be plenty to go around, so you don't need to bring anything. And don't worry, college football will be on TV. redeemerwh.org/bbq

Lake Room Setup Volunteers Needed: We are looking for a few volunteers to help prepare the Lakes Room on Sunday mornings. Setup takes about 5-10 minutes and includes a few basic technology and room setup tasks. A checklist and training will be provided. Contact Brad Scholten: bradleyscholten@gmail.com

Hearing Assistance: If you are in need of hearing assistance during the service, please join our "Redeemer Guest" Wifi and download the Listen Wifi App at redeemerwh.org/listen.

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).

MISSION
FUND

2026 GOAL: \$50,000
RECEIVED: \$10,291

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