



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.

Pilgrims ♦ Priests

a study in second peter

October 19, 2025 – Nineteenth 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 42:1-2, 5

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

Leader: As a deer pants for flowing streams...

People: So pants my soul for you, O God.

Leader: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

People: When shall I come and appear before God?

Leader: Why are you cast down, O my soul and why are you in turmoil within me?

People: 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.

The Love of Christ is Rich and Free

Reading of the Law: Deuteronomy 8:11-16

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.

11 "Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, 12 lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, 13 and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, 14 then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, 15 who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, 16 who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end.

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: Ephesians 3:14-19

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

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness 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

His Mercy is More
The Lord's Prayer

Receiving New Members: 9:00

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.

Chad & Melissa Miller (*communing*)
Sara Beth Miller (*communing*)

Sacrament of Baptism: 9:00

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).

Sara Beth Miller

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.

2 Peter 1:1-15

Song of Response & Sending

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

My Worth is Not in What I Own

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.

1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: 2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. 5 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. 10 Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. 11 For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

12 Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. 13 I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. 15 And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

Pg. 1018 (2 Peter 1:1-15 ESV)

Resources

Michael Green, *2 Peter*

Dick Lucas, *The Message of 2 Peter*

Richard Lovelace, *Dynamics of Spiritual Life*

Sermon Series: Pilgrims and Priests

Sermon Title: With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility

Date: October 19, 2025

Hook: *If you found out you were going to die next week and were asked to write a letter to someone you love, what would you say?*

I. THE GLORIOUS CHAIN

"God does not give us all we might like, but all that we need for life and godliness...these gifts are enshrined in Jesus Christ himself, and in getting to know him, we enjoy the power to live a holy life." - Michael Green

II. A SKETCH OF EFFORT

"...consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." - Romans 6:11

III. THE DANGER OF FORGETTING

"It is really only those things to which we are indifferent, and which we can thus shove to the very peripheries of our minds as irrelevant, which we are able to forget." - Carl Trueman



THE GOSPEL IN

Judges

Right in Their Own Eyes

Judges and 1–2 Samuel bridge the gap from the entrance of the people of God into the Promised Land under the faithful leadership of Joshua to their expulsion from the land due to unfaithful kings in 1–2 Kings. Judges portrays the people of God languishing without good leadership. Since the conquest of the land is not complete, the book begins with the question of who will lead in battle and ends with the statement, “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes”. The need for a king who will lead God’s people into their full inheritance is an important theme.

A larger problem looms, however. The people of God have abandoned him for pagan gods. The Lord loves his people too much to permit this ongoing rejection of their distinctive calling to be a kingdom of priests, chosen to testify to his glory among the nations. Given over to recurring cycles of oppression by foreign nations, they constantly cry to the Lord for help, and he intervenes on their behalf. Judges tells the story of these cycles. Despite the people’s continuous rejection of God’s kingship, he is moved to compassion for them. Individual judges, described as those who “saved Israel”, are provided by the Lord again and again. Clearly, there is a need for a king who can break this cycle of idolatry and oppression.

The fabric of unfaithfulness is woven so deeply into human nature, and the need for a savior who can free us from oppression is so pervasive, that it is tempting to make every story of Judges end with the same result: humanity is a mess; humanity needs a savior. Broadly speaking, this is correct. It is right for us to consider how these patterns in Judges prepare us for Jesus, the final King and Judge to end all judges and all kings. He will destroy the darkness of sin and restore and enable the people of God to fulfill their original role as a kingdom of priests.

No sin, no failure, no corruption, no despair, no brokenness is beyond the reach of his compassion. In light of God’s faithfulness to Israel in Judges, what can we do but worship him and live for his glory?

Yet in Judges we can drill even deeper into the area of humanity and its need for redemption. The book addresses significant issues vital to the life of God’s people—issues that will be integrally tied to an understanding of the need of God’s grace in other portions of Scripture.

The failures of both people and judges are so significant that they urge us to long for the hero who will never fail. Cut off from God’s kingship, the people of God are left with only private religion and personal ambition. God is the king, however, and will not long tolerate seeing his people destroy themselves. The people of God are never beyond the reach of his grace. Israel in Judges is in bad shape, but a new day is dawning when God will provide, from the line of David, King Jesus, the king of his choosing.

Announcements

Renew Polk Worship Service: On **Sunday, October 26 at 5:30pm**, Renew Polk will be hosting a combined worship gathering at Christ Community (6565 S Florida Ave). This evening is an opportunity to hear updates on how God is moving in and through church plants here in Polk County while also praying for the gospel to continue to bear fruit in our area. Consider making this a Community Group outing.

Fall Fest: Please join us for a Fall Fest & Chili Cook Off **Saturday, November 8 at 3pm in the Twelve Oaks Neighborhood (879 Twin Oaks Ln)**. We'll have inflatables, face painting, and a hayride for the kids. We'll also have yard games for the adults, and of course, lots of chili! Be on the lookout for a chili sign-up coming soon!

Women's Retreat: Ladies, mark your calendars for **January 30-Feb 1, 2026**. Join us at The Grove Resort in Orlando for our Redeemer Women's Retreat as we practice and experience Deeper Rest in Christ Alone. Online registration opens soon with all the weekend details including speakers, cost, schedule, and rooming choices. We can't wait to enjoy a time of learning and rest with you!

Faith and Work: This fall, Redeemer men's ministry will host a gathering to look at Tim Keller's book *Every Good Endeavor*, which articulates the intersection of work and faith from the perspective of the gospel. Come enjoy a complimentary dinner, hear God's wisdom for work, and enjoy fellowship. Bring a friend! Please mark your calendars:

- **November 20**, 6-9pm, Brown's Sea Plane Base

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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