



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.



November 9, 2025 – Twenty-second 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 96

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

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! ... Say among the nations,

People: The Lord reigns!

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for He comes...

People: ...for He comes to judge the earth.

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.

Who Is Like The Lord (Psalm 113)

Reading of the Law: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-9

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 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 2:28-3:3

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

2:28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

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 I Come
Ancient Of Days

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.

Matthew 25:1-13

Song of Response & Sending

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

Hymn Of Heaven

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.

25:1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Sermon Series: Christ Will Come Again
Sermon Title: Christ is Coming Again: Be Ready!
Date: November 9, 2025

Hook: *Do you know anybody who is a "prepper"?*

I. THE TRUTH

"Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." - Ancient Christian liturgical acclamation

II. THE DUTY

"It is utterly insane for us to pitch ourselves out of a window of sin on the top of a skyscraper to enjoy a vapor's exhilaration of the freefall of greed or the freefall of power or the freefall of sex or the freefall of job success... and then death!" – John Piper

III. THE REASONS

"We know something about the fate of the world that the world does not yet know, and that makes us different." – Fleming Rutledge

Jesus will come again as a King.

Jesus will come again as a thief.

Jesus will come again as a Bridegroom.

Take-away: *As you wait, hasten Jesus' return!*



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

Faith and Work: Our final fall gathering will be at Brown's Sea Plane Base on **Thursday, November 20, from 6-9pm**. Join us as we continue to hear testimonies from other men and discuss how our faith integrates with our work. We'll be having a low country boil for dinner! Great opportunity to bring friend.

Thanksgiving Service: Our annual Thanksgiving Service will be **Wednesday, November 26 at 6pm**. This is a brief service where we give thanks to God for who He is and all that He has done. Following the service, stick around to help us decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season! Childcare will be available through Pre-K.

Christmas Party: Our Christmas Party is **Sunday, December 7 at 5pm** at the Packing House (302 3rd St SW). We'll have heavy hors d'oeuvres and a coffee cart serving hot & cold (regular & decaf) drinks. This event is for adults only.

Women's Retreat: Ladies, registration is now open for our Redeemer Women's Retreat **January 30-Feb 1, 2026**. Join us at The Grove Resort in Orlando as we practice and experience Deeper Rest in Christ Alone. To register and to see more details including speakers, cost, schedule, and rooming choices, please visit redeemerwh.org/womensretreat. We can't wait to enjoy a time of learning and rest with you!

Middle and High School Retreats: Parents, please mark your calendars for our Middle School Retreat **Jan 9-11** and our High School Retreat **Feb 20-22**. The Winter Retreats are a fantastic way for our students to unplug, slow down, and enjoy the presence of Jesus and community of other believers their age. To register, please visit redeemerwh.org/events.

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 (flichurchplanting.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: \$9,153

redeemerwinterhaven.org | (863) 298-9849
Mobile App: redeemerwh.org/app | facebook.com/redeemerwh