



REDEEMER
ORANGE COUNTY

{ *order of worship* }



Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Especially if this is your first time with us, welcome. We are glad you are here. We realize that the flow and order of our worship may be unfamiliar. We have included a few notes in the margins that will help you participate and that offer some explanations. Redeemer is a safe place to ask questions and think differently, so feel free to ask the pastors and leaders anything that might be helpful for you, and please offer your feedback.

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, sometimes called a liturgy. This is because we are gathering for the unique activity of worship, not for a lecture, a conference, or a concert; not to listen to good music or hear wise teaching. We gather for an encounter with God, and so we follow the pattern God gave his people in the scripture thousands of years ago. God speaks and we respond.

Calling - God takes the initiative, moves towards us with grace, and invites us to worship him.

Cleansing - God reminds us that we are forgiven in Christ and loved as his children.

Constitution - God builds us up and nourishes us through the scripture.

Communion - God draws us forward, as children to the father's table, to eat a covenant meal with him.

Commission - God sends us out into his world empowered to be his ambassadors.

Participating in this alternating pattern of God's words and our responses each week not only provides help for today, but shapes our faith over time to highlight the tenacity and graciousness of God's covenantal love.

We are glad you are with us. Please introduce yourself to me after our worship.

Grace and Peace,

David Juelfs
Senior Pastor

Redeemer Presbyterian Church
{Following Christ In The Renewal Of All Things}



Fourth Sunday in Advent ⋮ DECEMBER 24, 2017

REFLECTION

“There isn’t anyone you couldn’t learn to love once you’ve heard their story.”
- Mister Rogers

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - ISAIAH 9:2

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.”

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Loving God, strengthen our hearts to believe your advent promise that one day we will walk in the way of Christ in the new heaven and new earth, where sorrow and sighing will be no more and all will be renewed by your all consuming love. Amen.

CALENDAR

ADVENT	Hopeful waiting. Expectancy. Longing. Things are not right within us nor in the world around us, so we
CHRISTMAS	wait. We wait for the arrival of King Jesus. The word “advent” comes from the Latin word <i>adventus</i> , meaning
EPIPHANY	“coming” or “arrival.” During Advent we remember the first coming of Jesus and we long for his second
LENT	coming. Robert Webber explains Advent as, “a corporate spiritual journey that calls for expectant waiting and
EASTER	readiness for the coming of the Christ. When the Church travels this journey and treats it as a discipline of life
PENTECOST	and prayer, the joy of Christmas is immeasurably intensified.”

Calling

Please stand.

OPENING HYMN

The call to worship establishes the lines of communication in worship. God always comes to us before we come to God. Biblical worship is a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people.

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

Joy To The World
WORDS: ISAAC WATTS, MUSIC: GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

CALL TO WORSHIP - FROM LUKE 1, THE MAGNIFICAT

Minister: My soul exalts the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

People: For the Mighty One has done great things for me; and holy is His name.

Minister: And His mercy is upon generation after generation toward those who fear Him.

People: He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF ADORATION

Prayer concludes by saying in unison:

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMNS OF PRAISE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentleman
(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

WORDS: CHARLES WESLEY, MUSIC: FELIX MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heav’n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!

GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMAN

WORDS AND MUSIC: TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright
This day is born a Savior of a pure Virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Cleansing

Please be seated.

CALL TO REPENTANCE - ISAIAH 30:15, 18

The call to
repentance
invites us
to honest
expression
within the
context of
our covenant
relationship
with God, a
relationship in
which honesty
about our sin
is welcome and
safe.

In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.
Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
he rises to show you compassion.
For the LORD is God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for him!

Let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

We have wrought discord, O God. Each of us, in our own way, has locked ourselves out of relationships and we have filled our lives and world with darkness because we lack love. All too often, we have put our own judgment and desires before yours. Come, Lord Jesus. Forgive and restore us. Guide and deliver us. Renew our love. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

Jesus, I Come
WORDS: WILLIAM SLEEPER (1887), MUSIC: GREG THOMPSON (2000)

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Please stand.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - REVELATION 5:5,9-10

We greet one
another with
joy after the
assurance of
pardon because
God's pardon of
us sets us free to
love and forgive
one another.

Minister: Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. With his blood he has purchased people for God from every tribe and language and nation. He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Constitution

Please be seated.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Magi Candle

The lighting of
Advent Candles
dramatically
depicts the
growing
expectation
we have for
the coming of
Christ.

We light this candle to welcome God's light into our lives and we welcome the full revelation of God's unfailing love for us and for all of creation. For Jesus is the Word of God, the lamp to our feet and the light to our path.

Advent Reading - from Matthew 2:1-11

"Wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

SONG OF RESPONSE

We Three Kings

(MUSIC ON PAGE 7)

WE THREE KINGS

WORDS AND MUSIC: JOHN H. HOPKINS JR.

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

Chorus

*O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Chorus

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God on high

Chorus

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

Chorus

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, alleluia
Earth to heaven replies

Chorus

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL AND PRAYER

(At the parents' discretion, children 2 years old to 5th grade may go to a Sermon Time class or remain in the service. Children 2 years through Kindergarten need to be signed into their class prior to the service or at dismissal and signed out following the sermon or after the service.)

The Word of
God is the chief
and final means
through which
God speaks
to us;
the principal
and most direct
way we hear
from God in
worship.

READING GOD'S WORD

John 14:12-14

(Page 901 in the red Bible.)

¹² "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PREACHING GOD'S WORD

REV. DAVID JUELFS

For

The Spirit makes
the reading and
preaching of
God's Word a
powerful means
of nourishing
and comforting
God's people,
and awakening
people to new
faith.

Please stand.

SONG OF RESPONSE

O Holy Night

WORDS AND MUSIC: ADOLPHE CHARLES ADAM, CHAPPEAU DE ROQUEMAURE AND JOHN S. DWIGHT

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night, O night divine

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here came the wise men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our Friend
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord, oh praise His name forever
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY - ACTS 20:35

Minister: "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

All we have
is given to us
by God. Our
offerings express
this joyful
dependance and
our commitment
to join God in his
work of renewal.

Father, you have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you - ourselves, our time, and our possessions - that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

OFFERTORY SONG

Instrumental Ensemble

Communion

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT

SURSUM CORDA

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give him thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORK OF THE FATHER AND SON

Minister: You are holy, O God, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. In Jesus we have been brought out of darkness and into your marvelous light. Therefore, we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

Please stand for the Sursum Corda.

Sursum Corda is Latin for "lift up your hearts." One of the oldest liturgical pieces still in use, it calls us to be heavenly minded and summons us into the Lord's presence. Along with the voices around you, hear the echo of 2000 years of worshiping Christians who have gone before.

ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

(Congregation sings together)

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

WORDS AND MUSIC: TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his final advent. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that we may offer our very selves to you with thanksgiving to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(Directions for taking communion are on page 12.)

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Communion (i.e. the Lord's Supper or Eucharist) is a covenant renewal meal, instituted by Jesus the night before his crucifixion. It points back to the cross, forward to the return of the King, but also, when we receive it in faith, it is true fellowship with King Jesus, in his presence and at his table.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Directions for taking communion:

Redeemer Presbyterian Church welcomes all sincere Christians—those who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord’s Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel— to receive Holy Communion with us. Please note that we use wine for Communion; if you prefer non alcoholic grape juice, the grape juice is white and the wine is red. For those with wheat allergies, a gluten free cracker* is available in place of the bread. Also, the bread and the wine may be eaten and drunk as they are received. Please dispose of the cups in the trash receptacle.

When and how to come forward for communion:

Starting with the first row walk towards the center aisle and come forward. Once you have received the elements you may eat and drink at anytime.

A Word to Parents:

Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord’s Supper, a child must have been baptized and been formally received as a communing member by the Session of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any question about how the process works, please contact Pastor David. Children may take the wine at their parents’ discretion.

* Gluten-free crackers contain organic brown and white rice flour only.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

(Because Redeemer is a church that is not only for convinced Christians, but also for people at different stages in their spiritual journey, we gladly extend room for you to process, think, and dialogue. Use the prayers provided below as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.)

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG

The First Noel

WORDS AND MUSIC: TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of naught
And with his blood mankind has bought
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Loving God,
We thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
in your eternal kingdom.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen**

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

Taste and See That The Lord Is Good

WORDS AND MUSIC: DAVID HLEBO

Come taste and see
That the Lord is very good
Our sin on Him
We are free now
Let us go in peace

Just as we begin
with with
God's gracious
invitation, so
we end with
God's promise
to always be
with us.

BLESSING - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,
and may your whole spirit and soul and body
be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

It is appropriate
to lift our heads
as a symbol that
through Christ
God graciously
lifts our head,
and we hold out
our hands palms
up to symbolize
our need and
eagerness to
receive God's
blessing.

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Immediately following worship, all are invited to the chapel hall for refreshments and conversation.

Sermons can be streamed and downloaded at www.redeemeroc.org/resources/sermons

Announcements & Events

Lessons & Carols Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24, 5:00pm

Join us this evening for our annual Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve service. We will sing the great Christmas songs interspersed with readings from Scripture, and a short Christmas message. Nothing will focus your heart and mind, and get your family into the Christmas spirit like this stirring Christmas Eve service. Nursery childcare will be available for children under 3 years old.

One Worship Service on New Years Eve

Sunday, 12/31, 10:00 am

Join us for worship next Sunday morning, December 31st. We will have one combined worship service at 10:00 am for this Sunday only. There will be no adult classes and lectures, but we will offer children's sermon time classes during worship and nursery childcare will also be available for children under 3 years.

2018 Budget & Vision Follow-up

If you were unable to attend the town hall meeting on November 26th or would like additional information from this meeting, please contact Kem Erskine, kem@redeemeroc.org. An audio of the meeting, copies of the presentation and 2018 preliminary budget, and additional financial information are available by request. We welcome you to review our 2018 preliminary budget and send us your feedback. The final 2018 budget will be presented at a town hall meeting on Sunday, January 21st, during middle hour (10:10-10:50am). Please plan to join us.

Youth Winter Retreat

Friday-Sunday, 1/19-1/21

Redeemer youth are headed to the mountains and snow for their annual winter retreat at Green Valley Lake (near Big Bear). Students will build relationships with one another as they enjoy the snow, play games in a warm cabin, study the Bible, and hang out with friends. The cost is \$100 per student. Registration forms and flyers are available at the book table and on our website (redeemeroc.org/redeemer-news/youth-winter-retreat-2018/). Contact Pastor Adam, adamf@redeemeroc.org, with questions.

Redeemer at a Glance

{ FOLLOWING CHRIST IN THE RENEWAL OF ALL THINGS }

Thank you for joining us. We hope you are encouraged and empowered. A church is not simply a Sunday morning experience, but a community of people following Jesus together. The rhythm of our life together follows this pattern:

- WORSHIP } Responding to God as he speaks through his word and sacraments.
- NURTURE } Learning how to live the kingdom life together. Community groups, classes and workshops, men's and women's ministry, family ministry, and simply having a good time together.
- MISSION } Making Jesus known among our neighbors and working to heal our neighborhoods. Get involved with your neighborhood parish.
- CULTURE } Celebrating and creating the good and the beautiful.

JOIN US



NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH – Love and serve the people where you live. You are God's ambassador. Details on p. 17.



COMMUNITY GROUPS – Study the scripture and pray with a small group of six to twelve others. If you are new to studying the scripture and praying, this is the perfect place to learn without pressure. Details on p.17.



LECTURES & CLASSES – At 10:10 a.m. on Sunday, participate in engaging lectures and classes on subjects that matter. Lectures and classes will resume in January.



MEN'S AND WOMEN'S MINISTRY – Yearly retreats and regular gatherings to deepen our relationships and support each other.



FAMILY MINISTRY – Whether it's a new baby or a house full of teenagers, Redeemer is a place to grow as a family.



MEMBERSHIP – Membership is our commitment to live our kingdom life together.

Community Life

Parishes, Community Groups & Studies

PARISH

We love Orange County and count it a joy to serve the communities where we live. Redeemer is organized into neighborhood groups called parishes. Parishes are designed to help us connect with the Redeemer people we live close to and to empower our local Redeemer communities to contribute to the health of our cities. See information for each parish neighborhood listed below.

North County

Contact: Amber Fox
mrsamberfox@me.com
310.463.8177

Beach Cities

Contact: Clint Knox
clint@komarinvestments.com
949.903.4769

Central County

Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org
949.423.8692

South County

Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org
949.423.8692

North County Parish Dinners

Sundays, 4-6:30pm (every other week)
Duncan Home, Fullerton
Contact: Stacey Duncan
stacey.duncan@hotmail.com

Central County Parish Dinners

Sundays, 5:00-7:00 pm (monthly)
Wormald Home, Irvine
Contact: Larry Wormald
lawormald@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GROUPS

A Community Group is a small gathering of people who meet weekly to discuss scripture and pray together. If you are new to studying scripture, a community group is the perfect place to learn without pressure. **Community Groups are on break for Advent and will resume in January.**

Newport-Mesa

Feichtmann Home
Sundays, 4:00-6:00 pm
Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org

Irvine & Aliso Viejo

Brewer & Moore Homes
Sundays, 5:00-6:45 pm
Contact: Christie Brewer
christiebrewer8301@gmail.com

Irvine & Costa Mesa

Kornu & Yanaga Homes
Sundays, 4:00-6:30 pm
Contact: Christine Kornu
kornufamily@gmail.com

Costa Mesa

Pringle Home
Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm
Contact: Stephanie Handley
srhandley@gmail.com

Newport - Men's Group

Honor Coffee, Lido Marina
1st & 3rd Wed, 8:00-9:00 am
Contact: Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org

Junior High - Costa Mesa

Halecrest Back Clubhouse
Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 pm
Contact: Demi Richardson
demir@redeemeroc.org

High School - Costa Mesa

Cooper Home
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm
Contact: Josh Cooper
joshc@redeemeroc.org

MID-WEEK STUDIES

During the week we offer studies on specific faith and culture topics to help us learn how to live the kingdom life together. **Studies are on break for Advent and will resume in January.**

Men's Study

Seven Deadly Sins
Costa Mesa
Greenleaf on 17th St.
Monthly, 4th Tuesday
7:30-9:00 pm
Leader/Contact:
Adam Feichtmann
adamf@redeemeroc.org

Women's PM Study

Gospel of John
Costa Mesa
Scanlon Home
Every other Tuesday
7:00-8:45 pm
Leader/Contact:
Stephanie Handley
srhandley@gmail.com

Women's AM Study

Gospel of John
Newport Beach
Hodson Home
Weekly Wednesdays
9:15-11:00 am
(Childcare available)
Contact: Ashley Moore
ashley.moore05@gmail.com

Newcomer Study

Gospel in Life - Keller
Location TBD
Day/Time determined by
interest.
Leader: David Juelfs
Contact: Kem Erskine
kem@redeemeroc.org

Global Partnership

Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA ACT

Ethiopia ACT is an organization in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that works to reconcile people to God through Jesus Christ, and to reconcile them to themselves, others and creation—all resulting in the planting, growing and maturing of churches that in turn transform lives and communities through faithful witnesses to the Gospel. They began as a ministry to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on extremely poor families, but have grown to include other public health strategies that serve the wider community, as well as educational and psychological support for vulnerable children. Church planting and renewal is central to all their activities and a primary goal for their team.

Jason Polk, an ordained PCA minister, together with his wife Liz and their three children, is the family that we directly support, as he oversees the spiritual care for Ethiopia ACT and its work to grow a gospel-centered church planting movement among the poor communities of Addis Ababa.

Update

Although the current state of emergency instated in Ethiopia has presented challenges, Ethiopia ACT continues to move forward in serving the local communities in Addis Ababa. Over the coming months, ACT will be adding 100 non-HIV families to their program, further extending their efforts in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of their neighbors.

A previous prayer request was for members of the Suki community who were facing the destruction of their homes. Because government focus has been shifted elsewhere, the tearing down of these homes has been put on hold, and it does not appear that it will move forward. Praise God that those residents have not been displaced, and please pray for their continued wellbeing and provision.

The Polk family continues to do well, but as always, continue to lift them up in prayer as they labor and pour themselves out for the city of Addis Ababa.

Finally, ACT is in the process of registering with the Ethiopian government and asks for prayer that the process progresses smoothly.

Prayer Requests

- For sustained strength, energy and safety for the Polk family and the Ethiopia ACT staff in Addis Ababa.
- For the current state of emergency in the country due to regional protests, and for peaceful resolution.
- That visiting teams being delayed or unable to travel would not have a negative impact on medical clinics or other services ACT provides.
- For a smooth process registering Ethiopia ACT with the government.
- For ACT to be able to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the new families being added to the program.

Website: www.ethiopiaact.org

Global Partnership

Japan

REDEEMER CITY TO CITY - JAPAN

Redeemer City to City is movement which helps local leaders start churches in global cities by providing content resources, renewable grants, local networks and comprehensive training. Within the Redeemer City to City network, we are specifically supporting the church-planting efforts of Seima Aoyagi, an ordained PCA minister, together with his wife Naoko and their four children, Pastor of Grace Harbor Church in Tokyo, Japan.

Grace Harbor Church is a bilingual church plant with the vision to see the Tokyo Waterfront become an area overflowing with the grace and blessings of Jesus Christ. An area where people can get a rest from the stormy world, recover, and then be sent out again on their next voyage, as salt and light, to make the Tokyo Waterfront more beautiful than ever with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Update

Last April, Grace Harbor celebrated their one year anniversary of holding weekly worship services. They now have about 60 adults and 30 children attending the weekly service each week, and are slowly but steadily growing. Grace Harbor has had 2 more baptisms this year. Yoko was introduced to Grace Harbor at a community event and began developing friendships. After attending events regularly for 2 years she confessed her faith and became a Christian. Yoko then waited patiently for 2 more years for her husband to give approval for her baptism. This year she was finally baptized and her husband even came to the service! Mr. Suzuki, the 62-year-old pub owner and manager a local baseball team, completed his baptism classes and was baptized in early December 2016.

Last summer Grace Harbor welcomed many summer missions teams. These teams are instrumental in helping them get connected to non-Christians in the community through cultivating new relationships and hosting events. Some of these events included a Hawaiian BBQ, College outreach, Kids English Camp, and a Basketball outreach.

One of the major challenges this year is the reforming of their leadership team as they transition from being a missionary-heavy church to a Japanese church. Other challenges include the health issues with Pastor Seima's hearing problems and Pastor Fukuda's stroke from which both are miraculously recovering.

The Aoyagi family is seeing God work through their roles in the community. Seima's position as PTA chair has allowed him to make connections through which people have come to know about Grace Harbor. Naoko's involvement with Parakaleo Japan helps provide a care-network for wives in ministry.

Prayer Requests

- For Seima's son Towa's continuous recovery through daily activity and rehab visit.
- For Seima's family to be dependent on the Lord more and more.
- For Grace Harbor Church as they are in the process of reformatting small groups.
- For new contacts through outreach events to develop friendships and introduce them to Jesus.
- For them to not only grow in number but also in maturity as followers of Christ
- For unity and focus in the leadership team, and for Seima to lead in a humble, godly manner.
- For more church planting happening in Tokyo, the world largest city yet with only 0.2% Christians!

Websites: www.redeemercitytocity.com, www.graceharborchurch.jp

Daily Scripture Readings

Please use your Order of Worship as a personal, family or group worship resource for prayers, hymns and readings this week. The scripture readings below are part of a two-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice and the Psalms frequently.

Sunday 4 of Advent & Week 1 of Christmas

Sunday (Christmas Eve)

Evening: Psalms 89:1-29 / Matthew 1:18-25

Monday (Christmas Day)

Morning: Psalms 2, 85 / Micah 4:1-5,5:2-4 / 1 John 4:7-16

Evening: Psalms 110, 132 / John 3:31-36

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 66, 67 / 1 Samuel 2:1b-10 / Titus 2:1-10

Evening: Psalms 116, 117 / Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 72 / 2 Samuel 7:1-17 / Titus 2:11-3:8a

Evening: Psalms 111, 113 / Luke 1:39-56

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 80 / 2 Samuel 7:18-29 / Galatians 3:1-14

Evening: Psalms 146, 147 / Luke 1:57-66

Friday

Morning: Psalms 18:1-20 / 2 Samuel 23:13-17b / Revelation 1:1-8

Evening: Psalms 18:21-50 / John 7:37-52

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 20, 21 / 1 Kings 17:17-24 / Revelation 1:9-20

Evening: Psalms 23, 27 / John 7:53-8:11

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 93, 96 / 1 Samuel 1:1-2,7b-28 / Hebrews 2:10-18

To sign up for our daily morning and evening prayer emails with these scripture readings along with prayers and liturgy from the Order of Worship, go to redeemeroc.org/resources/daily-scripture-reading-prayer/sign-up/ or scan the QR code.



CONTACT US

Church Office Address:

4540 Campus Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Church Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 9708
Newport Beach, CA 92658

Worship Service Location:

Chapel at Temple Bat Yahm
1011 Camelback St.
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Worship Times:

Sundays 8:45 AM and 11:00 AM

Web: www.redeemeroc.org

Email: contact@redeemeroc.org

Phone: 949.553.2060

Facebook: RedeemerChurchOC

Twitter: @RedeemerOC

*Redeemer is affiliated with the
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

Church Staff

David Juelfs, Senior Pastor
949.610.3977 / davidj@redeemeroc.org

Adam Feichtmann, Associate Pastor
949.423.8692 / adamf@redeemeroc.org

Chad Brewer, RUF Campus Minister at UCI
952.237.2738 / cbrewer@ruf.org

Amanda Knox, Children's Ministry Director
714.580.2762 / amandak@redeemeroc.org

Josh Cooper, Pastoral Asst for Youth Ministry
949.784.9853 / joshc@redeemeroc.org

Jeff Mercer, Lead Musician
951.538.4981 / jeffm@redeemeroc.org

Kem Erskine, Church Administrator
949.553.2060 / kem@redeemeroc.org

CHURCH SHEPHERDING TEAM

Session

David Juelfs, Teaching Elder
949.610.3977 / davidj@redeemeroc.org

Adam Feichtmann, Teaching Elder
949.423.8692 / adamf@redeemeroc.org

Drew Duncan, Ruling Elder
714.614.7953 / aduncan@waxie.com

Carl Messenger, Ruling Elder
949.472.5639 / carl.messenger@cox.net

Cameron Moore, Ruling Elder
805.657.7356 / camerondavidmoore@gmail.com

Rob Mouw, Ruling Elder
562.587.6793 / robmouw@hotmail.com

Diaconate

Andrew Evans, Deacon
661.755.2390 / andrewmadison.evans@gmail.com

Mike Maxwell, Deacon
714.376.2900 / michael.maxwell3@gmail.com

Larry Wormald, Deacon
714.747.1188 / lawormald@gmail.com

Dave Fusco, Treasurer
949.285.9762 / davidfusco@cox.net

Diaconal Assistants

Christie Brewer
952.237.5143 / christiebrewer8301@gmail.com

Nancy Cox
714.726.4348 / nancyccox@yahoo.com

Stephanie Handley
619.665.7952 / srhandley@gmail.com

Anita Regehr
714.454.2441 / airmail@socal.rr.com

PRAYER REQUESTS & COMMENTS

We want to pray for you and hear your comments, suggestions and praises. Please write them in the space below.

Name: _____

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concern. Please contact me at:

(_____) _____
 Day Evening

Please deposit this card in the offering plate as it comes by or give it to an usher or greeter.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope.

I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering me new life.

Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord.
AMEN.

If you are praying this for the first time, please let a Christian friend or pastor know.

We Are Glad You Are Here Today!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help you in any way we can. Feel free to fill out the tear-off card below to let us know what information would be helpful. Place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher or leader. Don't hesitate to check the box to meet with a pastor to help you learn more about Redeemer. We are here to serve you.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Spouse Cell: _____

Spouse Email: _____

Please add me to the church directory.

Please add me to the church email list.

Please Let Us Know If You Are:

First Time Visitor

Repeat Visitor

Please Contact Me About:

Joining a Community Group

Membership at Redeemer

Welcome to Redeemer Lunch

Getting Involved

Meeting with a Pastor

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code or use the url below if you prefer to complete this form online: redeemeroc.org/response-card



The cover painting for Advent & Christmas is by Danielle Kimzey www.daniellekimzey.com