

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}



First Sunday After Pentecost ⋮ MAY 27, 2018

REFLECTION

It is not from the one who wills nor from the one that runs but from God who has mercy that we obtain what we hope for and reach what we desire.

- Augustine

OPENING WORDS OF SCRIPTURE - ACTS 1:8

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you, eyes to behold you, ears to listen to your word, a heart to love you, a life to proclaim you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALENDAR

ADVENT	The word 'Pentecost' comes from the Greek meaning simply 'fiftieth'. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of
CHRISTMAS	Easter and symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the
EPIPHANY	empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In remembering Pentecost and living in light
LENT	of this powerful turning point the church expresses gratitude to Christ for sending "another counselor" (John
EASTER	14:16), celebrates the work of the Spirit in the renewal of all creation, and professes its confidence and security
PENTECOST	in knowing the Spirit's power is available for its mission.

Calling

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP - BASED ON ACTS 2:17-21

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.

Minister: God will pour out the Spirit on all flesh, and our daughters and sons shall prophesy. Our old ones shall dream dreams, and our young ones shall see visions; and all who call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered.

People: Come, let us call upon the name of the Lord.

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.

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.

HYMNS OF PRAISE

I Stand Amazed
10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)
(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

I Stand Amazed

WORDS AND MUSIC: CHARLES HUTCHINSON GABRIEL

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me
A sinner condemned unclean

Chorus

*How marvelous how wonderful
And my song shall ever be
How marvelous how wonderful
Is my Saviour's love for me*

For me it was in the garden
He prayed not My will but Thine
He had no tears for His own griefs
But sweat drops of blood for mine

Chorus

In pity angels beheld Him
And came from the world of light
To comfort Him in the sorrows
He bore for my soul that night

Chorus

He took my sins and my sorrows
He made them His very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

Chorus

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me

Chorus

10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

WORDS AND MUSIC: JONAS MYRIN AND MATT REDMAN

Chorus

*Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus

Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name

Cleansing

Please be seated.

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.

CALL TO REPENTANCE - MATTHEW 11:28-30

Minister: Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

Almighty and merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION (45 SECONDS)

SONG OF COMFORT

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
WORDS: ROBERT ROBINSON, MUSIC: JOHN WYETH

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it
Seal it to Thy courts above

Please stand.

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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PEACE - EZEKIEL 36:26

Minister: The Lord God said: "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh"

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

Constitution

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.)

READING GOD'S WORD

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

(Page 957 in the red Bible.)

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.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

A Consistent Life

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

Thy Mercy, My God
(MUSIC ON PAGE 8)

Thy Mercy, My God

WORDS: JOHN STOCKER (1776), MUSIC: SANDRA MCCRACKEN (2001)

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Alleluia, Alleluia

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Alleluia, Alleluia

The Heidelberg Catechism was composed in Heidelberg in 1563 by Zacharius Ursinus to teach Reformed Christianity in Germany. For close to four centuries it has remained one of the most widely used and loved catechism of the Reformation. It has been praised for its warmth and personal nature.

Please be seated for the offertory.

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.

PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM (Q. 53)

Minister: What do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

People: First, he is, together with the Father and the Son, true and eternal God. Second, he is also given to me, to make me by true faith share in Christ and all his benefits, to comfort me, and to remain with me forever.

OFFERTORY - BASED ON DEUTERONOMY 8:18

Minister: Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Let us pray. O God, help us to remember that all we have is from you. Convince us that you are our loving father who provides and cares for us. Would that make us confident and generous. Use these gifts for your church's ministries of reconciliation, service, and mercy. 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: Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, in the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word. At the baptism of Jesus your Spirit descended upon him and declared him your beloved Son. With your Spirit upon him he turned away the temptation of sin. Your Spirit anointed him to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. 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. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the day of Pentecost. 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)

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

WORDS: JOACHIM NEANDER; MUSIC: STRALSUND GESANGBUCH

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly for aye we adore Him

PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Minister: Eternal God, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine, that our sharing of them may be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ, and that we may become one in him.

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

Hast Thou Heard Him, Seen Him, Known Him
WORDS: ORA ROWAN (ALT. KEVIN TWIT), MUSIC: JOEL LITTLEPAGE (2010)

Hast thou heard Him, seen Him, known Him?
Is not thine a captured heart?
Chief among ten thousand own Him,
Joyful choose the better part.

Chorus
Captivated by His beauty,
Worthy tribute haste to bring.
Let His peerless worth constrain thee,
Crown Him now unrivaled King.

What can strip the seeming beauty,
From the idols of the earth?
Not a sense of right or duty,
But the sight of peerless worth.

Chorus

'Tis that look that melted Peter,
'Tis that face that Stephen saw,
'Tis that heart that wept with Mary,
Can alone from idols draw.

Chorus

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**In fulfillment of Christ's promise,
you poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples
and filled the church with power.
We thank you for sending your Spirit to us today
to kindle faith and lead us into all truth,
working in the church to make us faithful disciples
and empowering us to proclaim the living Christ to every nation.**

Commission

Please stand.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

His Love Can Never Fail

WORDS AND MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER MINER, E.S. HALL, AND EDWIN OTHELLO EXCELL

I do not ask to see the way
My feet will have to tread
But only that my soul may feed
Upon the living Bread
'Tis better far that I should walk
By faith close to His side
I may not know the way I go
But oh I know my Guide

*His love can never fail, His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail*

I will not fear though darkness come
Abroad o'er all the land
If I may only feel the touch
Of His own loving hand
And though I tremble when I think
How weak I am and frail
My soul is satisfied to know
His love can never fail

*His love can never fail, His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail
My soul is satisfied to know His love can never fail*

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

BLESSING

May the God of love, who shared his love,
strengthen us in our love for others.
May the Son who shared his life
grant us grace, that we might share our life.
And may the Holy Spirit dwelling in us
empower us to be only and always for others.

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

Redeemer 101 Seminar

Saturday, June 2, 9:00am - 12:00pm, Church Office in Newport Beach

This seminar is the first step in becoming a member of Redeemer. Whether you have attended Redeemer for 1 week or 5 years, this class is designed to teach you the basics about Redeemer and give you a forum to ask questions. The seminar will give you an overview of Redeemer's identity, membership, doctrine, history, and ministry opportunities. Contact Adam Feichtmann, adamf@redeemeroc.org, to sign-up or if you have questions.

Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, June 10, following worship

Plan to remain after worship on Sunday, June 10th, for a town hall meeting. Our deacons will be giving a financial update with time for Q&A. Nursery childcare will be available during the meeting.

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. 18.



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.18.



LECTURES & CLASSES – Sundays at 9am, participate in engaging lectures and classes on subjects that matter. Classes are on break and will resume Fall 2018.



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.

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: Josh Cooper
joshc@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.

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

Building a Beautiful Neighborhood



a: Write the names of the people who live in the house represented by the box. If you can give first and last names, that's great. If it's only first names, that's fine too.

b: Write down some relevant information about each person, some data or facts about him or her that you couldn't see just by standing in your driveway, things you might know if you've spoken to the person once or twice. We don't mean drives a red car or has yellow roses by the sidewalk, because you could see that from your driveway. We mean information you've gathered from actually speaking to a neighbor, such as grew up in Idaho, is a lawyer, plays golf, is from Ethiopia, had a father in World War II.

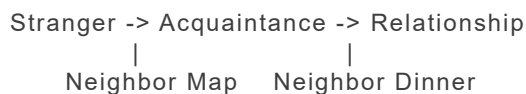
c: Write down some in-depth information you would know after connecting with people. This might also include their career plans or dreams of starting a family or anything to do with the purpose of their lives. What motivates them to do what they do? What would they say about God? What do they most fear? What are their spiritual beliefs and practices? Write down anything meaningful that you've learned through interacting with them.

"The majority of the issues that our community is facing would be eliminated or drastically reduced if we could just figure out a way to become a community of great neighbors."

- Bob Frie, former mayor of Arvada, CO

"God is already working in your neighborhood. Being a good neighbor simply means slowing down and being aware of what he is designing. By developing real relationships, you'll find out how God is already moving in a person's life."

- Dave Runyon



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

Grace Harbor continues to reach many in Tokyo with the gospel and love of Christ. With the addition of a new staff member, Seita Sakaguchi, they have been able to start a new church plant in Toyosu which is in the waterfront area of Tokyo. Yuki, who became a Christian a year ago after serving as a musician at Grace Harbor for 2 years, reached out with a desire to use her musical gifts to share the joy of the gospel with others. This desire led to a Jazz and Gospel Concert in Tsukishima, a prospective site for a new worship location. The event brought 180 people many of whom had never been to church before. Grace Harbor held their Christmas Eve service in Tsukishima bringing many to a Christian worship service for the first time through personal friendships with Seima and others in the congregation. Several missions teams from the US came to help with community outreach over the past year including 2 Kids English Camps, an English communication program at a local elementary school (who wants them to come back!), and a Christian ballet company with a performance about Jesus' passion story at the city hall in Toyosu.

While there are many good things happening, there are also some very real challenges. Several key staff members are transitioning away - 2 staff are leaving for seminary and the Pfeils family with MTW will be in the US for 7 months - which will leave Seima as a solo pastor. This transition is already causing some anxiety and concern among the members, but could be an opportunity to shift the church from staff-dependent to more volunteer-based. Pray for them as they trust in God to guide them in this transition and raise up lay leaders in the congregation. Another challenge is that financial support has been diminishing as Seima is not able to leave Grace Harbor to raise more support.

Prayer Requests

- That God raise up lay leaders among the congregation.
- That Grace Harbor Church would transition to become a more volunteer-based church.
- That Seima will not be overwhelmed while the Pfeils are away.
- That the new church plant, Toyosu Community Church, would effectively share the gospel with non-Christians in Toyosu and be a blessing to the area.
- That God will give them broader and deeper connections to the non-Christians in Tsukishima area, so that someday we could start the another worship site for our church.
- That God changes the hearts of non-Christians and call them to accept Christ as their Savior.
- That our family be united by the Spirit and be dependent on the Lord always through prayer.

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

THE REAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST

BY WAYNE GRUDEM

The Lord's Supper is not simply an ordinary meal among human beings— it is a fellowship with Christ, in his presence and at his table. We must avoid the idea that any automatic or magical benefit comes from sharing in the Lord's Supper, whether a person participates in faith or not. But when a person participates in faith, renewing and strengthening his or her own trust in Christ for salvation, and believing that the Holy Spirit will bring spiritual blessing through such participation, then certainly additional blessing may be expected.

We must be careful here to avoid the mistake of overreacting to Roman Catholic teaching and maintaining that the Lord's Supper is merely symbolic and not a means of grace. Paul says, "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation (Gk. *koinonia*, "sharing," "fellowship") in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation [*koinonia*] in the body of Christ?" (1 Cor. 10:16).

Because there is such a sharing in the body and blood of Christ (apparently meaning a sharing in the benefits of Christ's body and blood given for us), the unity of believers is beautifully exhibited at the time of the Lord's Supper. "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17). And since we are participants at "the table of the Lord" (1 Cor. 10:21), Paul warns the Corinthians that they cannot participate in the Lord's table and also participate in idol worship: "You cannot partake in the table of the Lord and the table of demons" (1 Cor. 10:21). There is a spiritual union among believers and with the Lord that is strengthened and solidified at the Lord's Supper, and it is not to be taken lightly.

This is why the Corinthians were experiencing judgment for their abuse of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:29-30). But if Paul says there will be judgment for wrong participation in the Lord's Supper, then certainly we should expect blessing for right participation in the Lord's Supper.

When we obey Jesus' command, "Take, eat" (Matthew 26:26), and go through the physical activity of eating and drinking at the Lord's table, our physical action pictures a corresponding spiritual nourishment, a nourishment of our soul that will occur when we participate in obedience and faith. Jesus says, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-6).

Certainly Jesus is not speaking of a literal eating of his flesh and blood. But if he is not speaking of a literal eating and drinking, then he must have in mind a spiritual participation in the benefits of the redemption he earns. The spiritual nourishment, so necessary for our souls, is both symbolized and experienced in our participation in the Lord's Supper.

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.

Proper 3

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 111, 112, 113, / John 1:29-34

Monday

Morning: Psalms 25 / Proverbs 10:1-12 / 1 Timothy 1:1-17

Evening: Psalms 9, 15 / Matthew 12:22-32

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 26, 28 / Proverbs 15:16-33 / 1 Timothy 1:18-2:8

Evening: Psalms 36, 39 / Matthew 12:33-42

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 38 / Proverbs 17:1-20 / 1 Timothy 3:1-16

Evening: Psalms 119:25-48 / Matthew 12:43-50

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 37:1-17 / Proverbs 21:30-22:6 / 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Evening: Psalms 37:18-40 / Matthew 13:24-30

Friday

Morning: Psalms 31 / Proverbs 23:19-21,23:29-24:2 / 1 Timothy 5:17-25

Evening: Psalms 35 / Matthew 13:31-35

Saturday

Morning: Psalms 30, 32 / Proverbs 25:15-28 / 1 Timothy 6:6-21

Evening: Psalms 42, 43 / Matthew 13:36-43

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 63, 98 / Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 / Acts 8:26-40

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/daily-prayer/ or scan the QR code.



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Sundays, 10:00 AM

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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
The Burning Bush is
by Danish artist
Maja Lisa Engelhardt