



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.

You should always feel the freedom to participate actively in worship or to just listen and observe at your discretion. It is a time to process freely and safely the audacious claims of Jesus Christ, and the inevitable tension between the beauty and scandal of the historic Christian gospel.

We haven't heard the gospel for what is really is if we don't find it at once horribly offensive and staggeringly beautiful. It is both heart-breaking and heart-mending.

We are glad you are with us.
So let us explore. Let us worship.



REDEEMER
ORANGE COUNTY

Exploring?

Do you have questions about the Christian faith?

Do you desire to learn more about the person and work on Jesus Christ?

Do you wonder why we, a beautiful and messy community, love and are so committed to a local church?

Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers that make belief seem implausible, even irresponsible?

Do you struggle to reconcile a good God with a hurting world?

We recognize that you may have questions. That's why:

- We desire to create a safe space and welcome people to ask questions and think differently
- We prize being a community where you can belong before you believe
- We assume, each Sunday, that there are people present who are not convinced
- We desire to talk to skeptics not about them
- We long to speak and show you how the love of Jesus Christ and a local church has changed us
- You are welcome here...

So, be curious. Ask. Explore.

To learn more about our church please check the following pages in the back of this Order of Worship

Redeemer at a Glance

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Fourth Sunday in Advent ⋮ DECEMBER 23, 2018

REFLECTION

Before [Adam and Eve] left, God made a promise. He promised that the evil Serpent, the Devil, would always be at war with Eve and her children. . . God promised that one of Eve’s children would, someday, eventually, sooner or later, crush the head of that nasty Snake. Nobody knew when or how, but she would have a child to put things right. - Kevin DeYoung, *The Biggest Story*

Everything was ready. The moment God had been waiting for was here at last! God was coming to help his people, just as he promised in the beginning. But how would he come? What would he be like? What would he do? Mountains would have bowed down. Seas would have roared. Trees would have clapped their hands. But the earth held its breath. As silent snow falling, he came in. And when no one was looking, in the darkness, he came. - Sally Lloyd-Jones, *The Jesus Storybook Bible*

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 *adventus*, 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.

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.

OPENING HYMN

I Cannot Tell

WORDS: WILLIAM Y. FULLERTON; MUSIC: LONDONDERRY

I cannot tell why He Whom angels worship,
Should set His love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,
To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that He was born of Mary
When Bethlehem's manger was His only home,
And that He lived at Nazareth and labored,
And so the Savior, Savior of the world is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,
As with His peace He graced this place of tears,
Or how His heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, He heals the brokenhearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Savior, Savior of the world is here.

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

O Come All Ye Faithful
O Little Town of Bethlehem
(MUSIC ON PAGES 3-4)

O Come All Ye Faithful

JOHN FRANCIS WADE

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye bright hosts of heaven above
Glory to God
All glory in the highest
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Highest most holy
Light of light eternal
Born of a virgin a mortal He comes
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

O Little Town of Bethlehem

WORDS: PHILIPS BROOKS; MUSIC: LEWIS REDNER

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light
The hopes and fears
Of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

How silently how silently
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still
The dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

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 - BASED ON JOHN 3:19

The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us confess our sin together before the face of God and in the presence of the people of God.

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

Come O Long Expected Jesus
WORDS: CHARLES WESLEY | MUSIC: ROWLAND PRICHARD

Come O long expected Jesus
Born to set Your people free
From our fears and sins release us
By Your death on Calvary
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope to all the earth impart
Dear desire of ev'ry nation
Joy of ev'ry longing heart

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 - REVELATION 5:5, 9-10

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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.

SONG OF RESPONSE

Please stand.

We Three Kings

WORDS AND MUSIC BY JOHN H. HOPKINS JR.

¹ 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

² Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

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

³ Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, alleluia
Earth to heaven replies

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL AND PRAYER

Please be seated.

(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

2 Samuel 11:2-6, 12-15, 26-27; 12:1-7a, 14, 24-25

(Pages 262 & 263 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.*

2 Samuel 11:2-6, 12-15, 26-27

² It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful. ³ And David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" ⁴ So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she had been purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵ And the woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." ⁶ So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David

¹² Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³ And David invited him, and he ate in his presence and drank, so that he made him drunk. And in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. ¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵ In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, that he may be struck down, and die."

²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she lamented over her husband. ²⁷ And when the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 14, 24-25

¹ And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds, ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."

⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, ⁶ and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." ⁷ Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul

¹⁴ Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die."

²⁴ Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba, and went in to her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And the LORD loved him ²⁵ and sent a message by Nathan the prophet. So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Mothers of Jesus: Bathsheba

*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.*

SONG OF RESPONSE

Please stand.

Joy To The World
(MUSIC ON PAGE 9)

OFFERTORY - ACTS 20:35

Please be seated.

*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.*

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

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

Special Music - Mary's Song

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

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders and wonders of His love

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 worshipping 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.)

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 Adam. 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 Great Physician

WORDS: WILLIAM HUNTER; MUSIC: J. H. STOCKTON

The Great Physician now is near
Our Lord and healer Jesus
He speaks the saddened heart to cheer
O hear the voice of Jesus

Sweetest note in angels song
Sweetest name on mortal tongue
Sweetest carol ever sung
It's Jesus blessed Jesus

Your many sins are all forgiven
O hear the voice of Jesus
Go on your way
In peace to heaven
And wear a crown with Jesus

Sweetest note in angels song
Sweetest name on mortal tongue
Sweetest carol ever sung
It's Jesus blessed Jesus

And when to that bright world above
We rise to be with Jesus
We'll sing around the throne of love
And shout out His holy name, Jesus

Sweetest note in angels song
Sweetest name on mortal tongue
Sweetest carol ever sung
It's Jesus blessed Jesus

Sweetest note in angels song
Sweetest name on mortal tongue
Sweetest carol ever sung
It's Jesus blessed Jesus

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

WORDS: HENRY J. VAN DYKE; MUSIC: LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

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

All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

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.

*You bring us joy, joy, joy
We adore Thee*

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.

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

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. 19



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.

Announcements & Events

Congregational Survey

The Pastoral Search Committee will need to hear your voice to understand the current needs, values, and priorities of our church. Please take the time to thoughtfully and prayerfully complete the survey. To access and complete the survey click on the QR code.



Nominations for Pastoral Search Committee

On January 13, 2019 the congregation will elect a Pastoral Search Committee to find our next Senior Pastor. Between today and January 6th, we need your help to nominate candidates to serve on the committee. Committee members will serve for about 9 – 18 months and help create a job description for the new Senior Pastor, identify and evaluate candidates, and craft the final job offer and call package.

Please submit the name of the person you are nominating to pastoralsearch@redeemeroc.org before January 6, 2019.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 13th, 2019 - directly after the Worship Service

Join us following the worship service to participate in the vote to help elect members who will serve on the Pastoral Search Committee.

If you have any questions please email: pastoralsearch@redeemeroc.org or visit the Redeemer website for more information and updates <https://redeemeroc.org/pastoral-search>

Welcome Lunch

Sunday, January 20th, 2019 at 12:00pm

Newcomers to Redeemer are invited to lunch with Pastor Adam on Sunday, January 20th following worship. Adam and Karina Feichtmann will be hosting the lunch at their home in Costa Mesa. Whether this is your first Sunday at Redeemer or you have been coming for several months, we would love to see you there. Bring your family and enjoy lunch and a time to get to learn more about Redeemer church. Contact Danielle Smith, contact@redeemeroc.org, with questions and to RSVP.

Announcements & Events

Advent, Christmas, & Epiphany at Redeemer

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season.

Discovering the 12-Days of Christmas - *Today, Sunday, December 23, 11:15am*

Christmas isn't just one day! Join us after the morning service to hear about the history of "The 12 Days of Christmas" and how we can continue the celebration of Jesus' coming after the 25th. Light food and refreshments will be served after the presentation.

Lessons & Carols Christmas Eve Service - *Monday, December 24, 5:00pm*

Join us for our annual Christmas Eve service. We will sing the great Christmas songs interspersed with readings from Scripture, and a short Christmas message.

Epiphany Celebration

Sunday, January 6th, 2019

Come and celebrate Epiphany with us immediately following the worship service as we gather for a time of fellowship and enjoy some Three Kings Cake in the chapel hall.

Neighborhood Parish Service Opportunity: 2nd Harvest Food Bank

Saturday, January 5th, 12:30 - 3:30PM

Josh and Hallie Cooper are organizing a Neighborhood Parish service event at 2nd Harvest's food distribution center. This event is for ages 14+. Individuals will volunteer in either the Grocery Rescue, Volunteer Hub, or Sort Line. The food that volunteers will assist with will get distributed to one of 2nd Harvest's community partner organizations who are able to give the food to individuals who are at risk of hunger. If you are interested in volunteering please talk to the event host Hallie Cooper - halliencooper@gmail.com
Registration is required, please sign up by clicking on the QR code



Minors 14-17 must complete the liability form. Fill out the form by clicking the QR code



Lastly, if you would like to host your own Neighborhood Parish Service Event to love and show mercy to our neighbors in Orange County, please contact Pastor Adam Feichtmann (adamf@redeemeroc.org) and we will help promote your event.

Community Life

Neighborhood Parishes, Community Groups & Studies

DOWNLOAD OUR APP FOR ALL THE LATEST IN COMMUNITY LIFE

Go to <http://get.theapp.co/s/75k/> or scan the QR code to find out the latest news & details for our Neighborhood Parishes, Community Groups & Studies.



NEIGHBORHOOD PARISHES

We love Orange County and count it a joy to serve the communities where we live. Redeemer is organized into neighborhood groups called parishes. We have four parishes: Beach Cities, North County, Central County and South County. 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. Download our app to find out more about upcoming gatherings in your neighborhood or go to www.redeemeroc.org/connect/neighborhood-parish/ Questions? Contact Pastor Adam Feichtmann - adamf@redeemeroc.org

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH DINNERS

Attend and invite your neighbors to a Parish Dinner near you. No special agenda, simply a time to gather around a table with friends and neighbors. Host your own regular dinner and we will promote it! Questions? Contact Pastor Adam Feichtmann - adamf@redeemeroc.org

North County Dinners

Fullerton

Duncan Home

Every other Sunday

4:00 - 6:00pm

Contact: Stacey Duncan

stacey.duncan@hotmail.com

Community Life

Neighborhood Parishes, Community Groups & Studies

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. **Below are some of the Community Groups for Fall 2018. If you are interested in leading or hosting a group please contact Pastor Adam Feichtmann - adamf@redeemeroc.org**

Irvine & Aliso Viejo

* Group is at capacity

Sundays

5:00 - 6:45 pm

Brewer & Moore Homes

Leader: Chad Brewer

Contact: Christie Brewer

christiebrewer8301@gmail.com

Costa Mesa

Sundays

4:00 - 6:00 pm Bible study

6:00 - 7:00 pm Pot Luck

Riley Home

Leader: Greg Riley

Contact: Kim Riley

kimsmailbox@sbcglobal.net

Costa Mesa

Wednesdays

5:30 - 7:00 pm

Cooper Home

Leader/Contact: Jeremy McCaslin

jomccaslin@gmail.com

High School

Tuesdays

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Vitaly Cafe at The Camp

2937 Bristol St, Suite B100-B103

Costa Mesa

Leader/Contact: Brian Scholl

brians@redeemeroc.org

Jr. High School

Thursdays

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Halecrest Park Back Clubhouse

Off of College Avenue

Costa Mesa

Leader/Contact: Brian Scholl

brians@redeemeroc.org

MID-WEEK STUDIES & GROUPS

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 AM Group

Morning Prayer & Coffee

Newport Beach

Honor Coffee, Lido Marina

1st & 3rd Tuesdays

8:00-9:00 am

Leader/Contact:

Adam Feichtmann

adamf@redeemeroc.org

Men's PM Group

Evening Prayer Dinner/Drinks

Costa Mesa

Greenleaf on 17th St.

2nd & 4th Thursdays

7:30-9:00 pm

Leader/Contact:

Adam Feichtmann

adamf@redeemeroc.org

Men's AM Group

Morning Prayer & Breakfast

Fullerton

Fullerton Community Center

1st & 3rd Fridays

6:30-7:15 am

Leader/Contact:

Andrew Evans

andrewmadisonevans@gmail.com

Women's AM Study

Living Life Backwards (Ecclesiastes)

Newport Beach

Weekly Fridays

9:30-11:00 am

(Limited Childcare available)

Contact: Ashley Moore

ashley.moore05@gmail.com

Women's PM Study

Living Life Backwards (Ecclesiastes)

Fullerton

Every other Wednesday

Time: 7:30 - 9:00pm

(No Childcare available)

Contact: Stacey Duncan

stacey.duncan@hotmail.com

Women's Prayer Group

Costa Mesa

Every other Tuesday

7:00 - 8:30 pm

(No Childcare available)

Contact: Stephanie Handley

srhandley@gmail.com

Global Partnership

Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA ACT

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

Praise God that the country is recovering from its state of emergency and that Ethiopia ACT is continuing to move forward in serving the local community in Addis Ababa. They are currently in the process of adding 100 non-HIV families to their programs in an effort to extend their efforts and meet 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.

Prayer Requests

- They are currently surveying potential locations for new church plants which would hopefully begin in the next 12-18 months. They have done initial visits to the Furi and Qoye Fetche neighborhoods; pray for discernment on whether these might be future church plant sites.
- Jason led a full ministry team of 20 people in a “Sonship for Africa” week at the end of July. Pray that the lessons and Scriptures from the week would continue to work in their hearts and minds
- They just finished their Rainy Season VBS in the Suki community and had around 200 kids in attendance. Pray that the lessons and Scriptures from the week would enter their hearts and minds.
- They are praising God that after many months of “go-around” with various government offices, God has reopened the door for them to host short-term medical teams in Addis. We are very thankful for this provision!

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.

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

Stranger -> Acquaintance -> Relationship

Neighbor Map Neighbor Dinner

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.

Week 4 of Advent and Week 1 of Christmas

Sunday

Evening: Psalms 8, 84 / John 3:16-21

Monday (Christmas Eve)

Morning: Psalm 45 / Isaiah 35 / Revelation 22:12-17, 22:21

Evening: Psalm 46 / Luke 1:67-80

Tuesday

Morning: Psalms 2, 85 / Zechariah 2:10-13 / 1 John 4:7-16

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

Wednesday

Morning: Psalms 28, 30 / 2 Chronicles 24:17-22

Evening: Psalm 118 / Acts 6:1-7, 7:59-8.8

Thursday

Morning: Psalms 97-98 / Proverbs 8:22-30 / John 13:20-35

Evening: Psalm 145 / Isaiah 44:1-8 / 1 John 5:1-12

Friday

Morning: Psalms 2, 26 / Isaiah 49:13-23, 54:1-13

Evening: Psalms 19, 126 / Matthew 18:1-14 / Mark 10:13-16

Saturday

Morning: Psalm 18:1-20 / Isaiah 12 / Revelation 1:1-8

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

Sunday

Morning: Psalms 93, 96 / Isaiah 62:6-7, 62:10-12 / 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

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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 Time:

Sunday 10:00 AM

Web: www.redeemeroc.org

Email: contact@redeemeroc.org

Phone: 949.553.2060

Facebook: RedeemerChurchOC

Twitter: @RedeemerOC

Download Our App:

Go to <http://get.theapp.co/s75k/>
or scan the QR code.



*Redeemer is affiliated with the
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CHURCH SHEPHERDING TEAM

Session

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Drew Duncan, Ruling Elder
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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.

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