



# REDEEMER

WINTER HAVEN

*To all who are weary and desire rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who sin and need a Savior, Redeemer opens wide her doors with a welcome from King Jesus the mighty Friend of sinners, the Ally of his enemies, the Defender of the indefensible.*



## Ephesians

RICHES OF GRACE

*March 20, 2022 – Third Sunday of Lent*

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### **Season of the Cross:** Purple for Lent

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and runs 40 days through Holy Week. It is a reminder of Jesus' own 40 days in the wilderness, where He fasted and was tempted. Lent is a time of repentance and fasting, of preparation and penitence, as we look ahead with anticipation to His death and resurrection.

## Call to Worship: Psalm 3:1-3

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

Leader: O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God."

**ALL: But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.**

## Song of Ascent

*The first song we sing together guides us as we "go up" or approach the presence of God to worship Him. This song is meant to rouse us to worship and awaken our hearts.*

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

## Reading of the Law: Colossians 1:24-27

*While the law cannot justify us or make us righteous; it is a teacher given to lead us to Christ, the fulfiller of the law.*

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

## Prayer of Adoration and Confession

*We pray together, praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).*

## Confession of Sin: Canyon Road: A Book of Prayer

*In a culture that avoids talk of sin and culpability, regular prayers of confession foster honesty and openness in our relationship with God. We confess sin in the context of the covenant Lord's love shown to us through Jesus Christ. We offer our confession as part of a covenantal relationship.*

Leader: There is one comfort we have in this wilderness: that is, your sympathy.

**ALL: That which we endure today, you also faced. That which we fight against, you also fought. That which tempts us, also tempted you.**

Leader: Lord God, strengthen us against the tactics of our foe. Protect us from the snares of the devil. Keep us from falling. Make us stand. We require your presence and help. We do not want to give way to wrongdoing.

**ALL: Holy Spirit, fill us anew. Jesus, be our Strong Tower. Heavenly Father, hear our cry for help: enfold us in your love so that we may find satisfaction in you alone.**

## Song of Repentance

*In this song of repentance we acknowledge our sin and our need of a Savior.*

I Have A Shelter

## Assurance of Pardon: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

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

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Greeting

*In Jesus, we have not only been reconciled to God, we have also been reconciled to one another. Therefore, we greet one another as brothers and sisters.*

## Song of Praise and Celebration

*Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done to save us*

Jesus Thank You  
It Was Finished Upon That Cross

## Worship Through Giving: Give Online at [redeemerwh.org/give](https://redeemerwh.org/give)

*We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.*

## Announcements & Kids' Worship Dismissal

*Children **through fifth grade** are dismissed for kids' worship.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

*We again express in prayer our gratitude to God for what he has done and ask him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and the world.*

## Proclamation of God's Word

*A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.*

Ephesians 3:1-13

## Sacrament of Communion

*The ritual meal of Communion is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the work Christ did for our salvation (sign) and communicates the grace and mercy we have been given (seal) as a result of His death and resurrection.*

## **Song of Response & Sending**

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

King of Kings

## **Benediction**

*Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.*

May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
May the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
May the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
Both now and forevermore. Amen.

## Proclamation of God's Word

*A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our own lives.*

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—  
2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was  
given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation,  
as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into  
the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in  
other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and  
prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs,  
members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus  
through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace,  
which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very  
least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the  
unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the  
plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that  
through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to  
the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the  
eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we  
have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. 13 So I ask  
you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory..

Pg. 977 (Ephesians 3:1-13 ESV)

## Family Worship/Group Discussion Questions

1. Prayerfully reflect on your heart, circumstances, relationships, etc. How did you "come" into worship today?
2. Where did the gospel "dwell in you richly" in the service today? In the prayers? In the singing? In the sermon?
3. Specifically, how were you led to turn from sin and trust in Jesus?
4. What is the one thing from the sermon this morning that you would most want to pass on to someone else?

## Sermon Discussion Questions

1. Do you consider yourself the biggest sinner you know? Why or why not? How is Paul's self-awareness connected to his gospel-awareness?
2. Who are the "Gentiles" in your life? Who do you view as "irredeemable?"
3. How does Paul's understanding of suffering and his imprisonment challenge modern attitudes? What makes Christianity so unique?

**Sermon Series:** Ephesians: Riches of Grace

**Sermon Title:** The Mysteries of Grace

**Date:** March 20, 2022

## **I. LESS THAN THE LEAST**

*Does Paul the apostle have low self-esteem, or is it something more?*

## **II. PARTAKERS OF THE PROMISE**

*The Gentiles? But how is that possible?*

## **III. A TOOL FOR GLORY MANAGEMENT**

*Christianity talks about suffering in the strangest of ways.*

# Lenten Devotional

## “THE FORSAKEN”

### SCRIPTURE: Psalm 22:1-11, 29-31 (ESV)

Psalm 22 is the first in a cluster of psalms that describe the suffering of someone which seems to echo the accounts in Isaiah of the suffering servant of the Lord. The first line of this psalm is likely to be familiar to us because Jesus cried out these exact words when he was being crucified on the cross. Yet this psalm was written by David, many generations before that. Whatever suffering of his own that David was recounting, he was also prophetically describing the redemptive suffering of Christ on the cross thousands of years later.

Jesus would have read this psalm many times in his life during worship at the temple. He no doubt had it memorized, for it to come so readily to his mind when he was on the cross.

Knowing what he was going to face, Jesus could have spent his life in fear or dread. Instead, he, like David before him, clung on to what he knew was true: God is holy, God is his God, and God has been trustworthy throughout his life. And then, based on these truths, David appeals to God to stay close to him. Jesus knew, though, that the greatest suffering he would face would be abandonment by God, so that God would never abandon his people.

The psalm ends with praise and a note of triumph at the end: “for he has done it.” Jesus stayed to the end, bore our sins, and purchased our reconciliation with God. The messianic nature of the psalm becomes clear as David declares that past generations that have died as well as future generations not yet born will all come to know that his God is a God who delivers his people from suffering. After all because Jesus really was completely forsaken by God (for us!), we can be confident that we never will be abandoned, even if, in our suffering, God seems far away or silent when we call out.

### PRAYER

*Gracious God, we glorify you that because Jesus knew what it meant to be utterly separated from you, we will never have to experience that. Strengthen our faith to truly believe this especially when we think we have reasons to doubt it. In Christ's Name, Amen.*

*Taken from Redeemer NYC's Daily Lenten Devotional*

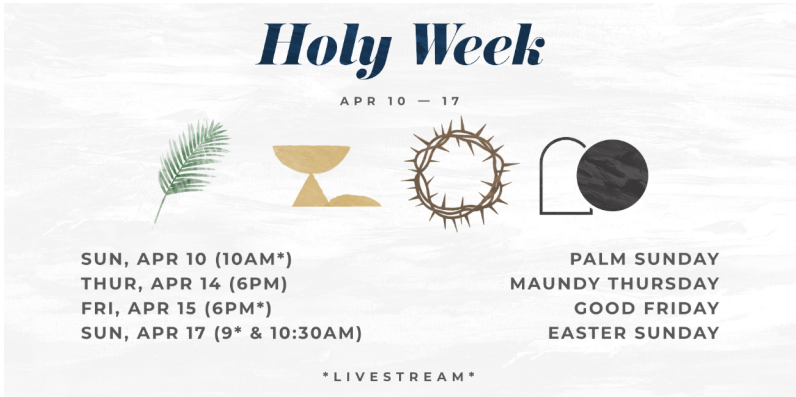
*Visit [redeemerwh.org/lent](http://redeemerwh.org/lent) for more resources*

## Announcements

**Marriage Conference:** Save the date for **Saturday April 23, 9am-3pm**, for our marriage conference with Ray & Jani Ortlund. Visit [redeemerwh.org/rsvp](https://redeemerwh.org/rsvp) to register.

**Person of Jesus Study:** Heart for Winter Haven is hosting a community wide Person of Jesus Study on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month from 12-1pm** lunch is provided. Their office is located on the second floor of the BB&T Building downtown.

**Get Connected:** The best way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Redeemer is through our online newsletter ([redeemerwh.org/newsletter](https://redeemerwh.org/newsletter)) and our mobile app ([redeemerwh.org/app](https://redeemerwh.org/app)).



## Our Mission

Our mission is to make Jesus' invisible kingdom visible in Winter Haven, Polk County, and the world.

## Church Planting

One of the ways we hope to accomplish our mission is by planting new churches throughout Polk County. We proudly partner with Renew Polk ([renewpolk.org](https://renewpolk.org)) and the Florida Church Planting Network ([flchurchplanting.org](https://flchurchplanting.org)).

## Community Groups

We also meet during the week in homes for what we call Community Groups. They are intended to be the primary "church" experience for all who are a part of Redeemer. If you are interested in visiting a community group, contact Jonathan Winfree, [jonathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org](mailto:jonathan@redeemerwinterhaven.org).

**MISSION  
FUND**

**GOAL: \$50,000**  
**RECEIVED: \$7,931**

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