

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.



April 21, 2024 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

#### Season of the Cross: Gold for Eastertide

All the hopes and expectations of Christians are realized in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, making Easter the most celebrative day of the church year. Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of fifty days of Eastertide the season leading up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, exploring the ramifications of Easter for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

# Call to Worship: Psalm 27

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

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ... Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against him, yet I will be confident.

# People: One thing I have asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD.

Leader: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, "Seek my face."

#### People: My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."

#### 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.

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

#### Reading of the Law: Psalm 24:3-6

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.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. 5 He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

#### **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).

#### **Song of Repentance**

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

Gentle & Lowly

#### Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 3:1-3

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

1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

#### Greeting

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

#### **Songs of Praise and Celebration**

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

God is for Us The Love of God

#### **Sacrament of Baptism**

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it marks, tangibly to our senses, how real God's promise is for all who will trust in Him (seal).

# Sullivan Thomas Fowler

#### Worship Through Giving: Give Online at redeemerwh.org/give

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

#### **Kids' Worship Dismissal**

Children through fifth grade are dismissed for kids' worship.

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession**

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

#### **Proclamation of God's Word**

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

Matthew 5:1-3, 8, 13-16

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

When We See Your Face Satisfied

#### **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 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying... 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Pg. 809 (Matthew 5:1-2, 8, 13-16 ESV)

#### Resources

Peter Kreeft, **Back to Virtue** Martyn Lloyd-Jones, **Sermon on the Mount** Charles Spurgeon, **The Beatitudes** Thomas Watson, **The Beatitudes** 

#### **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 Series: The Beatitudes: Kingdom People Sermon Title: The Pure in Heart Date: April 21, 2024

**Hook:** Have you ever been unable to make a decision because you have competing desires?

#### I. THE PURE IN HEART

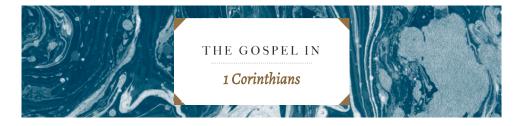
"Purity of heart does not exclude purity of life, no more than the pureness of the fountain excludes the pureness of the stream. But is it called purity of heart, because this is the main thing in religion, and there can be no purity of life without it." – Thomas Watson

#### II. THE DEADLY SIN OF LUST

"God is not a substitute for sex, as Freud thought: sex is often a substitute for God. The deepest passion of the soul is meant for God. When the true God comes, the false gods go. To conquer lust, forget about lust and love God." - Peter Kreeft

#### **III. CORAM DEO**

"They will see his face..." (Revelation 22:4).



The Gospel as a lens for life

1 Corinthians was written to a church community that Paul knew well. Corinth was a major port city in the ancient world with several temples, making it a huge economic-religious center in the Roman world. Paul strategically traveled there as a missionary, spending about a year and a half getting to know the people and telling them about Jesus. Many people there became followers and eventually formed the first church community in the city (Acts 18 Acts 18 Loading... Keep Reading).

After Paul left to start churches in other cities, he soon began receiving reports of conflict at the church in Corinth. The people were facing all kinds of problems, so Paul wrote this letter to offer guidance, teaching, and encouragement.

The book of 1 Corinthians is broken up into five main parts and a final greeting. The five sections correspond to the five problems Paul addresses, and the letter reads like a collection of short essays. In each section, Paul defines a problem and responds to it with some part of the Gospel story, illustrating how these church members were not actually acting or living out what they said they believed. This pattern of a problem followed by a Gospel solution shows us how Paul is teaching the Corinthians to think as Christians. Following Jesus means developing the skill of seeing all areas of life and relationships through the lens of the Gospel.

From The Bible Project, "1 Corinthians"

# Announcements

Women's Night Out: Ladies, please plan to join THIS Friday, April 26, from 6-8pm at Montigne Hassett's home (423 Horseshoe Lane NE) for a night out. Bring a friend and your favorite dessert or appetizer and we'll provide the drinks. Let us know if you plan on attending by RSVPing: redeemerwh.org/wno

Student Ministry Fundraiser: NEXT Sunday, April 28, following the worship service, we are hosting a lunch to raise scholarship money for students to attend summer camp! Come support the student ministry in Covenant Hall where students will serve lunch and wait tables. Price per plate is whatever you are willing to pay to help send students to camp. Lunch will be followed by a silent dessert auction. If you have a dessert you think others would enjoy, please reach out to Austin Snively.

**Family Fest: During the student ministry fundraiser Sunday, April 28**, we will be having an event for families with a bubble train, inflatables, and face painting. You won't want to miss this! This is a great opportunity to bring a friend!

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

**Worship Playlists:** Follow our weekly set list on Spotify and Apple Music so that you can become familiar with the songs that we'll be singing on Sundays. You can find the playlist on the "RedeemerWH" app (above) or at: (redeemerwh.org/worship).

#### **Our Mission**

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

#### **Church Planting**

One of the ways we hope to accomplish our mission is by planting new churches throughout Polk County. We proudly partner with Renew Polk (renewpolk.org) and the Florida Church Planting Network (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 Ashley Bennett, **ashmbennett1013@gmail.com**.



**2024 GOAL:** \$50,000 **RECEIVED:** \$6,956

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