



Explanation of Advent Art

Bulletin Cover

Karyl Boring

Stage Installation

Poetry often feels complicated. When we study it in school, all the dissection of rhythm and rhyme and meter and meaning can strip it of its beauty. And its point.

Poetry is about response. As we were brainstorming for Advent, we began using the old technique of word mapping as a tool for interacting and responding to the poetry before us.

As word maps link concepts and ideas together, so we are held together by the Word of God. Join us in reflecting how the words connect to each week's sermon, to Advent, to Scripture as a whole, and to your heart.

~~Redeemer Creatives Class

Window Installation

Songs pour out in circles and layers; words and promises. Covenant promises retain eternal significance. Desires and hopes deferred are both already and not yet fulfilled. Our hearts respond in prayers, poems, and personal reflections. These circles represent rings of overlapping voices, intersecting promises, and hopes - the promise of a bridegroom for the bride, the rhythm and music of our deepest desires.

~~Erin Hall

Please see the Sound Tech for Assisted Listening Devices.



Welcome

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 103

Leader

O favorites of God,
He has healed your diseases,
He has purchased your life from the pit,
He has crowned you with his love,
He has adorned you with his compassion,
He has satisfied your desires with full goodness,
He has made you new again.

All

**O my soul, adore the Lord.
Everything in me, bend in honor.
For all that he is
and all that he's done
is like no other.
O my soul wonder before him in gladness.
Count each of his generous gifts to you.**

Opening Hymn

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

All

**O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.**

**He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.
He speaks, and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**

**My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!!**

words: Charles Wesley, 1739; music: Carl G. Glaser, 1828; arr: Lowell Mason, 1839; Public Domain

Prayer of Confession

Leader Triune God—Father, Son, and Spirit—you live in relationship
and have made us to live in relationship with you.
You call on us to find you, you implore us to seek you.
But we confess we struggle to find you when the world feels out of control.

All **We despair that things are awful and out of control.
We don't believe your promises,
because they feel out of touch with reality.
We rely on ourselves,
because we're not sure you'll come through.**

Leader We confess we struggle to find you when you seem distant.

All **If the world is out of control, maybe it's because you don't care.
We think that you're an uninformed, uninvolved parent.
Our hearts grow cold, and we write you off.**

Leader We confess we struggle to find you when we get tired in our faith.

All **We find it hard to press on and keep believing.
Our sin blinds us to how desperate we really are.
We live in relationships that aren't meaningful,
where we don't speak or hear the truth in love.**

Lord, please, seek us and find us!

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

based on Isaiah 55:6-7; 59:16; Hebrews 12:2

Leader The Lord saw that there was no one,
 so his own arm achieved salvation for him.

All **God came near in Jesus to seek us out,
 to find us, to become like us in order to save us.**

Leader Jesus is God's king; through him, he is putting all things right.

All **Jesus is God with us, who became fully human
 in order to take our sin upon himself.**

Leader Jesus is God's faithful one, the pioneer and perfecter of faith,
 Who trusted in his Father to raise him from the dead.

All **So we know that we can seek the Lord and call on him,
 for he will have mercy on us.**

Song in the Gospel

"The Gospel is All I Have"

All

The gospel is all I have.
The gospel is all I have.
No well-kept, presentable life to display.
The gospel is all I have.

The gospel is all I have.
The gospel is all I have.
No courage. No virtuous bold use of faith.
The gospel is all I have.

Well, the Lord God Almighty leapt down from the sky,
And he made himself nothing and served till he died,
So that I, just a beggar, at the Judgement might cry,
"The gospel is all I have!"

The gospel is all I have.
The gospel is all I have.
No merit to offer. No excuses to make.
The gospel is all I have.

Well, the Lord God Almighty leapt down from the sky,
And he made himself nothing and served till he died,
So that I, just a beggar, at the Judgement might cry,
"The gospel is all I have!"

The gospel is all I have.
The gospel is all I have.
No clever, persuasive words I could say.
No debt I could work off. No bribe I could pay.
No goodness. No promise of love that won't fade.
The gospel is all I have.

Well, the Lord God Almighty leapt down from the sky,
And he made himself nothing and served till he died,
So that I, just a beggar, at the Judgement might cry,
"The gospel is all I have!"
"The gospel is all I have!"

Nathan Partain, 2005

Song in the Gospel

“Hold Thou my Hand”

All

Hold thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,
I dare not take one step without thy aid;
Hold thou my hand; for then, O loving Savior,
No dread of ill shall make my soul afraid.

Hold thou my hand, and closer, draw me closer,
To thy dear self, my hope, my joy, my all;
Hold thou my hand, lest haply I should wander,
And, missing thee, my trembling feet should fall.

Hold thou my hand; the way is dark before me,
Without the sunlight of thy face divine;
But when by faith, I catch its radiant glory,
What heights of joy, what rapturous songs are mine!

Hold thou my hand, that when I reach the margin,
Of that lone river thou didst cross for me,
A heavenly light may flash along its waters,
And every wave like crystal bright shall be.

Hold thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,
I dare not take one step without thy aid;
I dare not take one step without thy aid.

words: Fanny Crosby, 1879; music: Nathan Partain, 2003

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Offertory

Scripture

Hebrews 2:10-18

Reader

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

¹³ And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Reader

This is the Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Notes:

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Community Group Questions

- 1) *Read Hebrews 2:10-18. What are all the ways that Jesus is like us? How does that shape how God relates to us and we relate to him?*

- 2) *What does Hebrews 2:10-18 say about suffering? Think of a specific way that you have suffered or are suffering. How can you see it differently in light of what these verses say about suffering, especially about Jesus' own suffering?*

- 3) *Jesus is not ashamed to be related to us (Hebrews 2:11-12). Are there times or situations where we're ashamed to be related to him? How do the truths in this passage about who he is and what he does for us, help to combat our shame?*

Children's Questions

Jesus is fully God, and he's fully human. Can you find all the ways in Hebrews 2:10-18 that Jesus is described as a human being? What difference does that make for his relationship with us? Can you name one practical way Jesus being like you can make a difference in your life?

Call to Communion and Prayer

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel to receive Communion with us. We will be coming forward for the distribution of Communion. Please eat the bread privately, and then drink the cup together with us after everyone has returned to their seats. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Children who have been examined by the elders and admitted to the Lord's Table are able to partake of Communion.

The ministry of prayer is one of the ways we live together as a community of believers and seekers. During Communion, members of our prayer team are available at the front of the sanctuary. It would be our privilege to pray with you as we walk together through the joys and struggles of life. We also encourage you to pray with one another in the pews during this time of movement in our service.

Prayers

Prayer for Guidance to Truth

God, I don't know how I feel about what I have heard today but I want to trust that you are good, that you are loving and that you are just. I want to know if you are the true God. If you are there would you guide my soul to the truest truth. I don't want to be tricked or believe a lie. I don't want to believe in something just to make me feel better. Please God, lead me to the truth.

Prayer of Belief and Repentance

Jesus, I believe that you are who you say you are: the Son of God and the savior of broken people like me. I need forgiveness. I need to be made new and to start over again. I now turn away from all I have been doing. I turn away from my self-centered life. I turn my whole heart toward you. I believe that when you were crucified, you took all of my evil and somehow you gave me all of your beauty. I invite your Holy Spirit to live in me. I do not want to live for myself any more. I want you to lead my life. I want to know you and to receive your love for me. Please teach me and protect me and guide me. I am yours. I ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Doubt and Faith

God, I don't really believe all of this but there is a part of my heart that knows there is truth and goodness here. I am confused by the fact that there are so many things that I don't understand or that make me angry about you. There are also so many things that fill my heart with hope and many things that draw me to you and I want to put my trust in you. God, you say I can come to you and ask for anything so if you are real, please give me the faith I need to believe. Give me the desire to continue to seek after you. Keep my heart from self-deception. Protect me from any evil misleading or binding spirits. Calm my fears. Soften my cynicism. Be patient with me and if you are God, please don't let me go but instead let me know that you are real. I have a little faith, help me in my doubt.

Song of Celebration

"He Bears my Soul"

Ensemble

The wolves outside are hunting and the dark of night is full,
And in my heart a wild fear that I cannot control.
I'm helpless get out, I feel I'm drowning all alone,
Yet in my great distress I pray, and there He bears my soul.

This house was left abandoned, I sleep curled up on the floor,
My mind caves in with sorrows till I can't breathe anymore.
I see no hope tomorrow, the joy of life is cold,
By fingertips I hang from faith and there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede,
His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me.
He knows my way of thinking, my inner man he wove.
See, I can't explain, I can't deny cause yet somehow I know,
Yeah, he bears my soul.

I call but there's no answer and my straining voice grows weak.
I'm sick of the hypocrisy of those who claim belief.
This sparrow seems forgotten,
My match is burning low,
In doubt and dissolution even there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede,
His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me.
He knows my way of thinking, my inner man he wove.
See, I can't explain, I can't deny cause yet somehow I know,
Yeah, he bears my soul.

I stumble through the woods just like a fugitive I roam.
I distrust all directions of what's right except my own.
I've given up at godliness,
I break each contrite oath,
I spit and stray and fail again and there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede,
His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me.
He knows my way of thinking, my inner man he wove.
See, I can't explain, I can't deny cause yet somehow I know,
Yeah, he bears my soul.

Nathan Partain, 2014

Song of Celebration

"Psalm 62"

Ensemble

Only in God is my soul at rest, in him comes my salvation;
He only is my rock, my strength, and my salvation.

My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be afraid at all;
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.

Only in God is found safety, when my enemy pursues me.
Only in God is found glory, when I am found weak and found lowly.

My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be afraid at all;
My stronghold, my Savior, I shall not be moved.

Only in God is my soul at rest, in him comes my salvation.

John Michael Talbot; Birdwing Music, 1980

Life as Worship

Valediction

based on Philippians 2:5-11

Leader Beloved children,
in your relationships with one another,
have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

All **Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.**

Leader And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

All **Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Departing Hymn

“Praise the Savior Now and Ever”

All

**Praise the Savior, now and ever; praise him, all beneath the skies;
Prostrate lying suff’ring, dying on the cross, a sacrifice.
Vict’ry gaining, life obtaining, now in glory, he doth rise.**

**Man’s work faileth, Christ’s availeth; he is all our righteousness;
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.
Through his merit, we inherit light and peace and happiness.**

**Sin’s bond severed, we’re delivered; Christ has bruised the serpent’s head;
Death no longer is the stronger, hell itself is captive led.
Christ has risen from death’s prison; o’er the tomb he light has shed.**

**For his favor, praise forever, unto God the Father, sing;
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.
Praise the Spirit; through Christ’s merit, he doth us salvation bring.**

**Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.
Praise the Spirit; through Christ’s merit, he doth us salvation bring.**

words: Venantius Fortunatus, ca. 530-609, trans.: Augustus Nelson; music: attr. to William Moore, 1825; Arr. Benedict/Bradham 2005

Benediction

Spring Classes start next Sunday!

Classes meet every Sunday morning between first and second services from 10–10:50am. Check below to find out where you and your family can plug in!

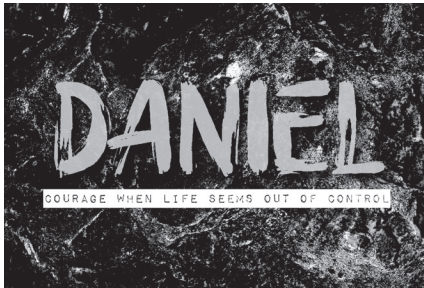
Adults



Interested in discovering answers to questions that will help you know better the God of history? *His Story* assumes there is no fundamental difference between church history and world history. It's all His Story.

The objective of this class is to understand the ways of God so we might know the master of the universe better, as he goes about his redemptive business making everything right. This class will embrace a lecture format followed by small group table-talk where key takeaways are translated into our present lives and culture.

His Story is taught by Greg Enas in the Underground Gallery.



How do we cope when life doesn't turn out the way we want? Where is God, and does he care about what's happening to us? The book of Daniel assures us that no matter how far things seem to deviate from what we expect, God is still on the throne—and that will never change. God gives us glimpses of how he will accomplish what he desires by sending visions to Daniel, a source of great encouragement for us when things seem out of control today.

In this class, learn how to study the Bible better, trust God more in the midst of difficult circumstances, and understand biblical prophecy.

Daniel is taught by Dan Barber in the Speck Gallery.



This class is a place for creative souls to gather for prayer, encouragement, and exploration of how the gospel impacts an artist's life.

The Creatives Class is taught by Kyle Ragsdale upstairs in his studio.

Children & Youth

3-YEAR-OLDS

Room 160A (Children's Worship room)

4/5-YEAR-OLDS

Room 160B (adjacent to the Children's Worship room).

K-1ST GRADES

Room 203

2ND-3RD GRADES

Room 205

4TH-5TH GRADES

Room 201 (Study)

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Room 204 (Youth Room)

HIGH SCHOOL

Room 207 (New Hope Counseling offices)

Thanks from ArtMix

I am astounded by the note and check that I just found in my mailbox. What an enormous and resounding expression of support for inclusion and the transformative power of the arts. On behalf of everyone here at Artmix, please accept my profound gratitude for your gift of over \$3,400. Gallery sales on the day that I spoke to the church adds another \$340. Your commitment to wholeness, authentic community, and cultural renewal is evident, to say the least. Stop by any time to see us in action, to see ability in action, thanks to you.

With joy, gratitude, and affection,
Gayle Holtman
President and CEO, ArtMix

Upcoming Events

Today! Town Hall Meeting

Join us in the sanctuary between services today to talk about what's been happening in the life and mission of Redeemer, and to hear about our vision for 2019. This is a great time for discussion as a church family, so please try to come.

1/27
12:30pm

New-ish to Redeemer? Join us for lunch next Sunday!

After the 11:00 service next week, 1/27, join Redeemer staff and other people new to the community in the Speck Gallery for lunch. Newcomer's Lunches are a great opportunity to meet other new people, ask questions, and learn more about Redeemer. All ages are welcome (plus, we'll have supervised play for kids in the gym after we eat). Register online [redeemindy.org/events/newlunch].

1/30
6:30-7:30pm

All-Church Prayer Meeting

Desperate dependence on Jesus - it's a core value for us. Praying together as a church is a great way to live out and grow in that value. It doesn't matter if you've never prayed out loud or with other people before - everyone is invited, and you won't be put on the spot. 1/30, 6:30-7:30 in the Underground Gallery. We'll start and end promptly. Supervised play in the gym available for kids over age 4.

Feb 6
6:30-8:30pm

Step into Respectful Evangelism | Christianity Explored

Christianity Explored is a place for natural, intentional conversations about Jesus, a place for our friends to bring their questions, doubts, and stories, and for the two of you to respectfully engage with the gospel. This free, 7-week course begins Wednesday, 2/6, from 6:30-8:30pm at Shoefly Public House. We'll eat dinner together, read through the gospel of Mark, and have honest conversations about Jesus. For more information or to register you and a friend, head to [redeemindy.org/events/ChristianityExplored]. Questions, email Charles Anderson [charles@redeemindy.org].



www.redeemindy.org



redeemindy.onthecity.org



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Membership at Redeemer

Membership is meaningful in multiple ways. First, we believe that as Christians, it is a part of our calling to be active and engaged in the Church. When you become a member, you take public vows to confirm your faith in Christ and commit to his Church. These vows submit members to the leadership and discipline of the church. We submit ourselves to accountability just like in marriage, friendship, citizenship, and any other relationship or institution that we enter into.

Membership also allows you certain benefits. Members in good standing are able to vote on church matters. They elect elders, call pastors, and have a say in other church business.

To become a member at Redeemer you must take our Discovering Redeemer class and meet with an elder for an interview. You will take membership vows privately and then publicly before the church. To begin this process, contact Jen Maurer [jen.maurer@redeemindy.org].

Fountain Square Pres

In 2014, Fountain Square Presbyterian Church opened its doors. The first daughter church of Redeemer, Fountain Square ministers to, worships with, and cultivates Christ-centered community in the Fountain Square neighborhood of Indianapolis.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is part of a church planting movement in Indianapolis and we are earnestly working to fund the planting of another gospel community.

Good to See You Again.

You've been around, but there are so many ways to get plugged in that you're not sure where to start. How about starting here? Give us your name and email, check some boxes, and drop this in the offering plate.

FIRST & LAST NAME

EMAIL

I'D LIKE TO... *

- Learn More About Redeemer
 - Become a Member
 - Join a Community Group
 - Work with Global Missions
 - Use my Artistic Talents
 - Work with Kids
 - Work with Youth
 - Greet on Sunday Mornings
 - Make & Serve Food
 - Join a Prayer Team
 - Talk to Someone About Counseling
 - Do Something Else:
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-
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*Go to www.redeemindy.org/ministries for a full list of volunteer opportunities and descriptions.