

# Welcome

## Call to Worship

*based on Ephesians 1:3-6*

*Leader* All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

*All* **He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms  
because we are united with Christ.**

*Leader* Even before he made the world,  
God loved us and chose us in Christ  
to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

*All* **God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family  
by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ.**

*Leader* This is what he wanted to do,  
and it gave him great pleasure.

*All* **So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out  
on us who belong to his dear Son!**

# Opening Hymn

*“How Firm a Foundation”*

*All*

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say, than to you he hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed;  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

**“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design,  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”**

**“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”**

**That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”**

*words: John Rippon, 1787; music: by Joseph Funk, 1832*

# Prayer of Confession

*based on Exodus 6:7, 20:13; Matthew 5:21-22; Westminster Larger Catechism 135; 1 John 1:6-7*

*Leader* Dear Lord, you have taken us to be your people.

*All* **You are our God, and we are your people.**

*Leader* As our Lord, you say, “Do not murder.”

*All* **We proudly think we keep this commandment,  
but we’re self-deceived:  
We murder each other in our hearts more often than we realize,  
harboring angry thoughts against others,  
wishing something bad to happen to them.  
We break this commandment when we fail to protect and preserve life:  
We don’t take care of ourselves.  
We don’t take care of others.  
Because of this, we are subject to judgment.**

*Leader* Lord, would you lead us in repentance this morning?

*All* **Give us the courage to come out of the darkness and walk in the light.**

# Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

*based on Mark 10:45; Isaiah 53:4-5; Philippians 4:4*

*Leader*

Jesus did not take life,  
but gave his life as a ransom for many.  
Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God,  
stricken by him, and afflicted.

*All*

**He was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.**

*Leader*

Rejoice in the Lord always.  
I will say it again: Rejoice!

# Song in the Gospel

*“And Can It Be?”*

*All*

And can it be, that I should gain,  
An interest in the Savior’s blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be,  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

‘Tis mystery all! Th’Immortal dies!  
Who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine!  
‘Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,  
Fast bound in sin and nature’s night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach th’eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

*words: Charles Wesley; music: Thomas Campbell, 1825*

## Song in the Gospel

*“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

*All*

**When I survey the wondrous cross,  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

**Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

*words: Isaac Watts, 1707; arr.: Lowell Mason, 1824*

## Prayer of Dependence

*Children’s Worship is for ages 3 through Kindergarten and is a time for children to worship through song, Bible stories, and response (art or story play). Children will return to the sanctuary before communion, and parents can pick them up at that time. Visitors are welcome, and parents are always invited to attend with their children.*

# Offering of Gifts and Service

## Sabbatical Report

### Scripture

*Exodus 21:12-17*

*Reader*

<sup>12</sup> “Anyone who strikes a person with a fatal blow is to be put to death. <sup>13</sup> However, if it is not done intentionally, but God lets it happen, they are to flee to a place I will designate.

<sup>14</sup> But if anyone schemes and kills someone deliberately, that person is to be taken from my altar and put to death.

<sup>15</sup> “Anyone who attacks their father or mother is to be put to death.

<sup>16</sup> “Anyone who kidnaps someone is to be put to death, whether the victim has been sold or is still in the kidnapper’s possession.

<sup>17</sup> “Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.

*Reader*  
*People*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Todd Dawkins*

Why Striking God’s Image Is So Striking

# Notes

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## Community Group Questions

- 1) *Take time to consider why God calls for such an extreme punishment to be given to those who murder. What is the biblical reason for capital punishment? How might this be encouraging and/or discouraging?*
- 2) *In what ways does the notion of capital punishment strike you? We all want justice, but what keeps us from trusting that God is just, opting instead for our being the judge? What does it look like for you to trust God as the judge? What's it going to take for you to get there?*
- 3) *In what ways does the notion of capital punishment strike at you? In reading Matthew 5:21-22, why is it that you might be subject to judgment?*
- 4) *How have you seen Jesus' giving up of his life, being stricken, as a means to a new beginning(s)?*

### Children's Questions

*Our scripture today talks about some pretty hard things that kids can do and say to their parents. While, hopefully, none of you have tried to hurt your parents so that they would die, we all do and say some really mean things to our moms and dads. Why do we do this? Do we really want to hurt our parents like this? If yes, why? If no, do you have an idea as to how we might not do this? Why is it not good for us to do this? (see Matthew 5:21-22) How might understanding about and trusting in Jesus help us to not do this?*



# 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 interviewed by the elders 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

*“Wayfaring Stranger”*

*Ensemble*

I am a poor wayfaring stranger, a-traveling through this world of woe.  
Yet there's no sickness, toil nor danger, in that bright land to which I go.  
I'm going there to see my father, I'm going there no more to roam;  
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm just going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather 'round me, I know my way is rough and steep.  
Yet beautiful fields lie just before me, where God's redeemed their vigil keep.  
I'm going there to see my mother, she said she'd meet me when I come;  
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

I want to wear a crown of glory, when I get home to that good land.  
I want to shout salvation's story, in concert with the blood-washed band.  
I'm going there to meet my Savior, to sing his praise forever more;  
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm just going over home.

I'll soon be free from every trial, my body sleep in the old churchyard;  
I'll drop the cross of self-denial, and enter on my great reward.  
I'm going there to see my savior, to be with him evermore  
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

*words & music: folk spiritual*

# Song of Celebration

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

*Ensemble*

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! How the heav’nly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave,  
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of heav’n, one with the Father known,  
One with the Spirit through Him giv’n, from his eternal throne.  
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died;  
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days, adored and magnified.

*words: Matthew Bridges, 1851; music: George J. Elvey, 1868*

## Life as Worship

*Discovering Redeemer | September 20-21*

*Youth Fall Retreat | September 27-29*

# Valediction

*based on Colossians 3:1-4*

*Leader* We have been raised to new life with Christ!

*All* **Let's set our sights on the realities of heaven,  
where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand.**

*Leader* Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

*All* **We have died to this life,  
and our real life is hidden with Christ in God.  
And when Christ, who is our life,  
is revealed to the whole world,  
we will share in all his glory.**

# Departing Hymn

*“Farther Along”*

*All*

**Tempted and tried, we’re oft made to wonder,  
Why it should be thus all the day long;  
While there are others living about us,  
Never molested, though in the wrong.**

**When death has come and taken our loved ones,  
It leaves our home so lonely and drear;  
Then do we wonder why others prosper,  
Living so wicked year after year.**

**Farther along we’ll know all about it, farther along we’ll understand why;  
Cheer up my sister, live in the sunshine, we’ll understand it all by and by.**

**“Faithful ’til death,” said our loving Master,  
A few more days to labor and wait;  
Toils of the road will then seem as nothing,  
When we pass through the beautiful gate.**

**Farther along we’ll know all about it, farther along we’ll understand why;  
Cheer up my brother, live in the sunshine, we’ll understand it all by and by.**

**Soon we will see our dear, loving Savior,  
Hear the last trumpet sound through the sky;  
Then we will meet those gone on before us,  
Then we shall know and understand why.**

**Farther along we’ll know all about it, farther along we’ll understand why;  
Cheer up beloved, live in the sunshine, we’ll understand it all by and by.**

**Farther along we’ll know all about it, farther along we’ll understand why;  
Cheer up beloved, live in the sunshine, we’ll understand it all by and by.**

*W.B. Stevens and J.R. Baxter, 1911*

# Benediction

# Sabbatical Report

This summer my family and I were blessed to have a three-month sabbatical for rest and rejuvenation. I want to personally thank David Maurer who did an excellent job filling in for me. Knowing that my job was covered allowed me to fully disconnect from my work and engage with my sabbatical.

Stepping away from my ministry at Redeemer allowed me to see more clearly the levels of stress and fatigue I was carrying. I was confronted with the ways in which I had put on a “works-based righteousness” approach to my ministry - I could work harder and better and carry everything on my back.

In Luke 13 Jesus talks about Jerusalem and says, “How often have I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings...” The image of God as a mother hen became a recurring theme during my sabbatical. A mother hen is both loving toward her chicks and aggressive toward predators. This became an image of healing for me. My God is a mother hen who loves me, who will fight for me, and who wants me to rely on him instead of my own abilities. This is something I hope to carry with me into the future.



I also ended sabbatical with a renewed sense of calling to my work at Redeemer. We are part of a larger denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). While I appreciate many things about the PCA, it can sometimes be an awkward fit for me as a pastor. As I wrestled with what it meant to be in the PCA, I kept coming back to one core truth - I loved and missed Redeemer. This is the church where I am called to serve. This is the church where my family and I are known and loved. This is the church where God ministers to me just as much if not more than I minister to others.

I am excited to be back, to reengage with the work God has for me, and to see what he has in store for this next chapter at Redeemer.

Ben Reed, Pastor of Administration



Top: Modern mosaic of a mother hen protecting her chicks, on the altar of Dominus Flevit Church on the Mount of Olives.  
Middle: Nikki and Ben Reed  
Bottom: Vivian, Sylvia, Josephine, and Hattie Reed

# Upcoming Events

*Today*  
12:30pm

## **Everyone is Invited to Lunch in the Gym**

Today after 2nd service, join us for our community lunch in the gym. You don't have to bring anything, just yourself!

*Friday &  
Saturday*

## **Interested in membership?**

Dig deeper into what it means to be a part of the community here! Join us for Discovering Redeemer, Friday, 9/20 from 6-9pm and Saturday, 9/21 from 9-noon. Register online [[redeemindy.org/events/discoveringredeemer](https://redeemindy.org/events/discoveringredeemer)].

*September 27-29*

## **Students, it's time for the fall retreat!**

The annual youth fall retreat is 9/27-29! Register by 9/15 online [<https://www.redeemindy.org/events/fallretreat>]. Contact Caroline Fridblom [[caroline@redeemindy.org](mailto:caroline@redeemindy.org)] for more information.

## **Step up and lead! Community Group Leader Trainings**

Feeling called to lead? We'd love to see new community groups form throughout Indianapolis, but we are especially in need of people interested in starting and leading new twenty/early thirty-somethings groups. Join this fall's new-leader training, every Sunday during the middle hour, 9/8 through 12/15. Contact Amanda Edgell [[amanda@redeemindy.org](mailto:amanda@redeemindy.org)] for more information.

## **Living with past wounds that are affecting your present life and relationships?**

Redeemer's counseling service, New Hope Counseling, is here to assist you [[newhopeindianapolis.org](https://newhopeindianapolis.org)]. Email [[counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org](mailto:counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org)] and you'll be connected with the right counselor for you. Placement may take 1-2 weeks. Our team sees children, teens, couples, families, and individual clients. Partial scholarships available if needed.

## **Volunteers Needed in the Kitchen**

Love coffee and donuts on Sunday morning? Looking for a way to serve? The kitchen crew is short-staffed and needs you to help keep the coffee coming! Sign up at the Welcome Table!



# Contact Us

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Global Missions / missions@redeemindy.org

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) / mops@redeemindy.org

Redeemer Women / women@redeemindy.org

Worship, Hospitality, and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org

year to date giving:

\$ 1,314,826.35

Jan-Sept budget:

\$ 1,344,560.00

2019 budget:

\$2,016,840.00

## Congregational Giving

September 8th .....	\$	27,109.83
September Total .....	\$	86,803.67
September Budget .....	\$	168,070.00

## Designated Giving

Mercy 2019 Total .....	\$	7,543.00
Missions Team 2019 Total .....	\$	20,626.21
Building Team 2019 Total .....	\$	3,103.14
Church Planting 2019 Total .....	\$	100.00

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