



**REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

January 31st

Explanation of Cover Art

In an early November liturgical arts planning meeting, Katie Porcho said that Advent this year should feel like a warm sweater. We began visioning wool and soft textiles to convey cozy warmth, even as we are physically apart in worship. Then, as we went along, all our original ideas for Christmas Eve adapted to be a mobile Advent spectacle that came to you where you were, like Jesus coming to us.

Central to our ideas throughout was the Ojo (God's eye) that looks like a cross or star. Some of the large ones were made many years ago for a different Advent. Kurt Green made the large yellow one, Erin Hall made the intricate one near the front of the stage (stage right), and Moriah Miller made the round star yarn sculpture by the organ. The 2 banners of Ojos were made by many youth, children, and small groups woven together. Each was made at home and brought together to make a beautiful pattern, to be warm and comfy like a sweater.

Explanation of Stage Triptych Art

By Bethany Sanders

The first panel is for 1 Peter 4:12-13, where Peter talks about fiery ordeals.

The second panel is for 1 Peter 5:1-4 where Peter addresses the elders and exhorts them to be shepherds of God's flock. I was thinking about how in 1 Peter 5 the shepherds are also the sheep. So I have a sheeple shepherd doing a fire-man carry of a sheeple from his flock. The background is a cracked desert because the shepherd is carrying the other sheep to safety.

The third panel is for 1 Peter 5:8-9, where Peter tells Christians to resist the devil who "prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." I wondered how sheep could resist a lion. Peter uses the term "resist" instead of "defeat," so I drew the sheep with staffs—defensive rather than offensive weapons—and had them face the prowling lion together.

Explanation of Window Art

By Erin Hall

These tattered royal garments are arranged in structured community. From the perspective of one piece, they may be overshadowed or feel exposed and rub against the frays of another, but from afar even the tattered humble fragments show glimpses of their beauty in how they play off each other. There are many circles and intersections in our body, but one strong common chord. I was also meditating on the ideas of "casting anxiety on him" and clothing ourselves in humility toward one another; submitting to elders as part of the necessary structure: for each piece, if not tied in, would easily drift away. It is also such joy that our Lord sees our beauty now, and delights in us, even as we are.

Welcome

Call to Worship

from Psalm 98:1-3

Leader Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

All **Because of his love,
because he intervened,
because only his power was able,
he brought about our salvation.
He accomplished what he desired
and made us his own.**

Leader The LORD has spread the news of his salvation
and revealed his beautiful way of redeeming humanity
to every precious people group.

All **He has remembered his promised love
and his faithfulness to Israel;
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

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 Adoration

Prayer of Confession

Based on Romans 1:25; Luke 15:12-13; Romans 8:12; Ephesians 2:3; Galatians 5:19-21

Leader Our Father and God made it plain to all humanity through creation
and through the message of his word,
who he is, that he is good, and that we are his creatures and that we are made for him.

But we have turned away from our Creator and Father,
and our sin rightly condemns us.

All **We exchange God for what he has made,
looking for life and meaning in created things.
We run away from home, telling our Dad,
“I wish you were dead. Give me your stuff,
so that I can live how I want.”**

Leader Sin overpowers and masters us.

All **We do what we don’t want to.
We don’t do what we do want to.
“Why keep trying?” we despair.
“Nothing will change.”**

Leader We live according to the flesh, gratifying its cravings.

All **Our minds are set towards this world, what it offers.
We covet and envy.
We divide into factions.
We dabble, and then indulge, in sexual immorality.**

Leader Who will rescue us from sin, the flesh, the world, and the devil?

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

Based on Romans 8:1-4; Galatians 5:13-26

Leader Jesus Christ has come in the flesh—even more, the likeness of sinful flesh—to condemn sin and crucify the sinful flesh.

All **Christ's life, Christ's obedience, Christ's righteousness are all ours in him.**

Leader The Son became a sin-offering for us:
all your condemnation, your guilt, your failure, your self-righteousness
has been poured out on him!

All **Praise be to God: we are justified, forgiven, and freed!**

Leader Jesus has become the resurrected, ascended Lord in heaven,
from where he has poured out his Spirit to give you life.

All **Let us then
live by the Spirit, be led by the Spirit, bear the fruit of the Spirit,
and keep in step with the Spirit.**

Song in the Gospel

“He Was Wounded”

All

**He was wounded for our transgressions,
He bore our sins in his body on the tree;
For our guilt, he gave us peace,
From our bondage gave release,
And with his stripes, and with his stripes,
And with his stripes, our souls are healed.**

**He was numbered among transgressors,
We did esteem him forsaken by his God;
As our sacrifice, he died,
That the law be satisfied,
And all our sin, and all our sin,
And all our sin was laid on him.**

**We had wandered, we all had wandered,
Far from the fold of “the Shepherd of the sheep”;
But he sought us where we were,
On the mountains bleak and bare,
And bro’t us home, and bro’t us home,
And bro’t us safely home to God.**

**Who can number his generation?
Who shall declare all the triumphs of his cross?
Millions, dead, now live again,
Myriads follow in his train!
Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,
Victorious Lord and coming King!**

**Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,
Victorious Lord and coming King!**

**Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,
Victorious Lord and coming King!**

words Thomas O. Chisholm, 1920; music Joseph N. Partain, 1977

Song in the Gospel

“The Wonderful Grace of Jesus”

All

The wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin?
Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

The wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching to all the lost,
By it I have been pardoned, saved to the uttermost,
Chains have been torn asunder, giving me liberty;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

More patient than my fight, more faithful than my doubt,
Persistent though I run, O how his grace abounds!
Broader than my sin, deeper than my shame,
Stronger than my evil, O praise Jesus name!

The wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching the most defiled,
By its transforming power, making him God’s dear child,
Purchasing peace and heaven, for all eternity;
The wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

More patient than my fight, more faithful than my doubt,
Persistent though I run, O how his grace abounds!
Broader than my sin, deeper than my shame,
Stronger than my evil, O praise Jesus name!

More patient than my fight, more faithful than my doubt,
Persistent though I run, O how his grace abounds!
Broader than my sin, deeper than my shame,
Stronger than my evil, O praise Jesus name!

The wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin?

words by Haldor Lillenas, 1918; chorus and music by Nathan Partain, 2011

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Scripture

Romans 8:1-4

Reader

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Charles Anderson

A Perfect Match

Prayer of Response

Mike and Julie Berend

Community Life

Celebrating Jen Mauer

“A Liturgy Before Serving Others Well”

Adapted from Douglas McKelvey, Every Moment Holy; used with permission.

Leader

O Christ, Who Made Himself the Servant of All,
I would set my heart and my affections upon you—and upon you alone—
for I can only serve others rightly when such service is undertaken
from first to last as an act of devotion offered to you.

In serving you, I am freed from my need for the praise of others.
So that even if my kindnesses are shed from scarred hearts
as rain from a sloped tin roof, my joy will not be dimmed,
for I will know that you have received and remembered each act of sacrifice
and reckoned it as a love rendered to you.

All

So let my love be sincere, and let my service be fearless, O Lord.

Leader

I would serve in imitation of you, who poured out your life for me.
I would serve knowing that your Spirit is ever at work
in the lives of those I serve, ever calling, ever drawing,
ever seeking to soften hearts encased in fear and disappointment
and anger and idolatry.

All

So let my kindnesses and sacrifice fall like warm shafts of sunlight on icy ground.

Leader

I cannot know the end of another person’s story.
Our lives so often only briefly intersect.
So let me be content to minister regardless of visible outcomes,
trusting that the small mercies I extend
will be woven into the larger theme of redemption at work in the lives of others
as you woo them to yourself, drawing their hearts by graces offered,
and shaping my own heart too in this process of learning to serve well,
and by learning to serve well, learning to love well.

All

Amen.

Valediction

From Psalm 46:1-3

Leader

Little children,
God is our refuge and strength.

All

He is our ever-present help in trouble.

Leader

Therefore we will not fear.

All

Though the earth give way,
your ever-present help in trouble.

Leader

All

Though the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
your ever-present help in trouble.

Leader

All

Though the oceans roar and boil,
your ever-present help in trouble.

Leader

All

**Though the mountains come unhinged
as the sea rises up,
God is our refuge!
God is our strength!**

Leader

He is your ever-present help in trouble.

Closing Hymn

“On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand”

All

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.**

**On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every rough and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.**

**On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.**

**On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When I shall launch in worlds unseen, O may I then be found in him;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.**

**On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.**

words Edward Mote, 1834; music William B. Bradbury, 1863; Public Domain

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year to date giving:
\$ 72,561.30

2021 budget:
\$ 2,487,554

Congregational Giving

Jan 24 th	\$	\$23,071.14
Jan Total	\$	\$72,561.30
Jan Budget	\$	\$207,296.17
