

Opening Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

All

**Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he;
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!**

words: M. Aurelius Prudentius, 348-413; trans.: John M. Neale, 1854; music: Plainsong, c.11th cent

Advent Reading

based on Matthew 17:1-9

Reader

Jesus took with him Peter, James and John, the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He didn’t know what to say; he was so scared.)

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Call to Worship

based on John 17:5, 2 Corinthians 3:15-18

Leader Beloved of Jesus,
the triune God shared eternal glory before the world began,
and Jesus has been raised that you all might see that glory, where he is now.

People **Let our minds see clearly by the power of his Spirit,
May there be no veil of the law
separating our affections and binding our freedom
to receive his uninhibited love.**

All **That all of us, with unveiled faces may contemplate the Lord's glory,
while being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory,
which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**

Hymn

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

All **This is he whom heav'n taught singers sang of old with one accord;
Whom the scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word.
Now he shines, the long expected; Let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore!**

**O ye heights of heav'n adore him; Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent; Every voice in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore!**

words: M. Aurelius Prudentius, 348-413; trans.: John M. Neale, 1854; music: Plainsong, c.11th cent

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

based on Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8; Jeremiah 9:23-24; Romans 1:23

Leader The LORD set his glory in the heavens
 and in human beings, his image-bearers.
He made you a little lower than the angels,
 crowning you with glory and honor.

All **We traded our glory in,
 because we thought it wasn't good enough.
We don't want to reflect the LORD's glory like a mirror.
We want our own glory to shine like a flashing neon sign.**

Leader We pursue glory by cultivating what's on the surface.

All **We obsess over our image:
 How we look, what we weigh, what we wear.
We can even have an image of not caring what our image is.
But whichever way, we focus on our own glory.**

Leader We pursue glory by cultivating success.

All **We boast in our wisdom,
 by relying on how much we know and understand.
We boast in our strength,
 by relying on our abilities and accomplishments.
We boast in our riches,
 by relying on our wealth for happiness and security.**

Leader But let the one who boasts, boast about this:

All **That we know the LORD, because he has made himself known to us.
He exercises kindness and justice—that's what he delights in.**

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

based on Colossians 1:15-16; Hebrews 1:3; John 1:14; Isaiah 53:2, 12

Leader Jesus is God's own well-loved Son, the spitting image of his Father:
The radiance of his glory,
the exact representation of his nature.

All **In him all things were created:
From stars to starfish
and quasars to quarks.
The glory of God's world came through him and for him.**

Leader He took on flesh and tabernacled among us.

All **We have seen his glory,
the glory of one who's full of grace and truth,
the glory of the Son who comes from the Father.**

Leader Yet there was nothing on the surface to make him beautiful,
no visible glory to attract us to him.

All **But when the hour of his glory came,
he poured out his life to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.**

Leader He bore the sin of many—

All **He bore our sin!
We are forgiven. Amen! Hallelujah!**

Song in the Gospel

“What Child is This?”

All

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise a song on high; The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

Raise, raise a song on high; The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

trad. English carol, 16th cent.; adapt.: William C. Dix, 1865

Song in the Gospel

“O Savior of Our Fallen Race”

All

O Savior of our fallen race, O Brightness of the Father’s face,
O Son who shared the Father’s might before the world knew day or night,
O Jesus, very Light of light, our constant star in sin’s deep night:
Now hear the prayers your people pray throughout the world this holy day.

Remind us Lord of life and grace how once, to save our fallen race,
You put our human vesture on and came to us as Mary’s son.
Today, as year by year its’ light brings to our world a promise bright
One precious truth outshines the sun: Salvation comes from you alone.

For from the Father’s throne you came, his banished children to reclaim;
And earth and sea and sky revere the love of Him who sent you here.
And we are jubilant today, for you have washed our guilt away.
O hear the glad new song we sing on this, the birth of Christ our King!

O Savior of our fallen race, the world will see your radiant face
For you who came to us before will come again and all restore.
Let songs of praise your name adorn, O Christ, Redeemer, virgin-born
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

Christe Redemptor Omnium, Latin office hymn, circa 6th Century; music: Nathan Partain, 2014

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Offertory Hymn

“Fall Before Your Name”

Do not wait, our hearts not infinite.
We desire you, our bodies faint and weak.
Yet our spirits whisper for you still,
To see you where you are,
Your beauty and your fire.

Dearest Jesus, dangers never cease.
Children mid the violence of threat and harm.
Wounded, frightened, chased and lured off,
Come tear apart the dogs.
Save with a Father’s might.

Hear us call, O Lord, we fall before your name.

O when will we see your face?
Find, new language for our mouths to shape.
In your light our souls to breathe,
Your word to us complete, It’s who you are, we plead.

Lord we sing, and speed the night to dawn.
Though we ache, as pilgrims wait until they’re home.
Call the feast, our one desire you are,
Our deepest heart of hearts,
Our living Word of love.

Hear us, Lord, we claim and fall before your name.
Hear us, Lord, we claim and fall before your name.

Nathan Partain, 2019

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. Parents, please pick them up in the back of the sanctuary at that time. Visitors are welcome, and parents are always invited to attend with their children.

Scripture

Exodus 33:18-34:8

Reader

¹⁸ Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

¹⁹ And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

²¹ Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²² When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

¹ The LORD said to Moses, “Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. ² Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain. ³ No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain.”

⁴ So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. ⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

⁸ Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped.

Reader
People

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Charles Anderson

God’s Glory to Forgive

Notes

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Community Group Questions

- 1) When it comes to how we see our sin, we tend to be on a spectrum from, on one side, needing a hug to, on the other, a punch in the nose. That is, some of us by temperament feel the weight of our sin and are prone to despair, and some of us minimize our sin and need a jolt to take it seriously. Where on the spectrum do you tend to fall? How do you see that play out in your relationship with God?*
- 2) Moses asks to see God's glory. What does God offer in response in Exodus 33:19-23? How does 34:5-7 represent God answering Moses' request? What does this tell us about God's character? How can we see the truth of Exodus 34:6-7 represented in and expressed by the cross of Jesus?*
- 3) Read Psalm 86 together. What requests does David make of the Lord? What does he believe about who God is (note especially how 86:15-16 draws on Exodus 34:6-7)? Pray through this psalm as a group, focusing especially on praising God for his character and asking for him to help you in some of the same ways that David asks.*

Children's Questions:

When you have messed up (and you know it), what do you do? Make excuses? Act like it's no big deal? Or, maybe you get really down and feel like you must be no good and that no one could accept you? Read Exodus 34:4-7. What does God say about how he responds when you mess up? Why does God respond that way? Based on who God is, how can you respond when you mess up?

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.

Prayer of Humble Access

From Common Worship

All

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same, Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

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

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”

Ensemble

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing worldly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human nature,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful,
His own self for heav’nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish,
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to his presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

*words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th cent.; trans.: Gerard Moultrie, 1864;
French carol melody; arr.: Bruce Benedict, 2001*

Song of Celebration

“By the Sea of Crystal”

Ensemble

By the sea of crystal, saints in glory stand,
Myriads in number, drawn from every land,
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood,
They now reign in Heaven with the Lamb of God.

Out of tribulation, death and Satan's hand,
They have been translated at the Lord's command.
In their hands they're holding palms of victory;
Hark! the jubilant chorus shouts triumphantly:

“Unto God Almighty, sitting on the throne,
And the Lamb, victorious, be the praise alone,
God has wrought salvation, He did wondrous things,
Who shall not extol Thee, holy King of kings?”

words: William Kuipers, 1932

Missionary Commissioning

Lee and Shannon Hinkle

Valediction

based on 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

Leader According to the Lord's word,
we tell you that we who are still alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will certainly not go ahead of those who have fallen asleep.

All **For the Lord himself will come down from heaven,
with a loud command,
with the shattering voice of the archangel,
and with the trumpet call of God.**

Leader And the dead in Christ will rise first.

All **After that, we who are still alive and are left
will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.**

Leader And so we will be with the Lord forever.

All **And so we will be with the Lord forever.**

Leader Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Departing Hymn

“All You Do is Good”

All

**You are full of compassion and abounding in love,
You create things from nothing, call what’s not though it was.
You are light with no shadow, with no shifting or change.
You turn weeping to dancing and despair into thanks.**

**You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good,
All you do is good.**

**You release every captive, cut the shackles from slaves
Those who hate you, you ransom, give your blood for their shame.
With the bent stem, you’re tender, shield the smoldering flame
You bring home the unwanted, call the lost back by name.**

**You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good,
All you do is good.**

**You lift up, you, you revive, you, you restore, you, you increase, you,
You anoint, you, you fill up, you, you spill out, you, you release, you,
You make grow, you, you bring forth, you, you call out, you, you set free, it’s
Who you are. It’s who you were. It’s who you will always be.**

**Your life is eternal, not in measure but kind
Running over with healing, inexhaustible might
You in us, and we in you, the delight in your face.
Resting here we enjoy you, and our joy is your praise.**

**You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good.
You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good,
All you do is good.**

Nathan Partain, 2015

Benediction



Women, get excited for Spring 2020 Bible studies! All groups will study the Old Testament book of Judges with slightly different formats at various times and places.

Enrollment will be Sunday, December 29th through Sunday, January 12th. You will have the option to sign up online or in the courtyard foyer on Sunday, January 5th and Sunday, January 12th. To ensure good group dynamics, each group will have a size limit. Women will be assigned in the order of sign-up. Studies will generally start around the week of January 19th and conclude by the end of May. If you have any questions, please email women@redeemindy.org.

Be looking for more information in the coming weeks!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

2 Services 4pm | 6:30pm

DECEMBER 29

1 Service 10am

Upcoming Events

Today
12:30pm

Join us for today's Artist Talk

Today, after second service and before the Hinkle reception, join us in the Harrison Gallery to hear a performance by Indy Choral Artisans, led by Rick Cobb.

Today
12:30pm

Come say goodbye to the Hinkles

Today we say goodbye to the Hinkles as they head back to Australia. It's been a joy to have them with us over the past few months, to hear about the growth of their church and how the Lord has used them since they left for Perth in 2015. Please join us immediately after the second service in the Underground Gallery for a festive time of celebration with coffee and dessert.

New Advent Album Available

We are excited to announce new music for Advent from Nathan Partain, Director of Worship and Culture at Redeemer. This is a collection of songs written over the years and sung in our worship services, some congregational and some as offertories, during past Advent seasons. This record was made with lots of help from some of the musicians, designers, and artists in the Redeemer community (and beyond), and we hope it is a blessing this Advent season! Available now to stream online. Physical copies will be available to purchase next week at the Welcome Table.

Take Part in Advent Art

In light of this year's Advent art theme focusing on the Tabernacle, each of the four Sundays of Advent, immediately following second service, the congregation is invited to come and contribute to an ongoing art piece. Nick Dodge will be organizing volunteers each Sunday at the back of the sanctuary. No art skills required!

The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference - Registration

The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference is coming to Indianapolis this summer, June 11-13. This is a three day conference with women from around the world, studying the book of James and worshipping. Redeemer Women has a discount code to help with the cost. On the conference website, please choose the individual registration option, and enter the discount code (REDEEMINDY) at the bottom of the first page, which will give \$25 off. Email [women@redeemindy.org] if you are interested in opportunities to gather with other Redeemer Women going to the conference.

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]. Email [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.



Contact Us

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

year to date giving:

\$ 1,774,152.34

2019 budget:

\$2,016,840.00

Congregational Giving

December 1st	\$	25,543.39
December Total	\$	25,543.39
December Budget	\$	168,070.00

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by scanning this QR code
and following the instructions
to set up an account.

