



REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



February 21st, 2021

Explanation of Cover Art

“These lyrics from O Holy Night have been inspiring the final layers of this scene, “A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices.” I’ve been reflecting about the story of hope coming to the world through Christ in light, shadow, color and paint vibes. This scene speaks that story to me.” - Alicia Zaroni Lawrence

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.

Explanation of Vestments

By Hidi Gardner

God hears us when we cry out to him. Our tears are important enough to God that he collects them. (Psalm 56:8) Tears are a physical representation of our sorrows. Our tears matter to God because we are his beloved treasure.

(from a conversation with my kids)

“Mommy, does God hear me?”

“Yes, he hears you.”

“So he knows when I’m sad? Does he hear me cry?”

“Yes, he always hears you. He hears you when you’re happy and when you’re sad. He loves you so very much. He treasures you. He even collects your tears when you cry.”

“He collects my tears? Why?”

“Why do you collect things? Why do you save them?”

“I save things that are important to me.”

“God collects your tears because you are important to him.”

Welcome

Call to Worship

from Psalm 3

Leader LORD, I have so many adversaries,
so much stacked against me.
Many voices saying,
“There is no deliverance from God for them!”

All **But, Jesus, you are a shield around me.
You are my glory.
You are the One who lifts up my head.**

Leader I cried out with my voice to the LORD,
and he responded to me from his holy mountain.

All **I laid down and slept;
I woke up, only because the LORD sustained me.
I will not fear though tens of thousands
assail me on every side.**

Leader Arise, LORD!
Deliver me, my God!
Strike all my adversaries on the jaw;
break the devouring teeth
of those against you and your people.

All **From the LORD comes deliverance.
May your blessing be on your people.**

Opening Hymn

“Come Thou Fount”

All

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it,
Mount of God’s unchanging love.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I’ve come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I’m constrained to be!
Let thy grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.**

**O that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see thy lovely face;
Clothed then in my blood washed linen,
How I’ll sing thy sovereign grace!**

words Robert Robinson, 1758; music “Nettleton” from John Wyeth, 1813

Prayer of Adoration and Preparation

Prayer of Confession

Based on Psalm 139:23-24; Romans 8:9-17; James 4:1-2

Leader Children of God, in this season of Lent,
let us ask the Lord to search us and know our hearts.

All **Father, uncover what is offensive in us,
so that you may lead us in the path of everlasting life.**

Leader We have an obligation to live according to the Spirit.

All **Yet, we can see how we live according to the flesh:
When a problem comes up, our first thought is, "How do I solve this?"
rather than bringing it to God and seeking him.
We act like there's nothing more than this world,
so we quarrel and scheme to get what's ours.**

Leader Because we live by the flesh, we live in fear.

All **Fear that we'll be exposed and thus rejected,
Fear that we won't be loved, that we can't be loved,
Fear that we're on our own, abandoned as orphans,
Fear that our good won't measure up,
Fear that our wrong will find us out.**

Leader Spirit of God, lead us through confession and repentance,
away from the flesh and fear,
to the holy and kind heart of our Father.

Song of Longing

“O For a Closer Walk with God”

All

**O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heav’nly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!
Where is the blessedness I knew
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus and his Word?**

**Where is the blessedness I knew
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus and his Word?**

words William Cowper, 1772; music Nathan Partain, 2002

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

Based on Psalm 103:13-14; Romans 1:4; 8:1-17; Luke 4:1; Hebrews 9:14

Leader Children of God, hear the gracious heart of your Father:

All **Our Father shows tender compassion to us his children,
because he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.**

Leader So, he sent his Son to take on flesh, like us in every way, for our sin.

All **Full of the Spirit,
our older brother Jesus lived our life for us.
Through the Spirit,
he offered himself as the sacrifice in our place.
In the Spirit,
God raised him from the dead to power and authority.**

Leader Because you are in Christ, this very same Spirit now lives in you!

All **The Spirit brought us into the family.
He confirms to us, “Yes, you are God’s adopted child.
You really do belong here.”**

Leader His Spirit gives us life now to put to death the misdeeds of the body.

All **And his Spirit will raise our bodies to give us everlasting life.**

Song in the Gospel

“A Child of God”

All **I’m a child of God, and love is my freedom;
I can ask anything of my Father the King.
I’m an heir, I’m adopted, and my brother is Jesus;
I’m a child of God, and my soul is at peace.**

Nathan Partain, 2011

Song in the Gospel

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

All

**I will sing of my Redeemer,
And his wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross, he suffered,
From the curse to set me free.**

**Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer, with his blood, he purchased me.
On the cross, he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.**

**I will praise my dear Redeemer,
His triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory he giveth,
Over sin and death and hell.**

**Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer, with his blood, he purchased me.
On the cross, he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.**

**I will sing of my Redeemer,
And his heav'nly love to me;
He from death to life hath brought me,
Son of God with him to be.**

**Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer, with his blood, he purchased me.
On the cross, he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.**

**Sing, oh sing, of my Redeemer, with his blood, he purchased me.
On the cross, he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.**

words Phillip Bliss, 1976; music Luke Morton, 2005

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Scripture

Romans 8:5-11

Reader

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

Charles Anderson

"Who's Got Into You?"

Community Group Questions

- 1) How do you tend to think of the Holy Spirit? In what ways do you not think of him? Why is he sometimes called the forgotten person of the Trinity?
- 2) List all the ways that the Holy Spirit is named in Romans 8:9–11. What does that tell us about his identity and his work?
- 3) What difference could it make tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. that the Spirit, described as he is in Romans 8:9–11, lives in you? Or what about at 7pm? What does that tell you about what God is doing and promises to do in and through you?

Children's Questions:

From The New City Catechism

#36 What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

Answer: That he is God, coeternal with the Father and the Son, and that God grants him irrevocably to all who believe.

#37 How does the Holy Spirit help us?

Answer: The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.

Call to Communion

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 use the hand sanitizer. You will receive the bread into your hands and take a cup from the tray. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Wait to eat the bread and drink the wine until we all do so together, once we are back in our seats. Children who have been interviewed by the elders are able to share in Communion.

Communion is a time of connection with the Lord Jesus and with each other. Feel free to sing with the band during Communion. The ministry of prayer is also a way we live together as a community of believers and seekers. Please take the time to pray on your own, or with someone else in the pews (in a socially distanced way).

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.

Closing Hymn

“Jesus I My Cross Have Taken”

All

**Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken, thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.**

**Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me, show thy face, and all is bright.**

**Go, then, earthly fame and treasure, come disaster, scorn, and pain.
In thy service, pain is pleasure, with thy favor, loss is gain.
I have called thee Abba Father, I have stayed my heart on thee;
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather; all must work for good to me.**

**Soul, then know thy full salvation, rise o'er sin and fear and care,
Joy to find in every station, something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee, child of heaven, canst thou repine.**

**Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.**

words Henry F. Lyte, 1824; music Bill Moore

Community Life

Lenten Prayer Guides

Email Ben Reed, ben@redeemindy.org, to request a paper or digital copy.

Grace Marriage

Doxology

All

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Benediction

Contact Us

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2021 budget:
\$ 2,487,554

year to date giving:
\$ 178,176.10

Congregational Giving

Feb 14 th	\$	\$37,258.37
Feb Total	\$	\$101,039.33
Feb Budget	\$	\$207,296.17

