

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

EASTERTIDE

MAY 9, 2021



Cover Art

Kipp Normand

Flower Installation

Hidi Gardner led the concept, and many in our community worked to make many, many flowers.

Tree Window Covering

Barb Knuckles and the Kyle Ragsdale Community Group

Vestments

Lauren McElhaney and Molly Kelly

Communion Set

TJ Samuels

Welcome

Call to Worship

From Isaiah 14:24-27

Leader Adopted children of God, living in your Father's kingdom,
 yet waiting for his reign to be complete,
 the LORD of lords has sworn,

 “Surely, as I have planned, so it will be,
 and as I have purposed, so it will happen.
I will crush the Evil One in my land;
 on my mountains I will trample him down.”

All **His yoke will be taken from us,
 and his burden removed from our shoulders.**

Leader This is the plan determined for the whole world;
 this is the hand stretched out over all nations.

All **For the LORD of lords has purposed, and who can thwart him?
 His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?**

Opening Hymn

“Father, Long Before Creation”

All

**Father long before creation, you had chosen us in love,
And your love so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.**

**Though the world may change its fashion, you, our God, are e'er the same;
Your compassion and your cov'nant, through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children must forever praise his name.**

**Your compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing, moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us that his only Son he gave.**

**Loving Father now before you, we will ever praise your love,
And our songs will sound unceasing, 'til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb;**

Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb.

words: Chinese Hymn; trans.: Francis Jones; Andrew Osenga, 2005

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Lament and Confession

Leader In this Easter season of resurrection, we lament the power of death in our midst.

All **We grieve the reality of death,
from disease and in violence.
We grieve how we die before we die:
In loneliness and isolation,
In addiction and abuse.
This world is not how it was meant to be.**

Leader The Easter season calls us into the in-between:
We have already been raised with Christ,
and yet we still wait for our resurrection at the last day.

All **We confess that we don't wait well for God.
We impatiently take matters into our own hands,
as if we can find wholeness on our own.
Distracted by the pursuits of this world,
we don't groan for Christ to come again.
We shrink back from suffering for Christ,
preferring comfort over sacrificial love for others.**

Leader God of all creation and of our hearts—Father, Son, and Spirit—
Have mercy and hear our lament and confession.

Song of Hope

"We Shall Sing"

All **Though we wait, our souls complicit,
Our self-ward bent, our seed of war,
In death Christ drowned our sin forever,
And from the grave, we were reborn.**

Nathan Partain, 2016

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

Based on Romans 8

Leader Hear this command of comfort and hope, "Do not fear!"

All **Jesus has died and been raised from the dead!**

Leader Do not fear!

All **We have been crucified, buried, and raised with him.**

Leader Do not fear!

All **Christ is our head, our husband, our covering, and our hope.**

Leader Do not fear!

All **We are no longer in our sins. We have been forgiven!**

Leader Do not fear!

All **The Spirit groans in us and for us and will raise us from the dead!**

Leader Do not fear! He is risen!

All **He is risen indeed!**

Song of Hope

"We Shall Sing"

All

We shall sing with hearts on fire. Yes, we shall rise and not be ashamed.

O we shall look and all be radiant. For we shall see him face to face.

The whole world of despair is not worth being compared to what we shall see.

Nathan Partain, 2016

Song in the Gospel

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

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.**

words: Edward Mote 1834, music: William Bradbury 1863

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Remembering Our Baptism

Based on Matthew 28:18-20

Leader

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Westminster Shorter Catechism: Question #94

What is Baptism?

All

Baptism is a sacrament in which the washing with water, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, does signify and seal our grafting into Christ, and receiving of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord’s.

Song of Baptism

“Baptized in Water”

Leader

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting His promise, faithfully now God’s praises we sing.

All

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
One with His rising, freed and forgiven, looking to heaven now we sing.**

In the name of God, the Father, with the Son and Holy Ghost.

Trad. Gaelic Melody, Michael Seward, add. lyrics Bruce Benedict, 1982

Covenant Baptism

2nd Service

Matteo John Pia

Parents’ Vows

1. Do you acknowledge Matteo’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God’s covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly commit Matteo to God and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God’s appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Congregation's Vows

Leader

Our God made a covenant with Abraham, the father of all who believe, saying, "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."

All

**Peter preached the gospel to the church saying,
"The promise is for you and your children."**

Do you, the members of this congregation, receive Matteo Pia into this church as one whom God has called his own according to the covenant? And do you now promise to surround him with Christian love, to pray for him, and to set an example of genuine faith and virtue?

All

**We do, for whoever welcomes this child of God in Christ's name, welcomes him.
And whoever welcomes Christ, welcomes the one who sent him.**

Scripture

Romans 8:18-25

Reader

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Todd Dawkins

A Hope That Saves

Community Group Questions

- 1) How have you experienced yourself hoping in things/people/events that ultimately do not give the satisfaction you had hoped they would? What might the circumstances be that led to our hoping in things/people/events in this way? How are we to recognize these false sources of hope?
- 2) From our text, what is/are the future action(s) of God that he will do in hope? Take some time to discuss hope as “the eager expectation of the future action of God.” How is this different from our typical usage of hope? In what ways might seeing hope with this perspective affect our living in the midst of suffering?
- 3) Take some time to share the different ways you experience hoping as waiting with eager expectation. In other words, what aspects of the Christian life help you to wait with eager expectation as opposed to waiting with indifferent uncertainty? Also, how might we do so with patience?

Children’s Questions

- 1) Have you ever experienced wanting something so badly, only to discover that when you finally received it, it wasn’t really that great? What was it? What is the difference between hoping in that thing or event compared to hoping in God’s promises?
- 2) Waiting is a hard thing to do. Do you agree? Why or why not? Today’s scripture says that we are to hope for God’s great and awesome promises by eagerly waiting for them with patience. (By the way, to be eager for something means that you really want it to happen.) So, what are some ways that we can be patient while eagerly waiting for these promises? (And you’re not allowed to say “just don’t think about it.” Why? Because if we “just don’t think about it,” we are not eager.)

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

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

All

**I know that my Redeemer lives, Glory Hallelujah!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives, Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

**He lives, he lives, who once was dead, Glory Hallelujah!
He lives, my everlasting Head, Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

**He lives to crush the fiends of hell; Glory Hallelujah!
He lives and doth within me dwell; Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

**He lives to bless me with His love; Glory Hallelujah!
He lives to plead my cause above; Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

**He lives all glory to his name; Glory Hallelujah!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same; Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

**Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!**

words: Samuel Medley, 1775; music: F. C. Wood, 1850

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.**

Community Life

Officer Nominations

Saturday Seminary
redeemindy.org/events

Deacon Thank You

Dave Maurer & Doug Wilson

Benediction

Contact Us

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

Redeemer Women / women@redeemindy.org

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

year to date giving:
\$613,729.28

2021 budget:
\$2,487,554

Congregational Giving

May 2 nd	\$	\$47,322.60
May Total	\$	\$47,322.60
May Budget	\$	\$207,296.17

