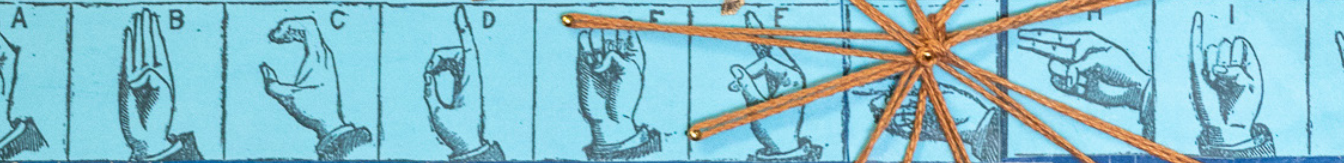




1



11/27/2022

Cover Art

“For With God Nothing Shall Be Impossible” by Kipp Normand

Banners

“Enlightened Juxtaposition” by Karyl Boring, Kathy Forbes, Marcia Jones, Caleb C. Keitt, and Advent Workshop

Table Runner

Advent Workshop

Communion Set

Noelle Hoover

Processional Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

All

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

words Anonymous, 9th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1851; music French melody, 15th cent

Advent Letter

from 2 Peter 3:1-13

Reader Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to wake you up to clear thinking. I want you to remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the commandment our Lord and Savior spoken through your apostles.

Above all, you must understand that in the last days mockers will come, making fun of the truth while they are being led by their own evil want. They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.”

But because of their hard hearts it escapes their notice that though long ago by God’s word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water, it was also through these waters that the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. Moreover, by God’s word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, stored up for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

So dear friends, do not let this escape your notice:

The Lord experiences one day with all the intricacy of a thousand years, and a thousand years he grasps as only a day. The Lord is not careless in keeping his promise, as some have interpreted. Instead he is enduringly patient with you, not wanting anyone to be destroyed, but everyone to come to repentance.

Still the day of the Lord will come, like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

Since everything will come undone in this way, what kind of people must you become? Your daily manner of life must be treated as sacred to the Lord and full of reverence as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the undoing of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 11:1, 10

Leader A new growth will sprout from the stump of Jesse;
from his old roots a fresh Branch will bear fruit.

All **In that day the nations will seek the Root of Jesse
who will stand as a signal of salvation for the peoples,
and the place where he dwells will be glorious.**

Processional Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

All **O come, thou Branch of Jesse’s tree,
A Banner for thy people be;
Before thee rulers silent fall;
All peoples on thy mercy call.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

words Anonymous, 9th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1851; music French melody, 15th cent

Letter of Confession

All

Dear Jesus, I'm here again.

I cannot feel your favor. I don't even know why I still am reaching out.

I am sure that I deserve this darkness.

I can understand why you would move on.

How many times I shrugged you off when I felt your pull,

When I became more rigid with my life and my stuff,

When I refused to soften as you would call to me,

When I stopped walking in the light with you or anyone.

I want to be close to you again, but it hurts to hope. It feels like an open wound.

There have been moments when I felt secure in you,

 but I've also been deeply disappointed,

 surprised by your silence, disoriented by what you've allowed to happen.

What am I supposed to do in this place?

I confess I don't want to be vulnerable like this, exposed to your will,

 so I numb out.

I use whatever I can – food, distractions, busyness, buying things,

 whatever gives me relief – but it doesn't last.

I live in a fog, and I hate this emptiness.

My heart is far from gratitude toward you, and I'm stuck in a cycle —

 from want, to self-pity, to entitlement, to justifying, to taking,

 to shame, to control, to exhaustion, to want again.

I am terrified of life without you, but I don't have the courage to turn around.

I don't think I want to.

So, here I am,

 going through the motions.

Have mercy on me. Help.

I need you to interrupt.

Still waiting,

Your Beloved

Letter of Redemption

From Isaiah 43; Psalm 103:12; John 1:16

Leader

My Beloved, I see you. I know you are lost and empty.
Wake up. Come back to me.
Remember who I am.

Do not be afraid.
I have redeemed you completely.
I have called you specifically, claimed you as my own.
You are my responsibility now.

The current is too strong for you;
Your feet are slipping,
 but I've got you.

You are precious and honored in my sight,
 and I love you.

Do not be afraid. I am always with you.
No one can take you out of my hand,
And when I save, it cannot be reversed.

Forget the former things. Do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! It is already springing up.
Do you not perceive it?
I have made a way for you.

You have betrayed and rejected me;
There is nothing you could offer to ever make things right.

So please believe me when I tell you . . .
I am the only one who can take away your infection of sin,
 and I have removed it from you; it is gone forever!

Keep these words I am sending you,
They still will be true tomorrow, whether you feel it or not,
I will be with you; my favor is on you,
 blessing you with grace upon grace,
For this is my glory; this is who I am.

Always abounding in steadfast love for you,

Your Savior

Song in the Gospel

“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide”

All

**O Savior, rend the heavens wide;
Come down, come down with mighty stride;
Unlock the gates, the doors break down,
Unbar the way to heaven’s crown.**

**O Morning Star, O Radiant Sun,
When will our hearts behold your dawn?
O Sun, arise; without your light,
We grope in gloom and dark of night.**

**Sin’s dreadful doom upon us lies;
Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
O, come, lead us with mighty hand,
Through exile to the promised land.**

**There shall we all our praises bring
Ever to you, our Savior King;
There shall we laud you and adore
Forever and forever more.
Forever and forever more.
Forever and forever more.**

words from a German spiritual song; tr. Martin L. Seltz; music Nathan Partain, 2003

Song in the Gospel

“Thou Who Wast Rich”

All

**Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love’s sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love’s sake becamest poor.**

**Thou who are God beyond all praising,
All for love’s sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising,
Heav’nward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who are God beyond all praising,
All for love’s sake becamest man.**

**Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
Make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.**

words Frank Houghton; music French Carol Melody, arr. by Charles Kitson, 1930

Prayer of Dependence

Children's Worship

Redeemer Kids' mission is to partner with parents to help kids develop a lifetime relationship with Jesus. We love having children of any age join us in the worship service but also want to provide options to families that can engage young children wherever they're at developmentally. The Nursery welcomes children ages 0-3. Children ages 3-5 are also still welcome to attend Children's Worship. We hope this added flexibility encourages all families as they teach their children about what it means to worship.*

**If you would like your three year-old to attend Nursery and are able, we'd love to encourage you to attend the 11:00 service where more classroom space is available.*

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Financial Giving Update

As we approach the end of the year, we want to keep you updated on our current financial situation.

- 2022 Budget: \$2,751,920
- 2022 Giving: \$2,017,040
- 2022 Still Needed: \$734,880

Please prayerfully consider the role you can play in helping us reach this goal. In addition to giving online or through cash or check, you can give stocks or other appreciated assets.

Please email giving@redeemindy.org with any questions.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:5-25

Reader

⁵ In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron.

⁶ Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. ⁷ But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

⁸ Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshippers were praying outside.

¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.

¹³ But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. ¹⁴ He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. ¹⁶ He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years."

¹⁹ The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. ²⁰ And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time."

²¹ Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. ²² When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

²³ When his time of service was completed, he returned home. ²⁴ After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. ²⁵ "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."

*Reader
People*

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Ben Hein

Afraid to Hope

Notes

A large grid of small dots, intended for taking notes.

Community Group Questions

1. *How does Luke frame his narrative of Zechariah and Elizabeth such that it “rhymes” with the story of Old Testament (particularly Abraham and Sarah)? What does it mean that the Gospel story stands in continuity with what came before? Why does this matter? How is Jesus both the fulfillment of history and the hope of the future?*
2. *Zechariah has an experience of the unseen, spiritual world breaking in to the seen and material world. During the Advent/Christmas season, our culture seems to have a heightened desire for an unseen, better, more beautiful world to break into our own. How does the promise of John’s birth bring these desires to the surface? How does Christ “break in” and bring this beauty to fruition now? In your life? Our City? The Nations?*
3. *Our expectation as the story progresses is that the righteous priest will be the hero of the story. When Zechariah is made mute for his unbelief, while Elizabeth quickly believes, Luke turns our expectations upside down. How does this reversal set up our expectations for who Jesus will be and what he will do? How is the simple necessity of faith an encouragement or challenge to you?*

Call to Communion

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes to Communion 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. 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.

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

“He’s on His Way Down”

All

**For you who walk in darkness still relying on the Lord.
Refusing to make your own light, or kindle your own torch.
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down,
to you.**

**Soon there will be a little child there at the virgin’s breast.
To save you he will wear your sin and then he’ll die your death.
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down,
to you.**

**For you who prey upon the weak, who trample on the poor.
Your cup of wrath is filling up. Your Judge is at the door.
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down!**

**The King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Prince of Peace, the Living Word,
Ancient of Days, Author of Light, Emmanuel, Eternal Life,
The Mighty God, The Counselor, The Promised One, The Warrior
The Son of God, The Son of Man, O Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**O magnify the Lord with me, if he has giv’n you voice.
“The Lord who Saves” will raise you up, let Earth and Heav’n rejoice!
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down!
He’s on his way down,
to you.**

Nathan Partain, 2011

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!
Amen.**

Community Life

Today
3:30-5 pm

Youth Group this Evening Middle school and high school students please join us this evening for youth group in the gym. Afterward, high schoolers are invited to hang out at Greek's Pizza on 16th. *Email Mary Paxton Lind (marypaxton@redeemindy.org) with any questions.*

Starting Today
- December 11

Near West Coat/Winter Clothing Drive Redeemer for the Near Westside is hosting a winter clothing and supply drive for the students and teachers at Matchbook Learning, a K-8 school on the Near Westside. We are collecting new and gently used winter clothing (coats, gloves, hats) for K-8 children and their families, as well as basic supplies for teachers. *We also have an Amazon list to purchase new items and supplies for teachers, but all donations are welcome.*



November 30
5:15-7 pm

Prayer Service We are excited to meet for a time of fellowship and worship. Bring your family and friends, and invite your community group to come together. We will serve dinner at 5:15 pm in the underground. *Please use the QR code to sign-up so we can provide enough food for everyone.* The service will start at 6 pm, and we will have nursery workers available to care for children ages 0-5.



December 10
5:15-7 pm

Weekend Respite Our care ministry partners with Redeemer Kids to provide quarterly respite childcare events to single parents, parents of children with special needs, and foster and adoptive parents. Our respite care event will have lunch included. *Please sign up by December 7th, so we can assure that we have enough volunteers.* Sign-ups also help us plan for one-on-one support and food allergies. Siblings are welcome to participate. *If you are interested in volunteering to serve the families of Redeemer in this way, please contact Amanda Huron (amanda.huron@redeemindy.org).*



December 17
9-11:30 am

Redeemer Women Advent Morning Christmas is a time when two narratives compete for our attention. Too often the familiar story of the incarnation is overshadowed by the hustle and bustle of the season. This year, Redeemer Women invites you to slow down and savor the story of Christ's birth. Join us in reading *Hidden Christmas* by Tim Keller and gather with other women in the Underground for a time of reflection, discussion, and worship. *Please use the QR code to register.*



Christmas Eve, Christmas Sunday, and New Year's Day Service Times

Christmas Eve | 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25 | 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 1 | 10:00 a.m.

Church Plant Newsletter Want to learn more about our current church planting team and what they are up to in the Near Westside/Haughville area? *Use the QR code to sign-up for their newsletter to stay up to date.*



More information can be found at our website: redeemindy.org.

Closing Hymn

“Arise and Shine, Your Light has Come”

All

**Angels shout and fill the heavens, Still we feel the trembling hum.
For the King of all creation, Long-awaited He has come
Go like shepherds’ humble stature, Not in pomp but earnest fear,
Seek the child and bear your witness, Tell the Hope of all is here.**

**O Arise and shine, your Light has come!
Behold He rises like the dawn.
O hear the gathered nations sing,
Rejoice! Adore Him! Christ our King! O Arise!**

**O receive like Mary, Joseph, Wonder at this glorious sight.
See by faith, the angel’s ver’ty: This poor child is Light of light.
Herods will be always hunting, Some by slander, some by sword.
Stand steadfast, O dear believer, Holding out the living word.**

**O Arise and shine, your Light has come!
Behold He rises like the dawn.
O hear the gathered nations sing,
Rejoice! Adore Him! Christ our King! O Arise!**

**Watch and wait and keep affection, Stir your hope and faith and love.
Soon you’ll see your vindication, coming in the clouds above.
Praise and glory now and ever, In this world and that to come
Quick the city, down from heaven, Jesus calls His bride, “Come home!”**

**O Arise and shine, your Light has come!
Behold He rises like the dawn.
O hear the gathered nations sing,
Rejoice! Adore Him! Christ our King! O Arise!**

Nathan Partain, 2015

Benediction

Contact Us

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Nathan Partain Director of Worship and Culture / nathan@redeemindy.org

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Children, Students, and College / nextgen@redeemindy.org

Sunday Classes and Discipleship / adultministry@redeemindy.org

Counseling / counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org

Deacon Team / deacons@redeemindy.org

Giving / giving@redeemindy.org

Global Missions / missions@redeemindy.org

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

Redeemer Women / women@redeemindy.org

Worship and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org

2022 year to date giving:
\$2,017,040

January-November 2022 budget:
\$2,522,593

Congregational Giving

November 6, 2022	\$ 45,861
November 13, 2022	\$ 61,079
November 20, 2022	\$ 34,179
November Total	\$ 141,119

Nice to Meet You

We're glad you're here and we'd love to get to know you better. Please help us do that by filling out whatever information you are comfortable sharing below. Tear it off and put it in the offering plate, or bring it to the Welcome Table for a small gift! We'll be in touch.

I AM A...

- 1st/2nd-time Guest Out-of-Town Guest
 Regular Attendee Redeemer Member

FIRST & LAST NAME

- Male Female

SPOUSE OR FRIEND

- Male Female

CONTACT

Email _____

Phone _____

I'D LIKE TO... *

- Become a Member
 Join a Community Group
 Use my Artistic Talents
 Talk to Someone About Counseling
 Do Something Else:

*Go to www.redeemindy.org/ministries for a full list of volunteer opportunities and descriptions.

Membership at Redeemer

Membership is meaningful in multiple ways. First, we believe that as Christians, it is a part of our calling to be active and engaged in the Church. When you become a member, you take public vows to confirm your faith in Christ and commit to his Church. These vows submit members to the leadership and discipline of the church. We submit ourselves to accountability just like in marriage, friendship, citizenship, and any other relationship or institution that we enter into.

Membership also allows you certain benefits. Members in good standing are able to vote on church matters. They elect elders, call pastors, and have a say in other church business.

To become a member at Redeemer you must take our Discovering Redeemer class and meet with an elder for an interview. You will take membership vows privately and then publicly before the church. To begin this process, email info@redeemindy.org.

Contact Us

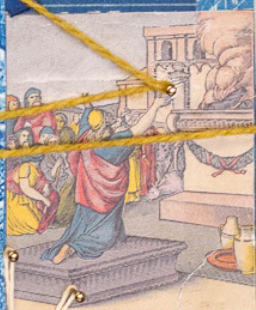
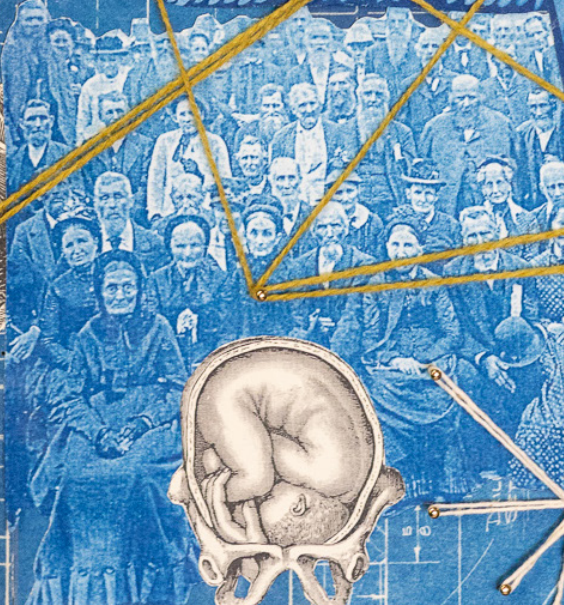
1505 N. Delaware St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317.238.5487
www.redeemindy.org

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Classes
10:00 a.m.



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