

9.24.06

**REDEEMER CHURCH
Worship Service**

REFLECTION

I learned that Christians need to hear the gospel all of their lives because it is the gospel that continues to remind us that our day-to-day acceptance with the Father is not based on what we do for God but upon what Christ did for us in his sinless life and sin-bearing death.

— JERRY BRIDGES, AUTHOR

I've been a believer for 12 years and I have a desperate need for the Gospel. You're never going get over the Gospel, to move on to something deeper. There isn't anything deeper.

— DEREK WEBB, SONG WRITER

In tenderness He sought me, weary and sick with sin;
And on His shoulders brought me back to His fold again.
While angels in His presence sang until the courts of Heaven rang.
Oh, the love that sought me! Oh, the blood that bought me!
Oh, the grace that brought me to the fold,
Wondrous grace that brought me to the fold.

— W. SPENCER WALTON, HYMN WRITER

Calling

OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE — WORSHIP CHRIST, THE RISEN KING MUSIC PRINTED ON PAGE 3

CALL TO WORSHIP * FROM EPHESIANS 1

Minister: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

People: He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Minister: In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

People: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF ADORATION— JESUS, MY GREAT HIGH PRIEST MUSIC PRINTED ON PAGE 4

** Biblical worship is always a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people. Hence, all our worship services begin with a scriptural "call to worship" (that is, the content of the "call" comes from God's own Word quoted by the leader and the congregation). In this "call" we are reminded that God always takes the initiative. He always comes toward his people first, in grace. Our worship is a reflexive and deliberate response to his gracious call. We are promised that when we worship him correctly, he is glorified and the dislocations of our lives are healed.*

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Matt. 28:6

1. Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell.
 2. See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares:
 3. Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with power;
 4. Doubt may lift its head to murmur, scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
 5. We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory;

Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell.
 "Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares."
 • all hell's minions may assemble, but cannot withstand his hour.
 but the truth proclaims a wonderful thought: faithful hearts receive with cheer.
 sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free.

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!
 • He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!
 He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!
 Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King!

Jesus, My Great High Priest

WORDS: ISAAC WATTS, 1709 TUNE: REJOICE THE LORD IS KING

Jesus, my great High Priest, offered his blood and died;
My guilty conscience seeks no sacrifice beside.
His powerful blood did once atone, and now it pleads before the throne.

To this dear Surety's hand will I commit my cause;
He answers and fulfils his Father's broken laws.
Behold my soul at freedom set; my Surety paid the dreadful debt.

My Advocate appears for my defense on high;
The Father bows his ears and lays his thunder by.
Not all that hell or sin can say shall turn his heart, his love, away.

Should all the hosts of death and powers of hell unknown
Put their most dreadful forms of rage and mischief on.
I shall be safe, for Christ displays his conquering power and guardian grace.

Cleansing

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CONFESSION — HEBREWS 3:12-13; 5:12-6:1 (ESV)

“Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin...For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity.”

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Almighty God, gracious Father, we confess that we are not worthy of your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. He was wounded for our sins and disobedience. He was crushed and cursed on our behalf. He took what we deserved. By His stripes we are healed. Through Him we now have forgiveness and newness of life. We rest in this truth. Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of Your Spirit and Your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent confession (45 seconds)

SONG OF COMFORT — AGNUS DEI MUSIC: DAVID HLEBO

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us (Grant us peace).*

THE PEACE

MINISTER: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

SONG OF MERCY — WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

MUSIC ON PAGE 6

What Wondrous Love Is This

WORDS: ALEXANDER MEANS; MUSIC: A SOUTHERN HARMONY

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great "I Am";
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be;
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And through eternity, I'll sing on.

Constitution

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING — LUKE 15:1-3; 11-32
SEE INSERT FOR SCRIPTURE READING

OUR RESPONSE — FROM PSALM 51 (REDHEAD)

*God, be merciful to me;
On Thy grace I rest my plea;
In Thy vast, abounding grace,
My transgressions all erase.
Wash me wholly from my sin;
Cleanse from every ill within.*

*Give salvation's joy again,
And a willing mind sustain.
Then Thy perfect ways I'll show
That transgressors may them know;
They converted then shall be;
Sinners shall be turned to Thee.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

*At the parents' discretion, children grades 1-4 may go to Sunday School
or remain in the service.*

MESSAGE — THE PRODIGAL SONS JIM BELCHER
SEE INSERT FOR SERMON NOTES

OFFERTORY — ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED

*"Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice
to God." (Ephesians 5:2)
School or remain in the service.*

*Please note: The offering is a way for members and friends of Redeemer Church to
support the church's mission and ministry. If you are a guest today, please do not
feel under compulsion to give.*

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

Words by Isaac Watts

Music by Bob Kauflin

1. A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign
2. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut his glo - ries

die. Would He de - vote that sac - red head for such a worm as
in when Christ, the might - y Mak - er died for man, the crea - ture's

I? Was it for sins that I had done He groaned up - on the
sin. Well might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap -

tree. A - maz - ing pi - ty, grace un - known, and love be - yond de -
pears. Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to

grec. My God, why would You shed Your blood, so pure and un - de -
tears. But drops of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I

filed to make a sin - ful one like me Your cho - sen, pre - cious
owe. O Lord, I give my - self a - way, it's all that I can

1. child? do. My God, why would You
2. shed Your blood, so pure and un - de - filed, to make a sin - ful

one like me Your cho - sen, pre - cious child?

Music Copyright 1997 People of Destiny International
Used by permission CCLI #240948

Communion

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT

HYMN OF PREPARATION — THE MUSIC OF THE GOSPEL LEADS US HOME

MUSIC PRINTED ON PAGE 10

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Directions for taking communion: Redeemer Church welcomes all sincere Christians—those who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord’s Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel— to receive Holy Communion with us. Please note that we use wine for Communion; if you prefer non alcoholic grape juice, the grape juice is white and the wine is red. Also, the bread and the wine may be eaten and drunk as they are received. Please dispose of the cups in the trash receptacle when done.

A Word to Parents: Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord’s Supper, a child must have been baptized and been formally received as a communing member by the Session of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any question about how the process works, please contact Pastor Jim. Children may take the wine at their parents discretion.

COMMUNION MUSIC — THE LOOK

MUSIC PRINTED ON PAGE 12— ALL ARE INVITED TO SING QUIETLY

The Music of the Gospel Leads Us Home

WORDS: FREDRICK FABER, 1860; MUSIC: JOHN BARNTS, 2006

*Onward we go, for still we hear them singing,
"Come, weary souls, for Jesus bids you come";
And through the dark, its echoes sweetly ringing,
The music of the Gospel leads us home.*

Darker than night life's shadows fall around us,
And like benighted men we miss our mark:
God hides Himself, and grace hath sweetly found us,
E'er death finds out his victims in the dark.

Chorus

Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing,
The voice of Jesus sounds o'er land and sea;
And laden souls, by thousands meekly stealing,
Kind Shepherd, turn their weary steps to Thee.

Chorus

Prayers for Those Not Communing

Because Redeemer is a church that is not only for convinced Christians, but also for people at different stages in their spiritual journey, we gladly extend room for you to process, think, and dialogue. Use the prayers provided below as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

The Look

ORIGINAL LYRICS BY JOHN NEWTON
NEW AND ALTERNATE LYRICS AND MUSIC BY BOB KAUFMAN

I saw one hanging on a tree
In agony and blood
Who fixed His loving eyes on me
As near His cross I stood
And never till my dying breath
Will I forget that look
It seemed to charge me with His death
Though not a word He spoke

My conscience felt and owned the guilt
And plunged me in despair
I saw my sins His blood had spilt
And helped to nail Him there
But with a second look He said
"I freely all forgive
this blood is for your ransom paid
I died that you might live"

*Forever etched upon my mind
Is the look of Him who died
The Lamb I crucified
And now my life will sing the praise
Of pure atoning grace
That looked on me and gladly
took my place*

Thus while His death my sin displays
For all the world to view
Such is the mystery of grace
It seals my pardon too
With pleasing grief and mournful joy
My spirit now is filled
That I should such a life destroy
Yet live by Him I killed

Commission

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

Eternal God, Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. You have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A prayer written by Thomas Cranmer, 16th century archbishop of Canterbury, leader of the English Reformation and author of the first Book of Common Prayer. He was martyred for his faith, burned at the stake outside St. Mary's Church in Oxford, England.*

SONG OF DEPARTURE — AMAZING GRACE

WORDS PRINTED ON PAGE 14

BLESSING—NUMBERS 6:24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

THE DISMISSAL

MINISTER: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Following the Service

Immediately following worship, please depart the Sanctuary and move to Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation with fellow Redeemerites. The Christian education hour begins at 11:15am.

Amazing Grace

WORDS: JOHN NEWTON; TUNE: NEW BRITAIN

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Redeemer Contact List

SESSION

Lead Pastor	Dr. Jim Belcher	714-875-0869
Ruling Elder	Steven Cooper	949-553-2060
Ruling Elder	Tom Foss	949-642-3403
Ruling Elder	Carl Messenger	949-472-5639

STAFF

Lead Pastor	Dr. Jim Belcher	714-875-0869
Ministry Teams	Steven Cooper	949-553-2060
Treasurer	David Bahnsen	949-515-4249

GOSPEL

Adult Education	Dr. Jim Belcher	949-553-2060
Nursery	Julie Bahnsen	949-654-4311
Elementary School	Maureen Messenger	949-472-5639
Sunday Operations- Sanctuary	Carl Messenger	949-472-5639
Fellowship Hall	Gene Cruz	714-785-5237
Greeting and Ushers	Bob Norling	714-434-0887

COMMUNITY

Created to Serve	Stancie Foss	949-642-3403
Men's Ministry	Tom Foss	949-642-3403
Women's Ministry	Joleen Bahnsen	949-515-4249
Community Groups	Vern Glaser	714-832-4891
Family Life	Mary Beth Molnar	949-363-6462
Prayer	Ron Pierce	949-514-9190
Friends of Redeemer	Dave Swan	949-759-0387

MISSION

Friends of Mercy	Russ Kerr	949-720-1962
Evangelism	Gareth Lewis	949-903-8772

Shalom

Marketplace Ministry	David Bahnsen	949-515-4249
----------------------	---------------	--------------

9/24/06 Agenda

PRAYER MINISTRY

There are three ways you can get involved in intercessory prayer at Redeemer:

- 1) On the first and third Thursdays of each month, all are welcome to gather at 7:00 a.m. in the home of Ron and Catherine Pierce, 408 E. 16th Street, Costa Mesa, to focus on the needs of Redeemer's leadership, attendees and activities, .
- 2) Each Sunday at 8:30 a.m., all are welcome to gather at either the Chapel or the outdoor amphitheater, with the prayer focus on Redeemer's upcoming worship service and its impact on each of us, and
- 3) For those Redeemerites in need of prayer, or aware of someone who is, please forward your requests to prayer@reedemerpres.com, and so that Redeemer's prayer warriors may join their hearts with yours.

FRIENDS OF REDEEMER

Redeemer makes financial assistance available to members of Redeemer to meet one-time basic needs (rent, utilities, or food). For more information, please contact Dave Swan at 949-759-0387.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER EVENTS

September 24th, 5-Year Plan Revealed: Today we all can hear about Redeemer's new 5-Year Plan, its objectives, strategies and programs. We will be meeting in the Chapel at 11:15 a.m. for a glimpse of what the Redeemer's leadership sees as Redeemer's future. Don't miss this opportunity to "be in the know."

September 24th, Community Groups Start: Today marks the beginning of Fall Quarter's Community Groups. It's not too late to jump in. Please contact Gene Cruz at (714) 785-5237 to get involved and for more information.

Also, after the presentation of the 5-Year Plan, Community Group Leaders will be meeting to discuss "The Facilitating Role of the Community Group Leader." This class is open not only for existing community group leaders, but also for anyone considering leading a community group in the future. Lunch will be served, and the specific location will be announced.

September 30th, Welcome to Redeemer: This is an opportunity for those who are considering membership at Redeemer to review the Church's purpose, strategies and goals for the future, plus its beliefs about God, salvation, the Bible and the sacraments. The class will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the home of Bob and Karen Norling, 2750 Cardinal Drive, Costa Mesa. For more information, email Pastor Jim at jim@reedemerpres.com.

October 1st, Adult Sunday School: At 11:15am, Redeemer's "School Year" starts off with two stimulating choices: 1) In the chapel, Pastor Jim will be beginning a series on the "Gospel" that will explain the Biblical drama of salvation, starting with creation, looking at the Fall into sin, and then the glories of Redemption, and 2) Steven Cooper will be facilitating a video-based discussion of Ted Tripp's "Shepherding a Child's Heart," a gospel-centered parenting curriculum (location TBD). The specific locations for both studies, meeting from 11:15-12:00 a.m., will be announced.

October 8th, Community Group Leaders: After Sunday School, Community Group Leaders will be meeting to discuss "The Shepherding Role of the Community Group Leader." This class is open not only for existing community group leaders, but also for anyone considering leading a community group in the future. Lunch will be served, and the specific location will be announced.

October 10th, Ladies Fellowship: It's time for Bunco! If you've played before, you know how much fun Bunco is. If you've never played, "roll the dice" and give it a try. The time—7:00 p.m. The place—the Youth Lounge at Temple Bat Yahm (directly across from the Fellowship Hall). The prize—the opportunity to fellowship with the Ladies of Redeemer.

October 14th, House of Hope Outreach: Redeemer's monthly outreach to this long-term women's shelter will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will be participating in crafts and games with the kids and moms before serving them lunch and a story. Please call Ron and Catherine Pierce at 949-514-9190 to add your heart and hands.

October 21st, Ladies Book Club: Catherine Pierce will be leading a discussion on Elisabeth Elliot's *On Asking God Why*. Elliot offers insights into many of today's most prevalent heartaches, including cancer and death, family issues and loneliness, aging and hopelessness. All Redeemer ladies are invited to gather at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Maureen Messenger, 25992 Portafino Drive, Mission Viejo. To let Maureen know that you are coming, please call her at (949) 472-5639. Also, don't forget to drop by the Book Table to obtain your copy of *On Asking God Why*.

Sermon Schedule

Fall Series: A Vision for the Next Five Years

October 1 Radical Belonging

October 8 A Church with a Mission

October 15 Counter Culture

Dr. Jim Belcher preaching all services

What is the Lord's Supper?

What the Lord's Supper is not: It is not a way of regaining saving grace or salvation. It is not a re-sacrificing of Christ. His death two thousand years ago is sufficient to save us. According to one view, baptism washes away original sin and, to use one illustration, fills the bathtub with grace. Every time a believer commits a sin, grace leaks out of the bathtub. If it leaks out entirely, salvation would be lost. The Lord's Supper is used to "refill" the bathtub with saving grace. *This is a faulty view.* It makes communion into another work and strips the cross of its saving power.

What the Lord's Supper is: First, it is a *sign*. Historically, Protestants believe that the grace received in communion is *not* a grace that saves (for we are already saved) but a grace that restores the believer's confidence in the Word's declaration that we are "Not Guilty" before God. In this case, it acts as a *sign* that continually reminds us that we are secure in Christ, that the price has been paid, and that we stand before a Holy God forgiven and free. Moreover, we are part of God's Covenant Family.

Along with being a sign, communion is also a *seal*—proving to us that the outward and visible sign of God's promise of forgiveness also takes place inwardly and invisibly. Communion seals through the Holy Spirit our union with Christ. With this union comes all of Christ's benefits. Communion, then, is like a refueling station—not in the sense that we need "brownie points" with God, but in the sense that we need to recover lost steam, motivation, and ability. We are weak and our hearts become cold. Communion enables us to feed on Christ and His benefits the same way our bodies feed on bread and drink for a long journey. In a real sense, then, the Lord's Supper literally nourishes and protects our souls for the long pilgrimage of faith.

The Lord's Supper, then, is much more than a mere memorial. It not only symbolizes something great, it *is* something great. As one author says so well,

It is the actual nourishment of Christ Himself who offers His body and blood for spiritual food. To those wearied by a tough week at the home or office, or to those whose conscience never lets them forget a sin they have committed during the week, the sacrament of holy communion is there to communicate Christ and His forgiveness. There is no conscience that cannot be instructed and overcome by this powerful sacrament.

Finally, the Lord's Supper is to remind the Church of its destiny as a pilgrim people, dependent on His sustaining grace, and longing for the day when we will be hungry no more. The Lord's Supper is a down payment, the firstfruits of what is promised for us in eternity.

