

### May 24, 2020

John 14:4 — "I am going away to prepare a place for you."



### Welcome to Redeemer!

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Especially if this is your first time with us, we are glad you are here. Please don't hesitate to ask one of our greeters or anyone with a nametag regarding location of the nursery, restrooms, or just a cup of coffee!

We realize that the flow and order of our worship may be unfamiliar, so there are notes in the margins that will help you participate and offer some explanations. Our service is designed to be both biblical and Christ centered, as each week we cycle through the wonderful truths of the Gospel. We gather weekly not for a lecture, conference, or concert, but for an encounter with God, and so our service follows the pattern God gave his people thousands of years ago: God speaks and we respond.

- Calling Worship begins with Gods' invitation to worship. He always takes the initiative and moves towards us.
- Cleansing God reminds us that we are forgiven in Christ and loved as his children
- Consecration God builds us up through his Word
- Communion God brings us as children to his table to affirm his relationship with us.
- Commission God sends us out in the power of his Spirit to live as his ambassadors before a watching world.

Whether you are a committed believer, skeptic, or somewhere in the middle, we are glad you are here today. Please feel free to participate actively or just listen and observe. Jesus Christ makes audacious and wonderful claims, and our church is a place where you can process those freely and safely.

We would love to know that you were here this morning. The back of this bulletin contains a tear off sheet that you can put in the offering basket during service. If there is any way we can pray for you, or you have questions about Christianity or our church, you can indicate that as well. There is more information about our church activities, events, and beliefs in the back pages of this bulletin and on our website.

# A Word to Parents with Young Children

We have a staffed nursery available for children ages 0-4. For those who have younger children remaining in the service, please relax and take a deep breath! We want them in the service and they are not a distraction. Keeping our children in as much as possible is one of the best gifts we can give them, as they will not only learn the importance of worship but will also pick up much more than we sometimes think. Feel free to sit up front where it is easier for your kids to see and hear what is happening. So again, relax and take a deep breath. The noises and excitement that comes with having children in our worship is not a distraction, but a gift from God to our entire church.

### Redeemer at a Glance

We are a church that seeks to Glorify God by making disciples who are growing in love for God, love for each other, and love for our neighbor. Please join us for any of our weekly events, more information is in the back of the bulletin.

- Community Groups
- Men's & Women's Ministry
- Service opportunities

### The Lord's Service

May 24, 2020

### Welcome and Announcements

### **Prelude**

The Call to
Worship gives
God the first
word in our
service. God
always comes
to us before we
come to him.
God graciously
invites us to
enter His
presence with
Thanksgiving!

### Call to Worship

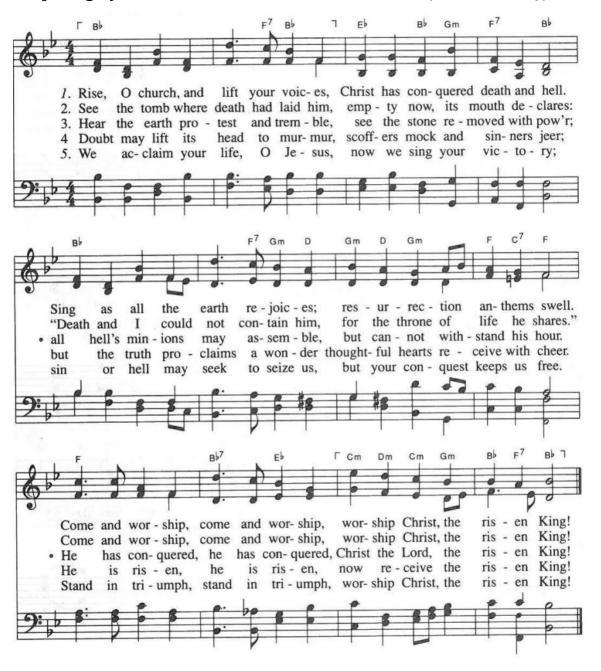
**Pastor Chris Stevens** 

Psalm 36:7-9

How priceless your faithful love is, God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They are filled from the abundance of your house. You let them drink from your refreshing stream. For the wellspring of life is with you. By means of your light we see light.

**† =** Stand if able **Bold Words** = Congregation

### † Opening Hymn #286 "Worship Christ, The Risen King" (Vss. 1, 3, & 5 only)



### † Invocation

### Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Let us pray.

### † The Greeting

### 2 John 3

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love.

### Amen

The Call to Confession invites us to honest expression before God that we are not as we were made to be. The church is not a aatherina of perfect people. we are all sinners in various stages of recovery.

### **Confession of Sin**

Psalm 27:14

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart be courageous. Wait for the Lord.

Lord, we acknowledge that we have missed out these last couple of months. We have missed graduations, family gatherings, fellowship, and neighborly activities. This season has imposed a season of silence, and such silence has evoked loneliness, anxiety, domestic violence, job loss, and the hurting of your people. So we are waiting, but correct our manner of waiting. We may wait in despair and fear. Or we may wait in confident faith, eager longing, courageous confidence, and joyous expectations of your goodness. Teach us to wait on you as dancers ready to dance and sing your praises again. Mobilize us to run the race of discipleship and love the hurting.

The Declaration of Forgiveness breaks through the accusations of our conscious, the lies of the evil one, and proclaims the amazing truth of the gospel to our heart!

### **Declaration of Forgiveness**

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous one. He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

### † Hymn of Assurance #310 "Rejoice, The Lord Is King" (Vss. 1-3 only)



### Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

### **Scripture Reading**

Psalm 68:18; Ephesians 4:8; John 14:2-3

<sup>18</sup> You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and **receiving** gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he **gave** gifts to men."

<sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

### † Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### † Sermon Text Reading

Acts 1:4-11

<sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

**Sermon** "Ascension as Assurance"

**Pastor Chris Stevens** 

### **† Sermon Hymn** #310 "Rejoice, The Lord Is King" (Vss. 4-5 only)



### **Holy Communion**

We celebrate communion each week to remember what Christ has done and to be nourished spiritually.

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

We warmly welcome to the table all who trust in Jesus Christ for their salvation, have been baptized, and are in good standing with any church that proclaims the Gospel. Please note that we use wine for Communion, but the inter rings (colored cups) contain non-alcoholic wine if you prefer. A gluten free wafer is available in place of bread, just ask the minister when you come forward. We come forward in two lines as each row is dismissed. We encourage children to come forward, but ask that they not take the elements unless they have met with their Elders to make a profession of heir faith. There is no pressure to take communion if you are not ready. Feel free to stay in your seat or come forward but indicate that you are not partaking.

We recite a creed each week as a way to prepare for communion and also to connect our worship to generations of Christians who have gone before us.

### **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, (\*universal) the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen The "Sursum Corda" (Lift up your hearts!) has been used in Christian worship for centuries. The prayer that follows asks God to set apart the ordinary bread and wine for this special use.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Lord be with you. Ruth 2:4

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts! Lamentations 3:41

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 118:1

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise for you are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son. As we come now to the supper which he gave to us, we ask for the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that the bread that we break and the cup that we bless would be a participation in the body and blood of our Lord. And now, with the angels, and all the company of heaven, we magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing:

### Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, Holy is the Lord.

### Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

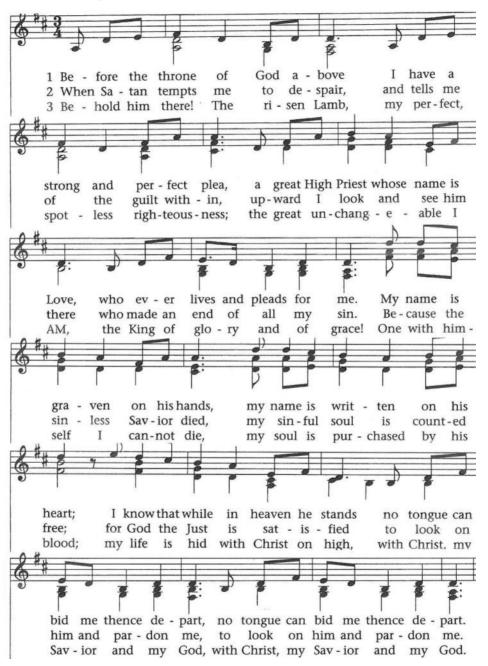
### **Prayer after Communion**

Gracious Father, we have been longing these past weeks to gather as your people. We have longed for this table, for the bread and wine that preach to us the gospel, and give true spiritual nourishment to our souls. We rejoice today for the gift of this sacrament. Bless it to us to confirm and strengthen our faith, obedience, and longing for that final heavenly banquet which you have prepared for your people. Amen.



### † Benediction

### † Benediction Response "Before The Throne Of God Above" (Vss. 1 & 3 only)



### **Prayer Requests**

### **Redeemer Family:**

- For the family of Kathryn VanTil as they grieve the loss of their wife and mother. Pray for comfort and peace.
- Jean VanDyk (Dave's mother) who is recovering from a fall that left her with a fractured neck, hip, and broken arm. Pray for strength and a relief from pain.
- Pansy Peckham for strength and healing.
- Cindy Sabotka, pray for peace and strength for her family in her defeating cancer.

### **Churches in our Presbytery:**

**Redeemer, Detroit** - Pray for the people living in Detroit (a 'hot spot' for the virus) and the many medical workers at Redeemer who are on the front lines, for a return to in-person worship services in a safe way, and for the transition that will soon happen with Pastors Dan Millward and Jon Saunders.

**Christ Church, Ann Arbor** - Please pray for us as we plan to reopen public worship, for wisdom and discretion as we seek to love the Lord through worship, and to love our neighbors by being cautious in regards to the virus.

<u>Financials</u>				Over (Under)
Year to Date	Apr. 30, 2019	Apr. 30, 2020	2020 Budget	Budget
Total Giving + Rentals:	\$ 86,309	\$ 100,847	\$115,148	(\$14,301)
Total Expenses	\$105,459	\$ 111,169		

### **Announcements**

**Sermon text for next Sunday** - Pastor Chris will preach on Pentecost from Acts 2. **Corporate Prayer** - Wednesday, 7 pm

**Thank You!** - For the overwhelming response to the Love Thy Neighbor Hygiene Drive.

**Cleaning Team Needed** - See Tim Schamm for helping to keep the facilities clean on Sundays.

### This Week at Redeemer:

vonDrehle Small Group - Sunday, 1 pm Stevens Small Group - Sunday (contact Megan for details) Corporate Prayer - Wednesday, 7 pm Husted Small Group - Thursday, 6:30 pm

## Want to receive Redeemer email notifications & reminders?

Contact the Church office at: Email: redeemertc@gmail.com

Phone: 231-946-1700

Website: www.redeemertraversecity.org Redeemer Facebook (Redeemer PCATC)

# May 2020

Sat	30	
Fri	29	
Thu	28 Husted Small Group, 6:30 pm	
Wed	27 Prayer, 7 pm (via Zoom)	
Tue	26	
Mon	25 Memorial Day	
Sun	Worship Service 8:30 & 10:30 am vonDrehle Small Group, 1 pm Stevens Small Group, contact Megan	Worship Service 8:30 & 10:30 am von Drehle Small Group, 1 pm Stevens Small Group, contact Megan



1st or 2nd time visitor? Have a Prayer need? Want to be on our weekly newsletter? Want more info about ministry or service at Redeemer?

Please fill out and place in the Offering plate. Thank You!

Music Copy License Number: 2539700

Date:
Name:
Email:
Best Contact (Call/Text):
Address:
City:
State/Zip:
How did you hear about us:
1 <sup>st</sup> Time Guest:
2 <sup>nd</sup> Time Guest:
Regular Attendee:
Member:



# If you would like to be prayed for please fill out and place in the Offering Plate

# Prayer Requests: Share with congregation: \_\_\_\_ Private: \_\_\_\_ Send me information about: Becoming a Christian Baptism Membership Serving on a Team Small Groups Other

### The Session (Pastors and Elders)

Rev. Scott Korljan, Pastor Rev. Chris Stevens, Associate Pastor Fred Janke Bill Morrison Fred Weber David Schafer (Emeritus)

### The Deacons

Bob Israel Tim Schramm II Dave VanDyk

### **Redeemer Staff**

Scott Korljan, Pastor Chris Stevens, Associate Pastor Deb Long, Office Administrator/ Bookkeeper

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Sunday School: 9 AM Worship Service: 10:15 AM

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America