

Third Sunday of Advent

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 (not available at this time). 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

December 13, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Third Sunday of Advent

Reading, Prayer and Candle Lighting

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
Thanksqiving!

Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-8

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song;

sing to the LORD, all the earth!

People: Sing to the LORD, bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

Pastor: Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among all the peoples!

People: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

he is to be feared above all gods.

Pastor: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,

but the LORD made the heavens.

People: Splendor and majesty are before him;

strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

People: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts!

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

† Opening Hymn #194 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Verses 1-4 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

1 Thessalonians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and the Son,

and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Confession of Sin

Leviticus 19:9-18

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vinevard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God. "You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. "You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD. "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Almighty God, since you delay with so much patience the punishments we have deserved and daily draw on ourselves, grant that we may not indulge ourselves but carefully consider how often and in how many different ways we have provoked your wrath against us. May we learn humbly to present ourselves to you for pardon, and with true repentance implore your mercy. With all our heart we desire to submit ourselves to you, whether you chastise us, or, according to your infinite goodness, forgive us. Let our condition be ever blessed, not by flattering ourselves in our apathy but by finding you to be our kind and bountiful Father, reconciled to us in your only-begotten Son and through your life-giving Spirit. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Colossians 2:13-15

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our tresspasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

† Hymn of Assurance #207 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"



Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Micah 4:9-5:4

Now why do you cry aloud? Is there no king in you? Has your counselor perished, that pain seized you like a woman in labor? Writhe and groan, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in labor, for now you shall go out from the city and dwell in the open country; you shall go to Babylon. There you shall be rescued; there the LORD will redeem you from the hand of your enemies.

Now many nations are assembled against you, saying, "Let her be defiled, and let our eyes gaze upon Zion." But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD; they do not understand his plan, that he has gathered them as sheaves to the threshing floor. Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion, for I will make your horn iron, and I will make your hoofs bronze; you shall beat in pieces many peoples; and shall devote their gain to the LORD, their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.

Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek. But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

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

Micah 5:1-4

Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek. ² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

This is the Word of the Lord!

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Sermon "Minor Town, Major King"

Reverend Elliott Pinegar

Sermon Outline:

- 1. Problem (v. 1)
- 2. Promise (v. 2)
- 3. Pause (v. 3)
- 4. Peace (v. 4)

† Sermon Hymn #201 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



Holy Communion

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

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 their 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 Heidelberg Catechism

Question and Answer #1 What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who with his precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil, and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation, therefore by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready, always, to live for him.

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.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. We praise you that you sent him into this world to satisfy our need and our longing for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. And now as we set apart these common elements of bread and wine, we ask you to bless them so that the bread that we break, and the cup of blessing which we bless, would be for us by faith a participation in the body and blood of our Lord. Now with the angels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing:

Sanctus

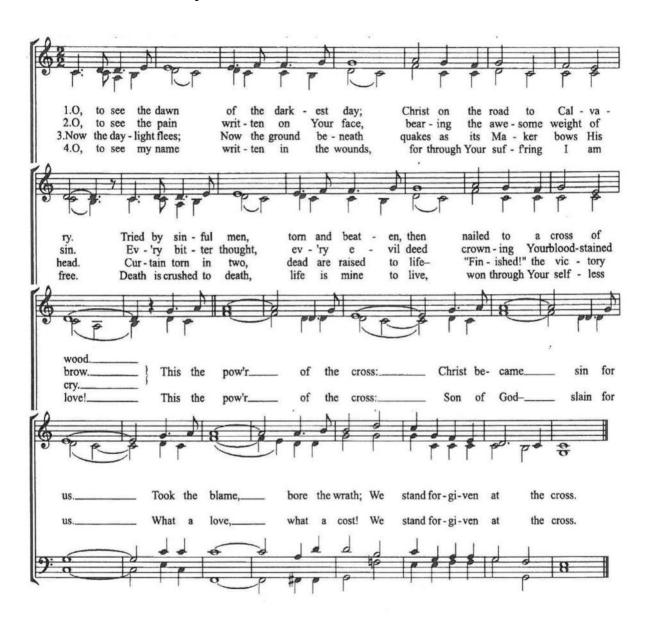
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, Holy is the Lord.

Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you love us, have chosen us, and redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ, who took on flesh and dwelt among us, and who gave His life willingly for our salvation. Give us joy in His coming, and greater hope in His coming again. Until that day, help us by your Holy Spirit to go into this world to love and serve you and others in His name, and for His glory. Amen.

† Post Communion Hymn "The Power of the Cross"



† Benediction

† Benediction Response #194 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Verse 5 only)

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Prayer Requests

Redeemer Family:

- Praise to God for improved health for the Morrison's, McLennan's, Bev McSauby (and family) and for Dan Boersma.
- Jan Bickers (Tony Pintcke's mother) who is recovering from triple bypass surgery.
- Dirk Van Til, pray for healing and strength as he recovers from hip surgery.
- Leslie Paladino and family as they mourn the loss of her grandmother, Emily Shaw.
- For the residents, staff, and management at Traverse Manor where there is an outbreak of the coronavirus, pray for healing and strength. Note, no visitors are allowed at this time.
- Susan Johnson who is recovering from back surgery; pray for healing and strength. For Darryl, pray for comfort and peace.
- For the work of our pulpit search committee, the elders, and our church during this transition season.

Churches in our Presbytery:

Redeemer, Detroit - Pray that we would press on in good hope, knowing that God is surely with us.

Christ Church, Ann Arbor - Pray for several members who work in the health care industry as they navigate caring of patients during a pandemic.

Daniel Equiluz - Pray for our Lord to bless our support raising efforts in south Florida.

Financials				Over (Under)
Year to Date	Nov. 30, 2019	Nov. 30 2020	2020 Budget	Budget
Total Giving + Rentals:	\$285,544	\$292,828	\$316,657	(\$23,825)
Total Expenses	\$291,417	\$280,800		

Announcements

Welcome - This Sunday we welcome Reverend Elliott Pinegar. He is the ESV Bible Editor for Crossway Books and previously served as Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Bad Axe, Michigan. He has been an ordained minister in the PCA since 2012 and is a member of the Great Lakes Presbytery. He and his wife Becky, live in Wheaton, Illinois, with their two daughters, Evalena (7) and Hope (3).

Sunday School - Is cancelled until further notice.

Weber Small Group - Will not meet again until January 6, 2021.

This Week at Redeemer:

Paladino Small Group - Wednesday, 6 pm (Zoom) Men's Study - Thursday, 7:30 am Prayer Meeting - Thursday, 12 noon

Community Groups and meeting information:

Husted: 6:30 pm, 2nd & 4th Thursday **Paladino:** 6 pm, every Wednesday

VanDyk: 12:30 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 13 (then alternate Tuesdays)

vonDrehle: Following the 8:30 am worship service on the 1st & 3rd Sunday **Weber**: 6 pm, every Wednesday **except** the 2nd Wednesday of each month

Note: the Weber group will not meet again until January 6, 2021.

December 2020

Tue
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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:
1st Time Guest:
2 nd 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

Other

___ Serving on a Team

___ Small Groups

The Session

Fred Janke
Bill Morrison
Tom Nussdorfer
Fred Weber
David Schafer (Emeritus)

The Deacons Tim Schramm II Dave VanDyk

Redeemer Staff

Bob Israel, Treasurer Deb Long, Office Administrator/ Bookkeeper

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Sunday School: (suspended) Worship Service: 8:30 & 10:30 am

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America