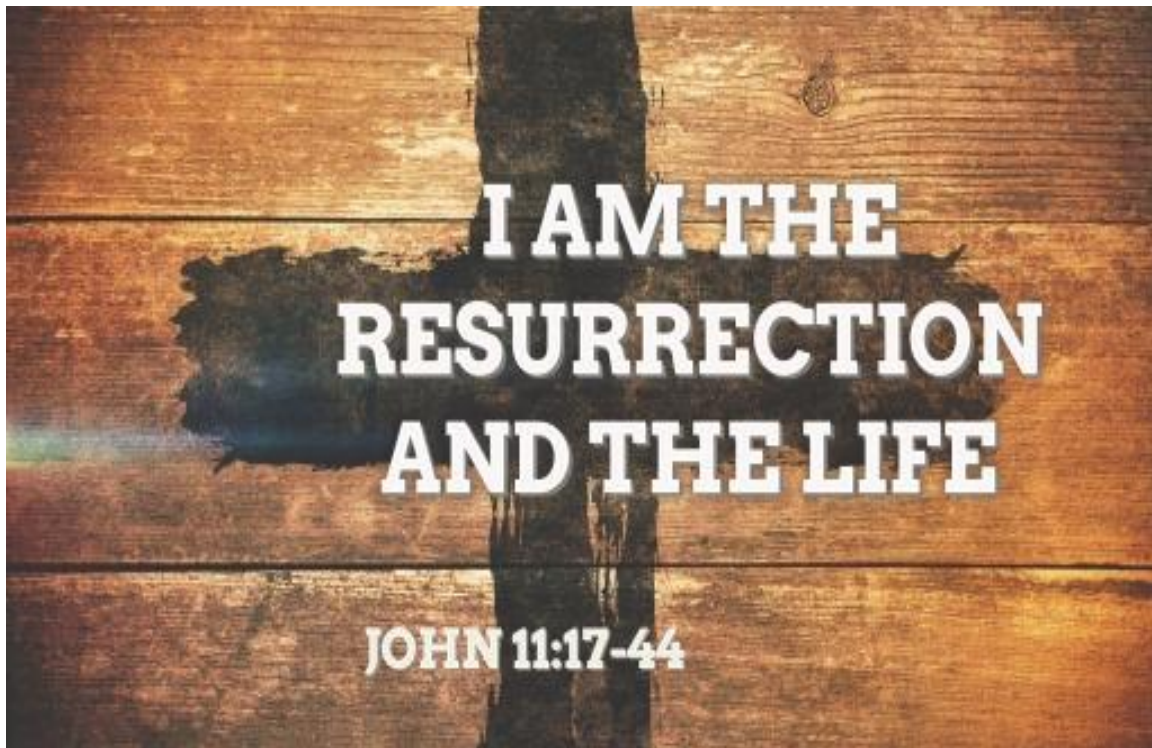




REDEEMER  
TRAVERSE CITY

*December 20, 2020*



*Fourth 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 God's 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.

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### 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 20, 2020

## Welcome and Announcements

## Prelude

## Fourth 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  
Thanksgiving!*

## Call to Worship

*Psalm 100*

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

† = Stand if able

**Bold Words** = Congregation

# † Opening Hymn “Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker

$\text{♩} = 76$

1. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry in the dawn - ing of the  
 2. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: He the per - fect Son of  
 3. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: Christ the Lord up - on the  
 4. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - t'ry: slain by death, the God of

King, He, the theme of heav - en's prais - es, robed in  
 Man, In His liv - ing, in His suf - f'ring, nev - er  
 tree; In the stead of, in His sin - ners hangs the  
 life; but no grave could e'er re - strain Him, Praise the

frail hu - man i - ty. In our long - ing, in our  
 trace nor stain of sin. See the true and, bet - ter  
 Lamb in vic - to - ry. See the price of our re -  
 Lord, He is a - live! What a fore - taste of de -

dark - ness, now the light of life has come; Look to  
 Ad - am come to save of the hell - bound man; Christ, the  
 demp - tion; see the Fa - ther's plan un - fold, bring - ing  
 liv - 'rance; how un - wa - ver - ing our hope: Christ in

Christ, who con - de - scend - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.  
 great and sure ful - fill - ment of the law, in Him we stand.  
 man - y sons to glo - ry, grace un - meas - ured, love un - told!  
 pow - er res - ur - rect - ed, as will we be when He comes.

## † 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**

Nehemiah 9:1-3

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the LORD their God.

### **Prayer of Confession:**

Have mercy on us, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy,  
blot out our transgressions.  
Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity,  
and cleanse us from our sin.  
For we know our transgressions,  
and our sin is ever before us.  
Against you, you only, have we sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words, and blameless in your judgment.  
Create in us a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within us.  
Cast us not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing 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 trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

# † Hymn of Assurance “Before the Throne of God Above”



1 Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a  
 2 When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me  
 3 Be - hold him there! The ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect,

strong and per - fect plea, a great High Priest whose name is  
 of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him  
 spot - less righ - teous - ness; the great un - chang - e - able I

Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is  
 there who made an end of all my sin. Be - cause the  
 AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with him -

gra - ven on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his  
 sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed  
 self I can - not die, my soul is pur - chased by his

heart; I know that while in heaven he stands no tongue can  
 free; for God the Just is sat - is - fied to look on  
 blood; my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my

bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
 him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.  
 Sav - ior and my God, with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.

# Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

## Scripture Reading

*Isaiah 11:1-9*

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

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

*John 11:17-44*

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

<sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup> She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup> Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” <sup>44</sup> The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”


This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**


**Sermon** “The Resurrection and Life”

Reverend Robert Knuth

† Sermon Hymn #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (Vss. 1-3 only)



1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;  
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;  
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,




from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.  
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.




Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:  
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;  
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;




dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



# 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 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.

Psalms 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 #211 "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" (Vss. 1-3 only)



1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
4. The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - ed much in mind,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
and left their flocks a - feed - ing, in tem - pest, storm, and wind:



to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."  
and went to Beth - le - hem straight - way, the Son of God to find.

REFRAIN



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

## **† Benediction**

### **† Benediction Response #211 “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen” (Verse 4 only)**

**The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a feeding, in tempest, storm and wind:  
and went to Bethlehem straight-way, the Son of God to find.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

# Prayer Requests

## Redeemer Family:

- 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.
- 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:

**New City, Royal Oak** - Praise God for being able to worship in our new building. Pray that all of us will find great joy in our Savior through the Christmas Season!

**Knox, Harrison Township** - Pray that God will be glorified and His Word heard.

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

# Financials

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

## **Announcements**

**Guest Pastor** - This morning we welcome guest pastor Robert Knuth. Robert is the campus pastor for Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Michigan where he has served for the past year. Just recently, our church has committed to supporting Robert and his work at U of M. Robert and his wife Katherine have two children, Peter and Abigail.

**Christmas Eve Service** - This year our Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols will be available only on our website ([www.redeemertc.org](http://www.redeemertc.org)). The service will be available for viewing on Christmas Eve at 5 pm.

**Women's Ministries** - Beginning the week of January 11th, Women's Ministries will offer a 7 week study on Spiritual and Emotional Growth. Both morning and evening opportunities will be available. In person or Zoom, to be determined! See Connie Van Til with questions or to sign up (231-218-4356 / [cgvantil@gmail.com](mailto:cgvantil@gmail.com)).

**Safe Harbor** - We have an opportunity to serve dinner to the guests at Safe Harbor on Thursday, January 14th between 4 & 8 pm. Please contact Dave VanDyk (517-242-2912, [vandykdav78@gmail.com](mailto:vandykdav78@gmail.com)) if you can help. Covid protocols will be followed.

**Sunday School** - Is cancelled until further notice.

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

### **This Week at Redeemer:**

vonDrehle Small Group - Today via Zoom

Men's Study - Thursday, 7:30 am

Christmas Eve Service - Thursday, 5 pm (on our website)

### **Community Groups and meeting information:**

**Husted:** 6:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday

**Paladino:** 6 pm, every Wednesday

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

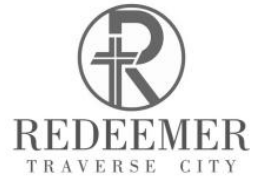
**vonDrehle:** Following the 8:30 am worship service on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

**Weber:** 6 pm, every Wednesday **except** the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month

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

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20 Worship Service 8:30 & 10:30 am vonDrehle Small Group	21	22	23	24 Men's Study, 7:30 am  Christmas Eve Service, 5 pm (Available on our website only)	25  Merry Christmas!	26
27 Worship Service 8:30 & 10:30 am	28	29	30	31 Men's Study, 7:30 am  New Year's Eve		



*1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

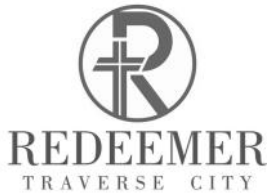
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1<sup>st</sup> Time Guest: \_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_

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**Send me information about :**

\_\_\_ Becoming a Christian

\_\_\_ Baptism

\_\_\_ Membership

\_\_\_ Serving on a Team

\_\_\_ Small Groups

\_\_\_ Other

**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

**Redeemer Presbyterian Church**

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(231) 946-1700

**Website:** [www.redeemertc.org](http://www.redeemertc.org)

**Email:** [redemertc@gmail.com](mailto:redemertc@gmail.com)

**Facebook@Redeemerpcatc**

**Sunday School: (suspended)**

**Worship Service: 8:30 & 10:30 am**

A Congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church in America