

January 30, 2022

The Book of Ezekiel

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

For those who have young children, please relax and take a deep breath! We want them in the sanctuary during our worship service and they are not a distraction. Having our children with us will allow them to not only learn the importance of worship but they 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

January 30, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship gives God the first word in our service. God always comes to us before we Th

The Call to

come to him.

invites us to enter His

presence with

Thanksgiving!

God graciously

Psalm 145:10-13

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

† Opening Hymn #2 "O Worship the King" (Verses 1-5)

+ Invocation

Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord, **People: who made heaven and earth.**

† Prayer

† 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

† = Stand if able

Bold Words = Congregation

Confession of Sin

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.

Colossians 3:5-17

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Prayer of Confession

"Our Father in Heaven,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed both in what we have done and in what we have left undone. Against you have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight, you are justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Cleanse and forgive us of our transgressions in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who always lives to make intercession for us. Amen."

The Declaration **Declaration of Forgiveness**

of Foraiveness breaks through the accusations ofour conscience, the lies of the evil one. and proclaims the amazina truth of the gospel to our heart!

Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

+ Hymn of Assurance #253 "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood"

Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

2 Thessalonians 2:1-16

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace.

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

Ezekiel 21

The word of the LORD came to me: ² "Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem and preach against the sanctuaries. Prophesy against the land of Israel ³ and say to the land of Israel, Thus says the LORD: Behold, I am against you and will draw my sword from its sheath and will cut off from you both righteous and wicked. ⁴ Because I will cut off from you both righteous and wicked, therefore my sword shall be drawn from its sheath against all flesh from south to north. ⁵ And all flesh shall know that I am the LORD. I have drawn my sword from its sheath; it shall not be sheathed again.

⁶ "As for you, son of man, groan; with breaking heart and bitter grief, groan before their eyes. ⁷ And when they say to you, 'Why do you groan?' you shall say, 'Because of the news that it is coming. Every heart will melt, and all hands will be feeble; every spirit will faint, and all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it is coming, and it will be fulfilled,'" declares the Lord GOD.

⁸ And the word of the LORD came to me: ⁹ "Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus says the Lord, say: "A sword, a sword is sharpened and also polished, ¹⁰ sharpened for slaughter, polished to flash like lightning!

(Or shall we rejoice? You have despised the rod, my son, with everything of wood.)

¹¹ So the sword is given to be polished, that it may be grasped in the hand. It is sharpened and polished to be given into the hand of the slayer. ¹² Cry out and wail, son of man, for it is against my people. It is against all the princes of Israel. They are delivered over to the sword with my people. Strike therefore upon your thigh. ¹³For it will not be a testing—what could it do if you despise the rod?" declares the Lord GOD.

¹⁴ "As for you, son of man, prophesy. Clap your hands and let the sword come down twice, yes, three times, the sword for those to be slain. It is the sword for the great slaughter, which surrounds them, ¹⁵ that their hearts may melt, and many stumble. At all their gates I have given the glittering sword. Ah, it is made like lightning; it is taken up for slaughter. ¹⁶ Cut sharply to the right; set yourself to the left, wherever your face is directed. ¹⁷ I also will clap my hands, and I will satisfy my fury; I the LORD have spoken."

¹⁸ The word of the LORD came to me again: ¹⁹ "As for you, son of man, mark two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to come. Both of them shall come from the same land. And make a signpost; make it at the head of the way to a city. ²⁰Mark a way for the sword to come to Rabbah of the Ammonites and to Judah, into Jerusalem the fortified. ²¹ For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination. He shakes the arrows; he consults the teraphim; he looks at the liver. ²² Into his right hand comes the divination for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open the mouth with murder, to lift up the voice with shouting, to set battering rams against the gates, to cast up mounds, to build siege towers. ²³ But to them it will seem like a false divination. They have sworn solemn oaths, but he brings their guilt to remembrance, that they may be taken.

²⁴ "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have made your guilt to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear—because you have come to remembrance, you shall be taken in hand. ²⁵ And you, O profane wicked one, prince of Israel, whose day has come, the time of your final punishment, ²⁶ thus says the Lord GOD: Remove the turban and take off the crown. Things shall not remain as they are. Exalt that which is low, and bring low that which is exalted. ²⁷ A ruin, ruin, ruin I will make it. This also shall not be, until he comes, the one to whom judgment belongs, and I will give it to him. ²⁸ "And you, son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites and concerning their reproach; say, A sword, a sword is drawn for the slaughter. It is polished to consume and to flash like lightning— ²⁹ while they see for you false visions, while they divine lies for you—to place you on the necks of the profane wicked, whose day has come, the time of their final punishment. ³⁰ Return it to its sheath. In the place where you were created, in the land of your origin, I will judge you. ³¹ And I will pour out my indignation upon you; I will blow upon you with the fire of my wrath, and I will deliver you into the hands of brutish men, skillful to destroy. ³² You shall be fuel for the fire. Your blood shall be in the midst of the land. You shall be no more remembered, for I the LORD have spoken."

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

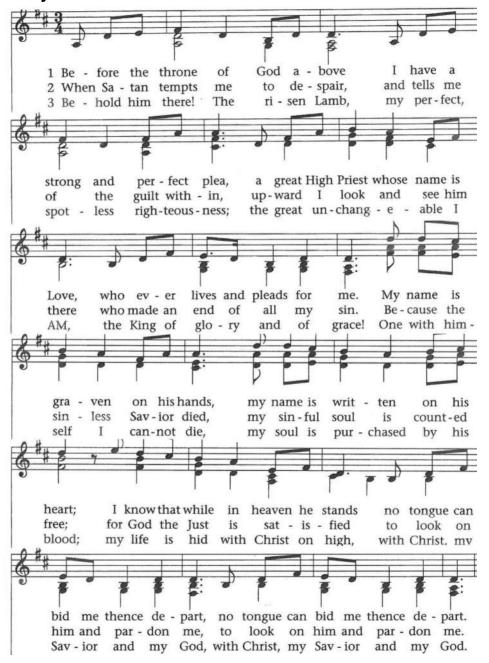
Sermon Title: "A Sword Song"

Pastor Austin Reed

Sermon Outline:

- 1) A Sword-Song of the Past
- 2) A Sword-Song for the Future

† Sermon Hymn "Before the Throne of God Above"



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. We come forward 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.

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

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.

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.	

Great God of Highest Heaven, who are we that we should be invited to such a feast as this? We are not worthy to come, we have no merit of our own that would make us worthy to receive your body and blood. But thanks be to you O God, that you invite us to this table and promise to refresh us and strengthen us by your grace in Christ. Now we thank you for the gift of this holy supper, and 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 #457 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

† Benediction

† Benediction Response Hymn #735 "Gloria Patri"

Prayer Requests

Redeemer Family:

- David Stevens (Jim & Cherie von Drehles' 9 year old grandson) who incurred a brain injury last week in a sledding accident. Please pray for healing.
- Bernard Hoogland, pray for healing.
- Bobbie Van Til (sister-in-law of Ethan & Dirk), still fighting cancer.
- Barb Boersma, for relief from back pain.
- Marie Goins (Randy's mother), pray for her failing health and for faith in our great God.
- Megan Harris (niece of Jo Wolfe) has terminal cancer. Please keep the Harris family (husband Andy & 3 young daughters) in your prayers.
- Brett Schut who fell and broke his elbow, pray for healing.
- Bev McSauby, pray for healing.
- Melissa Birdsey, baby is due the end of March.

Churches in our Presbytery:

Gracehill, Grand Rapids - Pray for a fruitful ministry.

Tyrone Covenant, Fenton – Pray for the many families who have lost loved ones recently due to a wave of COVID and other sicknesses that swept through our Church.

Reverend Elliott Pinegar - Pray for continued good adjustment to Indiana and for wisdom and opportunities in ministry. Praise for good health and the Lord's provision in all things.

Financials					
Year to Date	Dec. 31, 2020	<u>Dec. 31, 2021</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Total Giving + Rentals:	\$326,936	\$337,836	\$332,900	\$4,936	
Total Expenses	\$302,639	\$251,758			

Announcements

Sermon today - Pastor Austin Reed will preach on Ezekiel 21.

Children and adult Sunday School will be held before the worship service at 9:00 am. The Worship Service will be at 10:15 am.

Pastor Reed will be leading the Adult Sunday School class in a study of reformed covenant theology. We will be learning the biblical and confessional grounds for the concepts of the Covenants of Redemption, Works, and Grace. The Lord willing, this will provide us with a helpful lens through which to read all of the Scriptures. All are welcome to attend!

Youth Ministry Event, Crafts for the Community! - February 5th, 10 am to 12 pm at the church. Please RSVP to Johanna Lashbrook by January 28th. All ages welcome to join (Pre-school to Senior).

"Pop-In" Shower for Melissa Birdsey - Redeemer Fellowship hall Saturday, February 12th, anytime between 2-4pm.

Congregational Meeting - Sunday, February 13th immediately following the worship service.

Ladies Theology Workshop with Nancy Guthrie - There will be a group of ladies going to this workshop on March 4-5 in Lansing. Registration is now open, please contact Heidi Van Til for more details if you would like to attend.

Ladies Spring Bible Study - In Hebrews will begin Friday, March 11! Please prayerfully consider joining your sisters in Christ. More details to come!

This Week at Redeemer:

Paladino Small Group - Wednesday, 6 pm Weber Small Group - Wednesday, 6 pm Men's Study - Thursday, 7:30 am Prayer Gathering - Thursday, 12 noon Youth Ministry Event - Saturday, 10 am

	Sat		February 2022	5	Youth Ministry Event in the Fellowship Hall 10 am to 12 pm	12 "Pop-In" Shower for Melissa Birdsey in the Fellowship Hall drop in anytime between 2-4 pm
	Fri			4		=
22	Thu			3	Men's Study, 7:30 am Prayers, 12 noon	10 Men's Study, 7:30 am Prayers, 12 noon Husted SG, 6:30 pm
January 2022	Wed			2	Paladino SG, 6 pm Weber SG, 6 pm	9 Paladino SG, 6 pm
Ja	Tue		Fe	1		∞
	Mon	31				7
	Sun	30 Sunday School 9 am Worship Service 10:15 am				6 Sunday School, 9 am Worship Service 10:15 am von Drehle SG

Community Groups and meeting information:

Husted: 2nd & 4th Thursday at 6:30 pm Paladino: 6 pm, every Wednesday VanDyk: Will resume meeting in May vonDrehle: Check with Jim or Cherie for dates & times. Weber: 1st 2rd % 4th Wednesday at 6 pm

Weber: 1st, 3rd & 4th Wednesday at 6 pm



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!

Date:
Name:
Email:
Best Contact (Call/Text):
Address:
City:
State/Zip:
How did you hear about us:

1st Time Guest: ____ 2nd Time Guest: ____

Regular Attendee:____

Member:____

Music Copy License Number: 2539700



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

Prayer Requests:

Share with congregation: _____ Private: _____ **The Session** Pastor Reed Fred Janke Bill Morrison Tom Nussdorfer Fred Weber David Schafer (Emeritus)

> The Deacons Dave VanDyk

Redeemer Staff

Jeff Kozisek, Treasurer Deb Long, Office Administrator/ Bookkeeper

Send me information about :

- ____ Becoming a Christian
- ____ Baptism
- ____ Membership
- ____ Serving on a Team
- ____ Small Groups
- ____ Other

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Sunday School: 9 am Worship Services: 10:15 am

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America