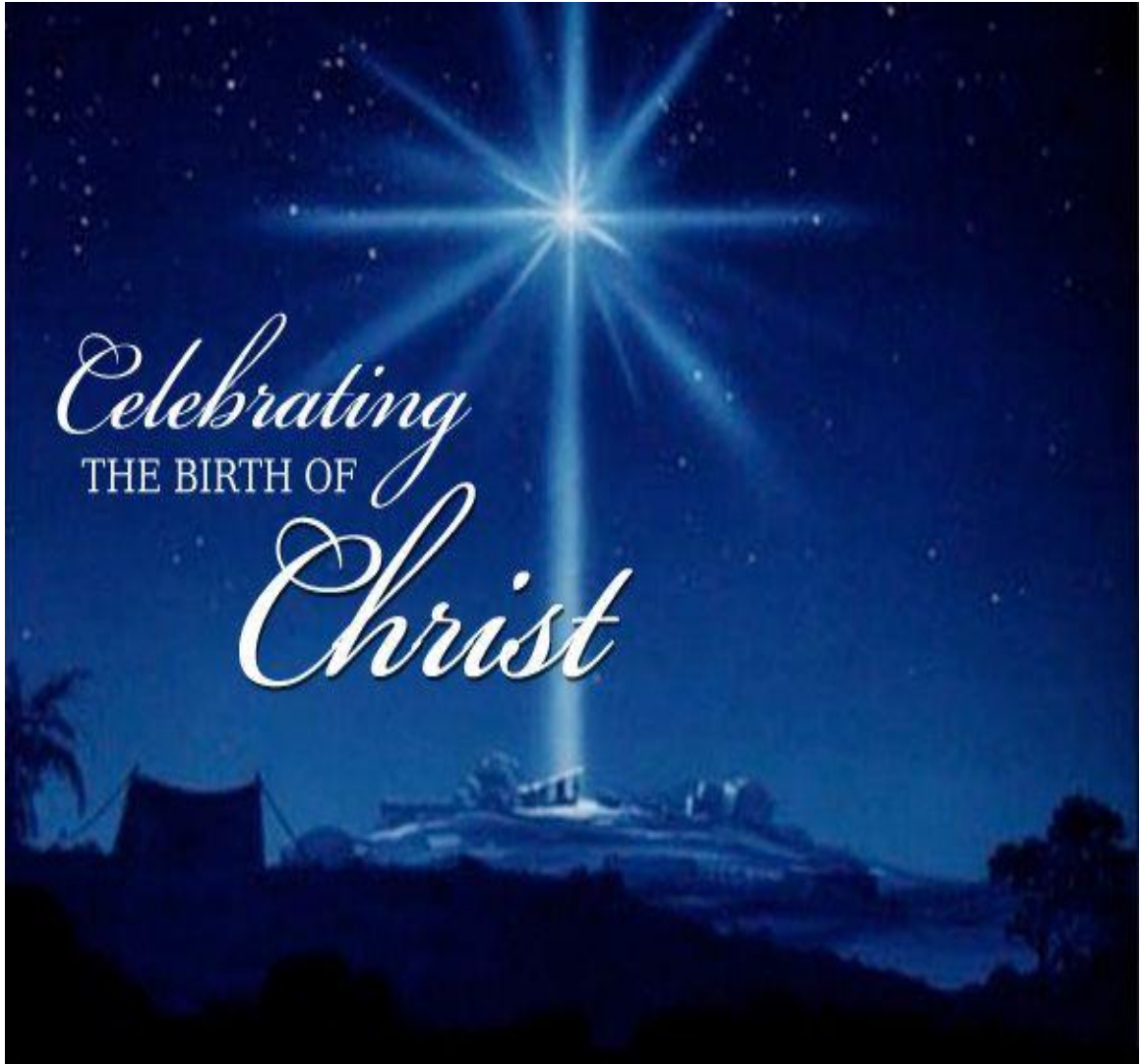




December 25, 2022

REDEEMER
TRAVERSE CITY



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

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

Nursery: Johanna & Esther

The Lord's Service

December 25, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "For Unto Us A Child Is Born" - G. F. Handel

(from the Messiah)

For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a son is given;
And the government shall be upon
His shoulder;
And His name shall be called Wonderful,
Counselor, the mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace

*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

Luke 2:10-14

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is
pleased!”

† Opening Hymn: #218 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2. Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,
 Yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
 Ye have seen His na - tal star:
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

† 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

Confession of Sin

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

*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
gathering of
perfect people,
we are all
sinners in
various stages
of recovery.*

Prayer of Confession

“Gracious and Eternal God,

We praise you this day for the birth of our promised Savior, Jesus Christ. On this day of light and joy, we confess the misery and sin of our hearts. We have broken your law of love, we have not upheld your name as holy to the nations in our words and deeds. Forgive us, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who was born on Christmas morning to save a people from their sins. We rejoice in the gift of Christ, and praise you for your mercy in His name,
Amen.”

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

† Hymn of Assurance: Hymn #211 "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"



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.

Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: *Luke 1:67-80*

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;
to show the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us^[h] from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

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

Offertory

† 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 : *Matthew 2:1-12*

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose^[b] and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

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

Sermon Title: “The Meaning of Magi”

Reverend Austin Reed

Sermon Outline

- 1.) The Arrival of the Magi
- 2.) The Response of the King
- 3.) The Giving of the Gifts

Sermon Notes:

Christ the True and Better

Words and Music by
Matt Boswell, Keith Getty and Matt Papa

Steadily, Driving (♩ = 76)

F Bb/F F F C/F F Fsus

1. Christ, the true and bet - ter Ad - am; Son of God and Son of man. Who, when
2. Christ, the true and bet - ter Is - aac; Hum - ble Son of sa - cri - fice, who would

F Bb/F F F C/E Dm7 C F

temp - ed in the gard - en, nev - er yield - ed, nev - er sinned. He, who
climb the fear - ful moun - tain, there to of - fer up his life. Laid with

F/A Bb F F C/E Dm7 Bb Csus C F/A Bb

makes the ma - ny right - eous Brings us back to life a - gain. Dy - ing, He re - versed the
faith up - on the al - tar, Fath - er's joy and on - ly son; There sal - va - tion was pro -

F/C Bb/C F/C C 1. F Fsus F Fsus

curse; Then ri - sing, crushed the serp - ent's head. 2. Christ, the
vid - ed, oh what full and bound - less love.

Refrain

**Amen, amen, from beginning to end.
Christ the story, His the glory; Alleluia, Amen!**

3. Christ, the true and better Moses, called to lead a people home;
Standing bold to earthly powers, God's great glory to be known.
With His arms stretched wide to heaven, see the waters part in two;
See the veil is torn forever, Cleansed with blood we pass now through.

Refrain

4. Christ, the true and better David; Lowly shepherd, mighty king.
He the champion in the battle; where O death is now thy sting.
In our place He bled and conquered; Crown Him Lord of majesty.
His shall be the throne forever; We shall e'er His people be.

Refrain (2x)

Holy Communion

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 inner 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 Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made.
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 Hymn #214 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.
 Luke 2:14

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

REFRAIN

Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Benediction

† Benediction Response Hymn #735 “Gloria Patri”

Prayer Requests

Redeemer Family:

- **Drew** (8 yr old grandson of Randy and Gail Lawton) Praise God Drew has returned home! Please pray with us that 1. his body (especially his kidneys) will continue to heal, 2. the leukemia will be removed from his body, 3. he will not catch any other illnesses so that he may remain at home (his treatments and procedures will be given on an outpatient basis). Please also pray for his parents and siblings that the Lord will continue to give them strength and encouragement.
- **Julie Reed** (Pastor Reed's mother) Praise God that Julie has been approved for the treatment she needs at no cost. Please pray the treatment will be effective.
- **Anne Smith** (mother of Scott Smith) Praise God for successful breast cancer surgery. She has begun new treatments targeting the suspected cause of the cancer that will last almost another year. Please pray for continued strength and healing.
- **Bernard Hoogland**, pray for healing.
- **Bobbie Van Til** (sister-in-law of Ethan & Dirk) returned home from the hospital. Please continue to pray for her and her family.
- **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.
- **Russell Gunn, (Richie Gunn's father)** - Please pray for healing and wisdom for treatment of his heart issues.

Churches in the Presbytery:

First Presbyterian Church, Bad Axe MI—Please pray for continued reform in our church according to the Word of God and our denominational standards; peace and unity in our church as we make these reforms; continued growth in the grace and knowledge of Christ; strength and wisdom for our leaders; our witness in our community; continued numerical growth; and that God would bring more families to our church. Thank you for your prayers.

Pathway Community Church, Brighton MI— **Praise** God for a number of visitors in recent weeks, and for our recently received new members! **Pray** for continued evangelistic efforts in Brighton, and that we would see growth in worship attendance. **Pray** for progress and patience regarding our new building, as we wait for the seller to find a new home for their congregation.

Confex (Mwai) Makhalira—Evangelistic Missionary, MTW – Join us in thanking the Lord for his blessings upon us and our ministry in the past year. Help us pray for continued blessings in the year ahead. Help us pray for the new member's class and deacon training that is starting in January.

Announcements

Church closers needed—We need some volunteers who would be willing to close the building after the service on Sunday. Please see Deacon Rick Harkert for details.

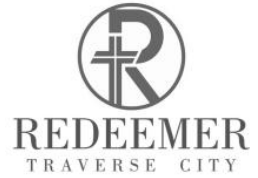
A Drive for Thrive at Christmas—A local mission opportunity to support women and men in our community that support the unborn. Take a gift ornament and bring a gift back for a family for Christmas. Please talk with Cindy Sabotka with questions.

Financials

	<u>Nov. 30, 2021</u>	<u>Nov. 30, 2022</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>	<u>Over (Under) Budget</u>
Year to Date				
Total Giving + Rentals:	\$298,868	\$322,215	\$256,025	\$66,190
Total Expenses	\$226,876	\$320,227		

This Week at Redeemer:

Paladino Small Group—Wednesday, 6:00 pm
Men's Study-Thursday, 7:30 am
Prayer Meeting– Thursday, 12:00 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!

Community Groups and meeting information:

vonDrehle: 1st and 3rd Sunday after Church

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

Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Best Contact
(Call/Text): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

How did you hear about us:

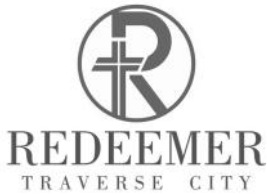
Music Copy License Number: 2539700

1st Time Guest: ____

2nd Time Guest: ____

Regular Attendee: ____

Member: ____



The Session

- Pastor Reed
- Bill Morrison
- Tom Nussdorfer
- Tony Paladino
- Fred Weber
- Rob Whims
- Fred Janke (Emeritus)
- David Schafer (Emeritus)

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

Prayer Requests:

Share with congregation: _____

Private: _____

The Deacons

- Rick Harkert
- Darryl Johnson
- Ron Sabotka
- Brett C. Schut
- Dave VanDyk

Redeemer Staff

- Jeff Kozisek, Treasurer
- Bill Morrison, Assistant to the Pastor

Send me information about :

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

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

**402 W. Ninth Street
Traverse City, MI 49684**

(231) 946-1700

Website: www.redeemertc.org

Email: redemertc@gmail.com

Worship Service 10:15 am

**A Congregation of the
Presbyterian Church in America**