



Music Leader:
 Cory Sellers

Liturgist:
 Alex Woods

Prelude

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 98*)

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
 for he has done marvelous things.
 The LORD has made known his salvation;
 he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**All: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
 break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
 the joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue.
 Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
 hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here,
 sin would reduce me to utter despair.
 But through thy free goodness my spirits revive,
 and he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
 which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.
 Dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground,
 and weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great father of mercies, thy goodness I own,
 and the covenant love of thy crucified son.
 All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine,
 seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!
 All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
 seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Call to Confession (*1 Corinthians 5:6-8*)

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷ Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸ Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Prelude

This is a time when we prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies to meet, and be met by God, the Creator and Redeemer of all things. It is often an instrumental piece played by the worship band; however, it is sometimes used to introduce new songs into corporate worship.

Call to Worship

We need to be called to worship God because our hearts and minds are not naturally focused on him, but on ourselves. The Call to Worship marks the official beginning of the corporate worship service and directs our hearts, minds, and volitions toward God.

Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

This prayer addresses God in his triune nature as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Praise and adoration continue and we ask him to be present with us and usher our hearts into corporate worship as he has promised by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Corporate Confession of Sin (*based on 1 Corinthians*)

Leader: Father, we long to see the body of Christ unified in faith, hope, and love. We confess our sins against you and your bride, the Church.

People: **Forgive us for pursuing our own ends rather than submitting to the authority of Christ.**

Leader: Father, we confess our pride and arrogance. We often refuse to repent even in the face of loving rebuke. Forgive us for exalting ourselves above others and for the damage that has done to your Bride.

People: **Forgive us for believing in our own self-importance and clinging to our own self-righteousness when it was our sins that nailed Christ to the cross.**

Leader: Father, we long to not be tossed to and fro by the waves of the world. Forgive us for not putting our hope and faith in the authority of your Word and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

All: **Father, we long to see the body of Christ working properly and building itself up in faith, hope, and love. Destroy in us every lofty thought. Break our pride into pieces. Obliterate every shred of self-righteousness. Crucify our sense of self-importance. Break us down and bind us up. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us—that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your Name.**

Silent Confession

Please use the words above in your silent confession.

Word of Absolution (*1 Peter 2:9-10*)

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

LITURGICAL
DEFINITIONS

Corporate
and Silent
Confession

Because sin is so pervasive in both our corporate and individual lives, we come before God with honesty and transparency, confessing our sin and need for grace, asking for both forgiveness and healing through Jesus Christ. We confess corporately to show our unity even in our brokenness. Because the world around us is filled with so much noise, we take several moments of silence to meet with God individually about our sin and seek his forgiveness and grace.

Word of
Absolution

The Word of Absolution is the declaration of God’s forgiveness and redemption spoken with joy. The liturgist is proclaiming what God has done through Jesus Christ. It is usually a passage of Scripture or a traditional text from a historical church resource such as the Westminster Confession or the Book of Common Prayer.

Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us, shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds. Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises. And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your Church is built and the earth is filled with your glory.

Cherokee Mission Update – *Elder David Scott*

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer – *Pastor Alex Woods*

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who have trespassed against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever,
 and ever. Amen.**

Excommunication & Our Union as the Church

Sermon: Pastor Ewan Kennedy

1 CORINTHIANS 5

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. ² And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

³ For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. ⁴ When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, ⁵ you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

⁶ Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷ Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are

unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

⁸ Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

⁹ I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— ¹⁰ not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. ¹¹ But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler— not even to eat with such a one.

¹² For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?

¹³ God judges those outside. "Purge the evil person from among you."

The Sermon

A sermon is not just teaching for living; it is mainly a time when God encounters his people through his Word. Therefore, as you listen, pray to be open to what he is teaching. Pray for the person preaching. Pray to encounter the life-changing Christ as you listen. If you don't own a Bible, please feel free to take one from the shelves in the foyer.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, closely grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and author of my faith. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

My Hope Is Built

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my Hope and Stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in him be found;
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Benediction



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER'S VISION:

To be transformed by God's mercy and grace into a community of priests engaged
in his redeeming work in Atlanta and the world.

All Songs Public Domain or Used by Permission, CCLI# 1377822 | All Scripture taken from the English Standard Version (ESV)

The Lord's Supper

In the Lord's Supper, Christ meets his people in spiritual communion with his strength, healing love and enabling grace that allows us to live as his disciples in the world. As we receive the elements, we lift our hearts up to Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament, when God renews his covenant with his people in corporate worship, he serves a meal as the pinnacle of that event. Jesus continues this pattern in the Lord's Supper with his disciples. Thus, the Lord's Supper is placed towards the end of the service after God has ministered to us through his Word.

The Lord's Supper is for those who know their need for Jesus and cling to him as their only hope for salvation. If you wish to refrain from partaking in the Lord's Supper, prayers are printed in the Worship Guide to help you put words to where you are in relation to God.

The Benediction

At the conclusion of the final song, the Benediction is given. It is a reminder that Christ has ordained his people with a blessing that equips us to serve and honor him with our lives as we proceed from corporate worship. The Benediction serves to end corporate worship and to send God's people out into the world.

TODAY

Welcome to Church of the Redeemer and happy Mother's Day!

We are delighted to welcome you to worship this morning and pray that God will richly bless you by today's service. We especially want to welcome those who are visiting as our guests this morning. To learn more about the church, visit our website, www.redeemeratlanta.org, or contact Pastor Bob at 678-928-1150, and we'll be glad to help!

Redeemer's Kids (4-year-olds through 5th grade)

Redeemer's Kids, our modified, socially distanced version of children's Sunday school, meets each Sunday during the morning worship hour downstairs in the children's area. If you need help finding your way, ask any greeter or usher and they will be happy to direct you. For more information, email Director of Children's Ministry Jamie Turner at jamie@redeemeratlanta.org.

Refuge (6th-12th grades) Will NOT Meet Tonight

Refuge will not meet tonight so that our students can celebrate Mother's Day with their families. Refuge, Redeemer's ministry to high school and middle school students, which meets each Sunday, 5:00-7:00 PM, at the church for games, dinner, and Bible study, will return next week. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Alex at alex@redeemeratlanta.org.

Sunday Evening Women's Online Bible Study Will NOT Meet Tonight

The Bible study will not meet tonight so the ladies can celebrate Mother's Day with their families. The online Sunday Night Women's Study meets every other Sunday on Zoom at 7:00 PM and will return next week. The group is studying the book of Ephesians. Join anytime. Contact Suzanne Heninger (SuHeninger@bellsouth.net) or Elaine LaCour (el@thelacours.org) for a link or additional information about the Bible study group.

Giving at Redeemer

To give in support of the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, you can place your offering in the wall-mounted box at each exit from the sanctuary, mail your gift to the church office, or give online through the link provided on the church's website at www.redeemeratlanta.org/giving.

THIS WEEK

Inquirer's Seminar Will NOT Meet Tomorrow Night

Due to the regularly scheduled elders' meeting, the Inquirer's Seminar will not meet tomorrow night but will continue with Session 2 on May 17. The class meets online on Monday nights, 8:00-9:15 PM. For more information about the seminar or about the membership process, email Pastor Bob at bob@redeemeratlanta.org or call the church office at 678-298-1150.

Wednesday Night Online Prayer Meeting at 8:00 PM

This time of ministry in prayer for the needs of the church family and the work of the gospel in our community begins at 8:00 PM, finishes promptly at 8:45 PM, and is open to everyone. The link and the Weekly Prayer Guide go out by email each Wednesday. To submit a prayer request or a praise report for inclusion in this week's guide, email office manager Seya de Lastic at seya@redeemeratlanta.org.

Thursday Morning Women's Online Bible Study

This study meets at 10:00 AM each Thursday on Zoom to study the Gospel of John. To join and for a link to the study, email group leader Suzanne Heninger at SuHeninger@bellsouth.net.

UPCOMING

Upcoming Thursday Morning Women's Summer Bible Study

Plans are underway for a Thursday morning women's Bible study to be offered onsite beginning in June. Details about the dates, time, topic, and childcare will be forthcoming, but make plans now to be a part of this time of sisterhood, study, and service this summer!

Serve Our Kids at Vacation Bible School, July 19-23

Our first-ever VBS will be the week of July 19-23, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM each day. This is an exciting opportunity to engage not only with the smallest members of our church family, but also the many kids from outside our church who have signed up to come. VBS is both an outreach and discipleship opportunity for the whole church family to engage, so please be in prayer as we recruit the volunteers needed to welcome the children that God brings to us this summer. **Our greatest need is for adult volunteers to lead small groups for the daily Bible lessons.** Reach out to Children's Ministry Director Jamie Turner at jamie@redeemeratlanta.org to be a part of this amazing adventure!

Support Our Cherokee Missions!

The Cherokee team has finally gotten the green light to return to Cherokee, NC, and share the gospel with the Native American population this June! With such late approval, we're on a tight timeline to raise the \$8,000 needed to fund the trip. Here are 3 ways you can help:

- 1. Order Takeaway from the Team for May 23.** The team is preparing a healthy, tasty, low-calorie, take-home meal to order in advance and pick up after the worship service on May 23. This is a fully cooked family-style dish and dessert that can be reheated at home. And, if you are gluten-free, we can accommodate your needs! Look for the sign up in your email.
- 2. The team is offering Skills & Services again!** Our talented team (and some friends) will provide their services and donate the proceeds directly to the Cherokee Mission Trip. Math tutoring? Piano lessons? Team building or leadership development for your company? We've got that and more! See the flyer in the foyer and in your email for a list of services.
- 3. Simply donate.** Put a check in the mail or the offering box. Make the check to Redeemer and indicate "Cherokee Mission Team" on your donation.