



MARCH 17, 2024
ORDER of WORSHIP

LITURGICAL
DEFINITIONS

Music Leader:
Cory Sellers

Liturgist:
Mary Doty Lyness

Prelude

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.

Welcome

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 51*)

Leader: O God of my salvation,
my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips.

**All: And my mouth will declare your praise.
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.**

**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.

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

He breaks the pow'r of cancelled sin, he sets the pris'ner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

*We sing – Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Receive glory and honor and praise! (Repeats)*

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

My gracious master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

*We sing – Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Receive glory and honor and praise! (Repeats)*

**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.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Call to Confession (*Psalms 51:1-4*)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only,
have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.

Corporate Confession of Sin (*based on Psalm 130*)

- Leader: Out of the depths of despair, we cry to you, O God. Let your ears be attentive to our pleas for mercy. We are lost in a world of pain and suffering.
- People: **When we put our trust in our own abilities, we find no peace and more frustration.**
- Leader: When we put our faith in our own resources, we feel the ache of our true needs.
- People: **When we put our hope in the health of our bodies, we suffer pain and find no healing.**
- Leader: If you, O Lord, kept track of our sins, we could not stand. But with you, there is forgiveness.
- All: **Teach us to take our pain and suffering to you and wait for your steadfast love with patience. Heal us and redeem us, Lord, we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Please use the words above in your silent confession.

Word of Absolution (*Psalms 51:10, 15-17*)

- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice,
or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.

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.

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer – Mary Doty Lyness

**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.**

Dismissal to Children's Church (4-year-olds to 2nd graders)

If you are visiting or this is your children's first time, please escort them to the foyer. You may pick them up from downstairs after the service.

The Offering

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.

Offering

We display our dependency on God's provision by giving tithes and offerings. Because money is so powerfully tied to our hearts, we give in order to free our hearts from money's tyranny and in doing so, giving becomes a joyous response to God's grace.

The Poetry of Penitence

Sermon: Rev. Jon Medlock

PSALM 51

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
 according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
 blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
 and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
 and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
 and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
 and blameless in your judgment.
- ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
 and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- ⁶ Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
 and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
 wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
 let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
 and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
 and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
 and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
 and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
 O God of my salvation,
 and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
 and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
 you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
 a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- ¹⁸ Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
 build up the walls of Jerusalem;
- ¹⁹ then will you delight in right sacrifices,
 in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
 then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Preaching Today

Reverend Jon Medlock is serving as Church of the Redeemer's Pastoral Ministry Coordinator as we search for our next lead pastor. Jon is Vice President of People and Culture for Geneva Benefits Group, an agency of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). He previously served as lead pastor for Trinity Presbyterian Church in San Luis Obispo, CA. Jon and his wife, Laurabeth, have six kids. We are delighted to have them as part of our church family.

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

Communion trays include both red wine and white grape juice. The bread is gluten-free.

PRAYER FOR STRUGGLING WITH SHAME AND GUILT

Lord Jesus, help me believe that there is full forgiveness for those who repent and put their faith in you. Give me faith to believe that sinners are welcome to the Lord's Supper to receive real forgiveness, grace, and strength. 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 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.

Heal Us, Emmanuel

*Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel thy touch
Deep wounded souls to thee we fly
O Savior, hear our cry*

Our faith is feeble, we confess
We faintly trust thy Word
But will you pity us the less?
Be that far from you, Lord!

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief
“Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried
“O help my unbelief!”

She, too, who touched you in the press
And healing virtue stole
Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace
Thy faith has made thee whole.”

Like her, with hopes and fears we come
To touch you if we may
O send us not despairing home
Send none unhealed away.

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.

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LITURGICAL DEFINITIONS

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 Redeemer!

We are delighted to welcome you today! To learn more, visit www.redeemeratlanta.org or contact info@redeemeratlanta.org.

Hearing Devices for Worship

In-ear hearing devices are available at the sound board for those who need assistance.

Giving at Redeemer

Support the ministry of COTR by giving during the offering, by mail, through your bank, or online at redeemeratlanta.churchcenter.com/giving. You can also Text2Give by texting any dollar amount to 84321.

Church Center App

The Church Center app is our hub for giving, events, directory, prayer guide, and more. Visit redeemeratlanta.churchcenter.com, or download the app using the QR code. In the app, search for Church of the Redeemer and then log in with your phone number. For access to the church directory or questions, contact elise@redeemeratlanta.org.



Sunday School Classes

Sunday School for all ages is held weekly at 9:30 am, and nursery care is provided for 0-4. Redeemer's Kids (PreK-5th) meet downstairs, and Refuge (6th-12th) meets in the youth room. Adults may choose from two classes:

- Book study of "Deeper: Real Change for Real Sinners," by Dane Ortlund, led by Ben Simpson in the church office
- Video study of "No Other Gospel: Paul's Letter to the Galatians," by Ligonier Ministries, led by Todd Currey in the Commons

Children's Church

Children ages 4 through 2nd grade are invited to join us for Children's Church today. Prior to the sermon, they will be dismissed to meet Ms. Meg in the foyer and be escorted to Children's Church in room 104 in the Children's Center. You can pick them up there immediately after the service.

Refuge (Youth Group)

Refuge, our 6th-12 grade student ministry, meets on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am and Sunday evenings from 5-7:30 pm for games, dinner, worship, and study. Email kerry@redeemeratlanta.org to be added to the Refuge email list.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday Night Online Prayer Meeting

We meet at 8 pm weekly to pray for the needs of our community and the world. The meeting link and prayer guide can be found at bit.ly/COTRprayer. To submit a prayer request, fill out today's blue sheet or email seya@redeemeratlanta.org.

Preschool Music Class

Children 0-4, along with a parent or caregiver, are invited to come sing, dance, and play instruments at a Saturday morning music class led by Suzanne Heninger. This free class meets twice a month in the church office building at 10:30 am. Join us this week on March 23. The upcoming next date is April 13. Contact meg@redeemeratlanta.org.

UPCOMING

4th and 5th Grade Ministry

Pathway is a monthly opportunity for 4th and 5th graders to join with Refuge during their Sunday gathering and take a step into community and discipleship with their peers. We will meet next Sunday, March 24, from 5-7:30 pm, for dinner, games, fellowship, and small group study. Contact meg@redeemeratlanta.org for more details.

Easter Egg Hunt and Refuge Easter Social

Infants through 5th graders are invited to join us for an egg hunt on Saturday, March 30 at 10:30 am. Bring a friend or neighbor! Middle and high school students will also gather at 10:30 for an Easter social. Contact meg@redeemeratlanta.org or kerry@redeemeratlanta.org for more information.

Easter Sunday Worship

Invite a friend and join us for our Easter Sunday service on March 31 at 10:45 am. Nursery is provided for 0-4, and we will have Children's Church.

Spaghetti Lunch for Cherokee

Save the date for a churchwide spaghetti lunch after worship on Sunday, April 28, in support of the Cherokee Mission Team. More info to follow.

Vacation Bible School

Join us for VBS 2024: Olympion! Held at Redeemer June 3-7, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, students will explore the story of Joshua and learn to run the race of faith. The cost is \$10. Register your rising PreK-5th grader at bit.ly/2024-VBS.

Pathway Retreat

We are excited to be joining Perimeter Church for a retreat for 4th-5th graders at Camp Glisson, April 26-28! Contact meg@redeemeratlanta.org for registration info.

ONGOING

Skills and Services for Cherokee

The Cherokee Mission Team is offering a variety of services to raise funds for their summer ministry. From freshly baked bread to babysitting and career coaching, find out the offerings via the QR code!



Serve Redeemer's Kids

We would love for you to be a part of the joy of discipling our children! Contact Director of Children's Ministry Meg Way at meg@redeemeratlanta.org.

Find a Group or Study for You

Redeemer offers a variety of men's and women's Bible studies, affinity groups, and community groups. View them at bit.ly/COTR-groups.

Women's Slack Group

To connect with other women at Redeemer, join our Slack group, a place for sharing prayer requests, practical needs, social gatherings, and more! Email elise@redeemeratlanta.org to be added.