

# *Redeemer*

Presbyterian Church

Then Micah said,  
“Now I know that the LORD will prosper me,  
because I have a Levite as priest.”  
— Judges 17:13

**The Lord's Service**  
**August 9, 2015**

**Why do we have sermons?  
And why are the sermons so long at this church?**

There is more time devoted in our worship service to *preaching* than to any other single element. This is intentional, and reflects our understanding of just how important preaching is for establishing and strengthening our life of faith. Preaching was central in the ministry of Jesus, the ministry of his Apostles, and is to have a central place in the church. As Paul solemnly charged young Timothy, a primary responsibility of ministers in the church of Jesus Christ is to “*Preach the Word*: be ready in season and out of season.” (2 Tim 4:2). But what is good preaching? What are the marks of a preaching ministry that that God will use to build up my faith?

First, good preaching will *explain* God’s word. True preaching is always Biblical - it can never be divorced from the Scripture. Preaching as God intends it is not an opportunity for a pastor to offer his own reflections or personal opinions on a topic of his choosing, but rather to declare God’s revealed will through his Word. Thus, good preaching will either explain a specific text of Scripture, or will bring to bear what Scripture has to say about a certain topic. Generally speaking, the main point of a sermon should be clearly discernible from the Biblical passage that is being preached. This is how you know that what you are hearing is God’s word, and not the opinions of man.

Second, good preaching will *apply* God’s word. We are called to be “doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving ourselves.” Every part of God’s revealed word is ultimately practical in nature, calling us to change or grow in some way - whether that be in our attitudes, beliefs, or actions. Good preaching will help us make connections between the meaning of a Biblical passage and the impact that it should have on our lives.

Finally, good preaching will *proclaim* the apex of God’s word: The person and work of His Son Jesus Christ. Preaching Christ *every sermon* is vitally important for two reasons. First, Jesus himself taught us that all of the Bible is ultimately about him (Luke 24:44). Therefore, we will not fully understand any passage of Scripture until we see how that passage relates to God’s saving purposes in Christ. Second, failing to proclaim God’s saving work in Christ distorts the overall message of Christianity. The Gospel is that God forgives and accepts us, even though we are sinners, because of the work of Christ for us. If we only call people to “be better” and “try harder” without reminding them of this gospel, we veer into legalism and give the impression that we can make ourselves acceptable to God by our obedience if we just try hard enough.

And why so long? Because you can’t do all the above in ten or fifteen minutes!

Scott Korljan, Pastor

# The Lord's Service

August 9, 2015

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude (*Silent Preparation for Worship*)

## Order of Worship

**Call to Worship** Psalm 95:1-2

Pastor Scott Korljan

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

†**Opening Hymn** #119 "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

†**Invocation** Psalm 95:3-7

For the LORD is a great God,  
**and a great King above all gods.**  
In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
**the heights of the mountains are his also.**  
The sea is his, for he made it,  
**and his hands formed the dry land.**  
Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
**let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**  
For he is our God,  
**and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**  
Let us pray.

†**The Greeting** 2 Thessalonians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

†**Response** #38 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" (Verse 1 only)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

**Confession of Sin** 1 John 1:5-7; Psalm 130

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. Therefore, let us repent, confess our sins, and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness.

**Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; for with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem me from all my iniquities.**

**Declaration of Forgiveness** Ephesians 2:4-5; Colossians 1:3-14

Hear the good news!

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.” “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, for the forgiveness of sins.”

†**Hymn Of Assurance** #308 “Jesus Paid It All”

**Prayers of Intercession and the Lord’s Prayer** Elder Fred Janke

**New Testament Reading** 1 Timothy 3

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks Be to God!**

**Giving God Our Offerings**

*If you are seated on the center aisle, please pass the black Fellowship Pad for all visitors to sign.*

**Offertory Special Music** - Meagan Van Til

Bulletin Pg. 14

†**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** Judges 17-18

Bulletin Pg. 8

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** “Religious Corruption Among the People of God”

Pastor Scott Korljan

**Prayer of Application**

†**Sermon Hymn** #100 “Holy, Holy, Holy!” (Vs. 1-2, 4 only)

*Please be seated after singing the hymn*

## **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 have publicly professed their faith as members of any evangelical Christian church. We encourage families to come forward together, but ask that young children not partake of the elements until they have met with their Elders to make a profession of their faith. We encourage those not participating to spend this time reflecting on the prayers printed on Page 10. We hope these prayers will be helpful to you as you consider your relationship to Jesus Christ and His people, the church. Please note that the inner rings of cups in each communion tray contains non-alcoholic wine; the outer rings contain wine.

**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.**

## 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.**

It is truly right to give you thanks and praise, eternal and ever blessed God, Lord of heaven and earth. As we set apart these common elements of bread and wine for holy use, we ask you to bless them and use them to strengthen and edify your people. Your wisdom is seen in all your works; your grace and truth are revealed in Jesus Christ, your Son; your power and presence are given to us through your Holy Spirit. Therefore, with angels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and singing:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts. The

whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the

whole earth is full of his glo - ry. Ho - ly is the Lord.

## Words of Institution

### Communion Hymns

#649 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

"The Power Of The Cross"

Bulletin Pg. 11

#295 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

"O Great God"

Bulletin Pg. 12

**Prayer after Communion**

**We give thanks to you almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**†Dismissal** “Before The Throne of God Above” (Verse 3)

Behold him there!

The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;

the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!

One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood;

my life is hid with Christ on high,

with Christ, my Savior and my God, with Christ, my Savior and my God.

**†Benediction**

**†Benediction Response** “Three-fold Amen”

**Postlude**



## Sermon Text

### Judges 17

<sup>1</sup> There was a man of the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Micah. <sup>2</sup> And he said to his mother, “The 1,100 pieces of silver that were taken from you, about which you uttered a curse, and also spoke it in my ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it.” And his mother said, “Blessed be my son by the LORD.” <sup>3</sup> And he restored the 1,100 pieces of silver to his mother. And his mother said, “I dedicate the silver to the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a carved image and a metal image. Now therefore I will restore it to you.” <sup>4</sup> So when he restored the money to his mother, his mother took 200 pieces of silver and gave it to the silver-smith, who made it into a carved image and a metal image. And it was in the house of Micah. <sup>5</sup> And the man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and household gods, and ordained one of his sons, who became his priest. <sup>6</sup> In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

<sup>7</sup> Now there was a young man of Bethlehem in Judah, of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there. <sup>8</sup> And the man departed from the town of Bethlehem in Judah to sojourn where he could find a place. And as he journeyed, he came to the hill country of Ephraim to the house of Micah. <sup>9</sup> And Micah said to him, “Where do you come from?” And he said to him, “I am a Levite of Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to sojourn where I may find a place.” <sup>10</sup> And Micah said to him, “Stay with me, and be to me a father and a priest, and I will give you ten pieces of silver a year and a suit of clothes and your living.” And the Levite went in. <sup>11</sup> And the Levite was content to dwell with the man, and the young man became to him like one of his sons. <sup>12</sup> And Micah ordained the Levite, and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. <sup>13</sup> Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will prosper me, because I have a Levite as priest.”

### Judges 18

<sup>1</sup> In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days the tribe of the people of Dan was seeking for itself an inheritance to dwell in, for until then no inheritance among the tribes of Israel had fallen to them. <sup>2</sup> So the people of Dan sent five able men from the whole number of their tribe, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it. And they said to them, “Go and explore the land.” And they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, and lodged there. <sup>3</sup> When they were by the house of Micah, they recognized the voice of the young Levite. And they turned aside and said to him, “Who brought you here? What are you doing in this place? What is your business here?” <sup>4</sup> And he said to them, “This is how Micah dealt with me: he has hired me, and I have become his priest.” <sup>5</sup> And they said to him, “Inquire of God, please, that we may know whether the journey on which we are setting out will succeed.” <sup>6</sup> And the priest said to them, “Go in peace. The journey on which you go is under the eye of the LORD.” <sup>7</sup> Then the five men departed and came to Laish and saw the people who were there, how they lived in security, after the manner of the Sidonians, quiet and unsuspecting, lacking nothing that is in the earth and possessing wealth, and how they were far from the Sidonians and had no dealings with anyone. <sup>8</sup> And when they came to their brothers at Zorah and Eshtaol, their brothers said to them, “What do you report?” <sup>9</sup> They said, “Arise, and let us go up against them, for we

have seen the land, and behold, it is very good. And will you do nothing? Do not be slow to go, to enter in and possess the land. <sup>10</sup> As soon as you go, you will come to an unsuspecting people. The land is spacious, for God has given it into your hands, a place where there is no lack of anything that is in the earth.”

<sup>11</sup> So 600 men of the tribe of Dan, armed with weapons of war, set out from Zorah and Eshtaol, <sup>12</sup> and went up and encamped at Kiriath-jearim in Judah. On this account that place is called Mahaneh-dan to this day; behold, it is west of Kiriath-jearim. <sup>13</sup> And they passed on from there to the hill country of Ephraim, and came to the house of Micah.

<sup>14</sup> Then the five men who had gone to scout out the country of Laish said to their brothers, “Do you know that in these houses there are an ephod, household gods, a carved image, and a metal image? Now therefore consider what you will do.” <sup>15</sup> And they turned aside there and came to the house of the young Levite, at the home of Micah, and asked him about his welfare. <sup>16</sup> Now the 600 men of the Danites, armed with their weapons of war, stood by the entrance of the gate. <sup>17</sup> And the five men who had gone to scout out the land went up and entered and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, while the priest stood by the entrance of the gate with the 600 men armed with weapons of war. <sup>18</sup> And when these went into Micah's house and took the carved image, the ephod, the household gods, and the metal image, the priest said to them, “What are you doing?” <sup>19</sup> And they said to him, “Keep quiet; put your hand on your mouth and come with us and be to us a father and a priest. Is it better for you to be priest to the house of one man, or to be priest to a tribe and clan in Israel?” <sup>20</sup> And the priest's heart was glad. He took the ephod and the household gods and the carved image and went along with the people.

<sup>21</sup> So they turned and departed, putting the little ones and the livestock and the goods in front of them. <sup>22</sup> When they had gone a distance from the home of Micah, the men who were in the houses near Micah's house were called out, and they overtook the people of Dan. <sup>23</sup> And they shouted to the people of Dan, who turned around and said to Micah, “What is the matter with you, that you come with such a company?” <sup>24</sup> And he said, “You take my gods that I made and the priest, and go away, and what have I left? How then do you ask me, ‘What is the matter with you?’” <sup>25</sup> And the people of Dan said to him, “Do not let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows fall upon you, and you lose your life with the lives of your household.” <sup>26</sup> Then the people of Dan went their way. And when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back to his home.

<sup>27</sup> But the people of Dan took what Micah had made, and the priest who belonged to him, and they came to Laish, to a people quiet and unsuspecting, and struck them with the edge of the sword and burned the city with fire. <sup>28</sup> And there was no deliverer because it was far from Sidon, and they had no dealings with anyone. It was in the valley that belongs to Beth-rehob. Then they rebuilt the city and lived in it.

<sup>29</sup> And they named the city Dan, after the name of Dan their ancestor, who was born to Israel; but the name of the city was Laish at the first. <sup>30</sup> And the people of Dan set up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land. <sup>31</sup> So they set up Micah's carved image that he made, as long as the house of God was at Shiloh.

## Individual Prayers for Communion

### Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. 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, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I repent of my sins of self-ruling and self-saving. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Thank you that my sin and rebellion are Yours, and Your righteous, perfect, and obedient life is mine through faith in You. Knowing that you died on the cross and have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive and rest upon you alone as my Savior and Lord. I now resolve in humble reliance on the Holy Spirit and through the power of the gospel graciously working in my life to walk in manner pleasing to You. Amen.

### Prayer for those struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in You the fulfillment of all my need, 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 closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to You, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

# Communion Hymn

## Power of the Cross

*Unison*

1. Oh, to see the dawn of the dark-est day; Christ on the road to  
2. Oh, to see the pain writ-ten on Your face, Bear - ing the awe - some  
3. Now the day-light flees; now the ground be - neath Quakes as its Mak - er  
4. Oh, to see my name writ-ten in the wounds, For thro' Your suf - f'ring

Cal - va - ry; Tried by sin - ful men, torn and beat-en, then  
weight of sin; Ev - 'ry bit - ter tho't, ev - 'ry e - vil deed  
bows His head. Cur - tain torn in two, dead are raised to life;  
I am free. Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,

Nailed to a cross of wood. 1.-3. This the power of the  
Crown - ing Your blood-stained brow. 4. This the power of the  
"Fin - ished!" the vic - t'ry cry!  
Won thro' Your self - less love!

cross: Christ be - came sin for us; Took the  
cross; Son of God slain for us. What a

blame, bore the wrath; We stand for - giv - en at the cross!  
love, what a cost! We stand for - giv - en at the cross!

*(segue)*

# Communion Hymn

## “O Great God”

$\text{♩} = 72$

C F/G C Dm C/E F

O great God of high-est heav'n, oc-cu - py my low - ly heart. Own it  
(2.) blind - ed by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice, did not

6 C F/G C Dm Gsus G C G

all and reign su - preme. Con-quer ev - ery reb - el pow'r. Let no  
know Your love with - in, had no taste for heav - en's joys. Then Your

10 Am G/F C G Am<sup>7</sup> F Gsus G

vice or sin re-main that re - sists Your ho - ly war. You have  
Spir - it gave me life, o-pened up Your Word to me, through the

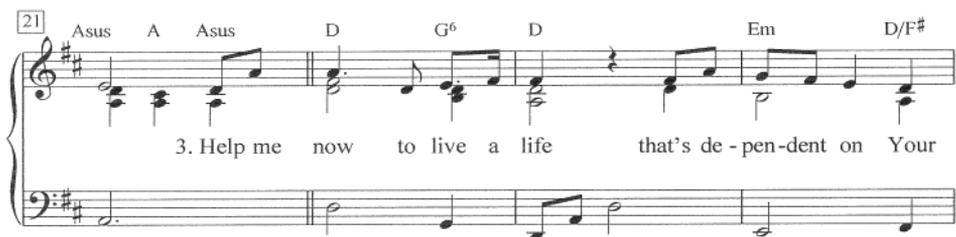
14 F<sup>2</sup>/A G/B C C/E F Gsus G

loved and pur - chased me, make me Yours for - ev - - er -  
gos - pel of Your Son gave me end - less hope and

17 1. C G Am<sup>7</sup> Dm Gsus G F/G 2. C G

more. 2. I was peace.

21 Asus A Asus D G<sup>6</sup> D Em D/F<sup>#</sup>



3. Help me now to live a life that's de-pen-dent on Your

25 G D/A G<sup>6</sup> D/F<sup>#</sup>



grace. Keep my heart and guard my soul from the

28 Em Asus A D A Bm A/G D A



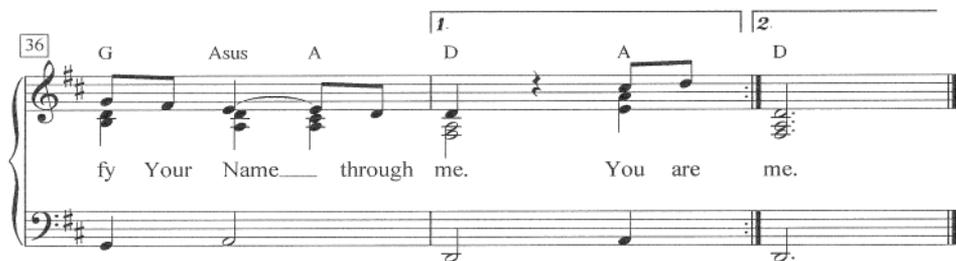
e-vils that I face. You are wor - thy to be praised with my

32 Bm<sup>7</sup> G Asus A G<sup>2</sup>/B A/C<sup>#</sup> D D/F<sup>#</sup>



ev-ery thought and deed. O great God of high-est heav'n, glo-ri -

36 G Asus A D A D



fy Your Name through me. You are me.

**Offertory - "Blessings"**  
**Meagan Van Til**

We pray for blessings, we pray for peace  
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep  
We pray for healing, for prosperity  
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering  
All the while, You hear each spoken need  
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near  
What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

We pray for wisdom your voice to hear  
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near  
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love  
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough  
All the while, You hear each desperate plea  
And long that we'd have faith to believe

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near  
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise

When friends betray us when darkness seems to win  
We know the pain reminds this heart that this is not, this is not our home

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops  
What if Your healing comes through tears  
And what if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near

What if my greatest disappointments or the aching of this life  
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy  
And what if trials of this life  
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights  
Are Your mercies in disguise

## Announcements

**Staffed Nursery Available** - for infant to 4 years old. Please see a Deacon or Greeters for directions to the Nursery.

### **Adult & Youth Sunday School on summer break**

**Next Sunday** - Pastor Scott will preach from Judges 19

**Hymn Sing** - Next Sunday, August 16th. Please plan to stay for a new song introduction immediately following our service.

**Communicants Class** - Pastor Scott will lead a communicants class next month to help prepare church youth to make a public profession of faith. The class will meet for four consecutive Sunday's beginning September 13th. Please contact the Church Office to sign up.

**Stay connected to Redeemer** - If you are not receiving Redeemer emails or our Newsletter, please contact Deb (at the Church Office) via email (redeemertc@gmail.com) or telephone (231-946-1700) with your email address. Thank You!

**Ladies Book Study** - will meet at the Church on Saturday, August 29th from 9:30 to 11 AM. Chapter 10 of Idols of the Heart will be discussed.

### **This week at Redeemer:**

**Ladies Psalm 119 Study** - Tuesday starting at 9:30 AM

**Prayer Gathering** - Tuesday from Noon to 1 PM

**Men's Study** - Thursday starting at 7:30 AM

**Catechism Class** - Meets Thursday from 11:15 to 11:45 AM; for ages 3 - 5

### **Serving Today:**

Elder: Fred Janke

Communion Set Up: Les & Mary Leone

Greeter: Brian & Michonne Palmer

Nursery Volunteer: Heidi Van Til

Pianist: Connie Van Til

Special Offertory Music: Meagan Van Til

Refreshments: Barb Weber

Sound Board: Ralph Kott

### **Serving Next Sunday, August 16th:**

Elder: Fred Weber

Communion Set Up: Chris & Nikki Millward

Greeter: Dave & Angie VanDyk

Nursery Volunteer: Kimberly Whims

Pianist: Connie Van Til

Refreshments: Kimberly, Mary Caroline & Christiann Whims

Sound Board: David Smith

**The Session (Pastor and Elders)**

Rev. Scott Korljan, Pastor ..... (773) 971-4055  
Dennis Conant .....941-0055  
Fred Janke .....(216)789-1291  
Bill Morrison.....645-1214  
Fred Weber .....631-1986  
David Schafer (Emeritus)

**The Deacons**

Jerry DeVries .....938-2317  
Chris Millward .....392-2410  
C.J. Weber ..... (231) 357-9553  
Dennis Weise.....223-7483

Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
402 W. Ninth Street  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
(231) 946-1700

Website: [www.redeemertraversecity.org](http://www.redeemertraversecity.org)

Email: [redemerc@gmail.com](mailto:redemerc@gmail.com)

Worship Service: 10:15 am

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America