

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Amos 5:24

The Lord's Service
December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

The Advent Season

This Sunday marks the first Sunday of the Advent season, which is the four Sundays immediately preceding Christmas Day. The term “Advent” is taken from the Latin word which means coming or arrival, and is a season the church has historically set aside for special attention on the significance of the first coming of Christ, and on our waiting for him to come again.

Over the next four weeks we will begin our service with Scripture readings and prayers that help us remember the waiting of God’s people for the Messiah that was fulfilled in Christ’s first coming. The hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” captures this Old Testament longing powerfully: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.” Looking back on Christ’s birth, we rejoice that God fulfilled his promises by sending the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to save his people from sin. At the same time, the Advent season reminds us that we, like Israel, are also waiting for our full redemption. We are living in a world broken by sin, death, disease, difficulties, and trials of every kind. Just as Israel longed for the Messiah, so we long for the second coming of Christ and his promise to destroy sin and its curse in this world, that day when “He will wipe away every tear from our eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Advent is thus a season that emphasizes waiting, preparation, and repentance for God’s people. As one Christian author reminds us:

While it is difficult to keep in mind in the midst of holiday celebrations, shopping, lights and decorations, and joyful carols, Advent is intended to be a season of fasting, much like Lent, and there are a variety of ways that this time of mourning works itself out in the season. Reflection on the violence and evil in the world cause us to cry out to God to make things right—to put death’s dark shadows to flight. Our exile in the present makes us look forward to our future Exodus. And our own sinfulness and need for grace leads us to pray for the Holy Spirit to renew his work in conforming us into the image of Christ.

One of the great benefits of the Advent season is that it helps us re-focus, particularly in the midst of the consumerism everywhere around us, that our hope is not in this world. As we share in the longing of God’s people of old for Jesus’ first coming, we renew our desire for his second coming. This season is also another opportunity for us to cultivate an attitude of repentance and humility for our sin. If we are to fully enter into the joy of Jesus’ birth on Christmas morning, we must ask God to help us mourn over our captivity to sin and failure to love and serve him which made it necessary.

The Lords Service

December 10, 2017

Welcome and Announcements

Second Sunday of Advent

Reading, Prayer and Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Psalm 147:1

Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;

for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

Pastor Scott Korljan

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

† **Opening Hymn** #203 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” (**Children only** will sing the chorus on Vs. 1 & 2 then everyone sings the chorus on Verse 3)

1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
 Late in time be - hold Him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
 pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain
 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King.”

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

† Invocation

Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Let us pray.

† The Greeting

2 John 3

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from
Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

Amen

† Response

#218 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (Verse 5 only)

All creation, join in praising

God the Father, Spirit, Son;

evermore your voices raising

to th'eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn King.

Confession of Sin

1 John 1:5-7

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.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.

Forgive us, we pray, for our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our willful blindness to the suffering and need of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our failure to love our neighbor and count his interests more significant than our own. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Declaration of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:4-5

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—by grace you have been saved.”

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

† Hymn of Assurance “O, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

1. Oh the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast, un -
 deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread His far sur -
 deep, deep love of Je - sus, far sur -

meas - ured, bound - less, free, roll - ing as a might - y
 praise from shore to shore, how He came to pay our
 pass - ing all the rest! It's an o - cean full of

o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me. Un - der -
 ran - som through the sav - ing cross He bore; how He
 bless - ing in the midst of ev - ery test. Oh the

neath me, all a - round me is the cur - rent of Your
 watch - es o'er His loved ones, those He died to make His
 deep, deep love of Je - sus, might - y Sav - ior, pre - cious

love, lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward to Your
 own; how for them He's in - ter - ced - ing, plead - ing
 Friend! You will bring us home to glo - ry, where Your

glo - rious rest a - bove. Oh the
 now be - fore the throne.
 love will nev - er end.

deep, deep love! All I need and trust is the
 deep, deep love of Je - sus.

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 1:10-17; James 1:22-27

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 red Visitor Pad for all visitors to sign.

† 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.

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

† Sermon Text Reading

Amos 5-6 (selections 5:6-7; 10-15; 18-24; 6:1-7)

⁶ Seek the LORD and live,
lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph,
and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel,

⁷ O you who turn justice to wormwood
and cast down righteousness to the earth!

¹⁰ They hate him who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor him who speaks the truth.

¹¹ Therefore because you trample on the poor
and you exact taxes of grain from him,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not dwell in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹² For I know how many are your transgressions
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and turn aside the needy in the gate.

¹³ Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time,
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴ Seek good, and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,
as you have said.

¹⁵ Hate evil, and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

¹⁸ Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!

Why would you have the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, and not light,

¹⁹ as if a man fled from a lion,

and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,

and a serpent bit him.

²⁰ Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹ "I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,

I will not look upon them.

²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;

to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

¹ "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,

and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,

the notable men of the first of the nations,

to whom the house of Israel comes!

² Pass over to Calneh, and see,

and from there go to Hamath the great;

then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?

Or is their territory greater than your territory,

³ O you who put far away the day of disaster

and bring near the seat of violence?

⁴“Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,
⁶who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.”

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Autopsy of a Dead Religion, Part 2”

Pastor Scott Korljan

“Autopsy of a Dead Religion, Part 2”

Discussion questions:

1. Why is ‘cheap grace’ so easy for us to believe? How do we fight against it?
2. How do we keep an emphasis on ‘good works’ from turning into legalism?
3. For further study: Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 16, “Of Good Works”.

Prayer of Application

† **Sermon Hymn** #498 “Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!” (**Verse 1 only**)

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me,
he, my Savior, makes me whole.
Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
he is with me to the end.

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

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 Individual Prayers for Communion on Page 19. We hope these prayers will be helpful to you as you consider your relationship to Jesus Christ and His people, the church.

Affirmation of Faith Philippians 2:5-11

**Christ Jesus,
Though he was in the form of God,
Did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,
But emptied himself,
Taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
He humbled himself
And became obedient to the point of death—
Even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
And gave him the name that is above every name,
So that at the name of Jesus
Every knee should bow,
In heaven and on earth and under the earth,
And every tongue should confess the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

Lamentations 3:41

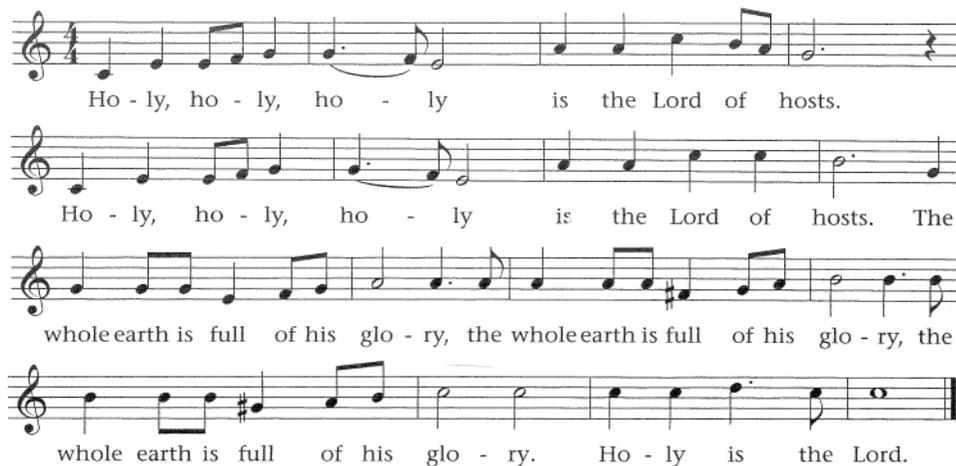
We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 118:1

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. We praise you that you sent him into this world to satisfy our need and our longing for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. And now as we set apart these common elements of bread and wine, we ask you to bless them so that the bread that we break, and the cup of blessing which we bless, would be for us by faith a participation in the body and blood of our Lord. Now with the 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 and Breaking of the Bread

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

Music for Meditation

“Joy Has Dawned”

Joy has dawned upon the world
Promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled
Hope for every nation
Not with fanfares from above
Not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love
Jesus born of Mary
Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable
Hands that set each star in place
Shaped the earth in darkness
Cling now to a mother's breast
Vulnerable and helpless
Shepherds bow before the Lamb
Gazing at the glory
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophesy the story
Gold, a King is born today
Incense, God is with us
Myrrh, His death will make a way
And by His blood He'll win us
Son of Adam, Son of Heaven
Given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man
Christ, the mighty champion
What a Savior, what a friend
What a glorious mystery
Once a babe in Bethlehem
Now the Lord of history

1st Communion Hymn #214 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (red hymnal)

2nd Communion Hymn "Behold Our God"

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
2. Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?
3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands. bearing all the guilt of sinful man?

Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation
Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom
God eternal, humbled to the grave. Jesus, Savior,

ris- es to re- joice. Be- hold our God, seat- ed on His throne. Come, let us a-
all His won- drous deeds?
ris- en now to reign!

dore Him. Be- hold our King, noth- ing can com- pare. Come, let us a- dore Him!

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, you love us, have chosen us, and redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ, whose body was broken and whose blood was shed for us. Grant that we may go into the world, in the strength of your Spirit, to serve you and others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

† Dismissal #196 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (Verse 4 only)

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

† Benediction

† Benediction Response

Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

† =Stand, if able

Bold Words=Congregation

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.

Prayer Requests

Redeemer Family:

- Homebound: Dale Millward and Reva Sharp
- Barb Weber and family as they mourn the loss of Barb's mother.
- Bill Crimmins and family as they mourn the loss of Bill's mother.
- Dave VanDyk's mother who is recovering from heart failure.
- Jim vonDrehle's mother who is in the hospital in critical condition.
- Kathy Van Til and her family. Pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual strength as she continues treatment for cancer.
- Kimberly Close, sister of Katina Gibson, who is struggling with physical, emotional and spiritual difficulties. Pray that God's love and comfort would meet her in this season of need.
- Paul Mann (Maggie's son-in-law) as he undergoes chemotherapy for advanced cancer. Pray for physical strength, recovery and for God to reveal himself to him.

"Thank you most beloved Redeemer family, for all the love, care and support you have expressed to us throughout this time of my mom's illness and her funeral. You demonstrated, most beautifully, the love of Christ through a listening ear, big hugs, phone calls, cards, flowers and friendship. We have the privilege of being part of a unique and Godly church family. We are blessed and sustained by Christ's love through you! Love, Fred, Barb and family"

Churches in our Presbytery:

Good Shepherd, Valparaiso, Indiana - Pastor Rick (Laura) Greene: Pray that our Advent services in December may help us prepare for celebrating Christ's birth and fill us with hope, peace, love, and joy.

Reverend Satoshi (Cally) Kawachi - Pray for the paperwork needed for our visa as our partner denomination in France reviews our project.

Announcements

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

Next Sunday - Pastor Scott preaches from Amos 7-9

Candy Catechism - Catechism question of the month:

Question 21, Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

Detroit Project Offering - Today

Opening Hymns During Advent - We hope to include our children in a special way as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Our opening hymns will be well-known Christmas carols from our hymnal. We invite all ages 14 and younger to the front of the sanctuary during the prelude; older youth should bring a hymnal with them. We will have the **children only** sing the chorus of the hymn with everyone singing the final chorus in unison. Let us rejoice together as we praise our Savior and King!

Redeemer Choir - Will be meeting after church to practice an anthem for the Advent season. All enthusiastic singers are welcome; we'd love to have more men.

Christmas Caroling - Sunday, December 17th following our service.

Fundraiser 'Swingshift & the Stars' - at the City Opera House on December 15th. Please come and support Love INC. Tickets are \$100 each or \$175 for two. Funds raised will support the Medical Equipment Loan Closet, Baby Crib Ministry and Life Skills Classes. Call Love INC (231-941-5683) to reserve your tickets or make a donation to support our dancers.

Winter Festival - January 20th, 3 to 6 pm. At the church, horse-drawn carriage, marshmallow roasting and snow activities. All are invited! See Chris Stevens for more information.

This week at Redeemer:

Prayer Quilt Meeting - Tuesday, 1:30 pm

Men's Study - Thursday, 7:30 am

(Life Together, The Classic Exploration of Christian Community, by D. Bonhoeffer)

Ladies Bible Study - Thursday, 9:30 am & 7 pm

Prayer Gathering - Thursday, 12 noon

Serving Today:

Communion Set Up: Barb Weber / Kate Empie
Greeting: Dennis & Joyce Weise, Barb Weber, Kit Hinz
Music Ministry: Connie Van Til, Lindsay Korljan, Teresa Kott
Sua Lee, Jenny Morrison
Nursery: Heidi Van Til
Refreshments: Beth Nussdorfer
Sound Board: David Smith

Serving on Sunday, December 17th:

Communion Set Up: Ralph & Teresa Kott
Greeting: Dave & Angie VanDyk, Carol DeVries, Brett Schut
Music Ministry: Connie Van Til, Anna & Lily Gibson, Leah, Anna &
Ellen Racine, Redeemer Choir
Nursery: Lindsay Korljan
Refreshments: Sarah Racine
Sound Board: Max Wolfe

Financials	<u>November 30, 2017</u>	<u>November 30, 2016</u>
General Giving + Rentals:	\$249,182	\$253,717
General Expenses:	\$248,604	\$235,515
Budgeted General Giving + Rentals:	\$274,593	

Redeemer Facebook (Redeemer PCATC)
Check out for weekly encouragement and updates.

Want to receive Redeemer email notifications & reminders?

Contact the Church office at:
email: redemertc@gmail.com
phone: 231-946-1700
Website: www.redeemertraversecity.org

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10 Detroit Offering Sunday School 9 am Worship Service 10:15 am	11	12 Prayer Quilt Meeting 1:30 pm	13 Session	14 Men's Study 7:30 am Prayer Gathering 12 Noon	15	16
17 Sunday School 9 am Worship Service 10:15 am Christmas Caroling	18	19	20 Leadership	21 Men's Study 7:30 am Prayer Gathering 12 Noon	22	23
24 Worship Service 10:15 am Christmas Eve Service 5 pm	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28 Men's Study 7:30 am Prayer Gathering 12 Noon	29	30
31 Worship Service 10:15 am						

The Session (Pastor and Elders)

Rev. Scott Korljan, Pastor.....(773) 971-4055
Fred Janke(216)789-1291
Bill Morrison645-1214
Fred Weber631-1986
David Schafer (Emeritus)

The Deacons

Jerry DeVries.....938-2317
Bob Israel645-4054
Chris Millward.....392-2410
Dennis Weise223-7483

Redeemer Staff

Scott Korljan, Pastor
Mr. Chris Stevens, Pastoral Resident
Connie Van Til, Music Ministry
Deb Long, Office Administrator/Bookkeeper

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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Sunday School: 9 AM

Worship Service: 10:15 AM

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America