



Redeemer Reflections

March 2023

A publication of OUR REDEEMER CHURCH, Garden Grove, California

OUR REDEEMER CHURCH, ELCA

12301 Magnolia Street
Garden Grove . CA 92841
T: 714.539.9541
F: 714.539.7672
Preschool: 714.539.6643

Email:
office@orcgg.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

8:30 am Traditional Worship
10:00 am Prayer & Praise

Get on the email list and the
worship service comes to you!

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday
8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Closed Fridays

WEBSITE:

www.orcgg.org

"Like" us on

FACEBOOK:

[facebook.com/OurRedeemerLC](https://www.facebook.com/OurRedeemerLC)

Stay updated with the latest
info and photos.

INSTAGRAM:

[@ourredeemerchurchgardengroveca](https://www.instagram.com/ourredeemerchurchgardengroveca)

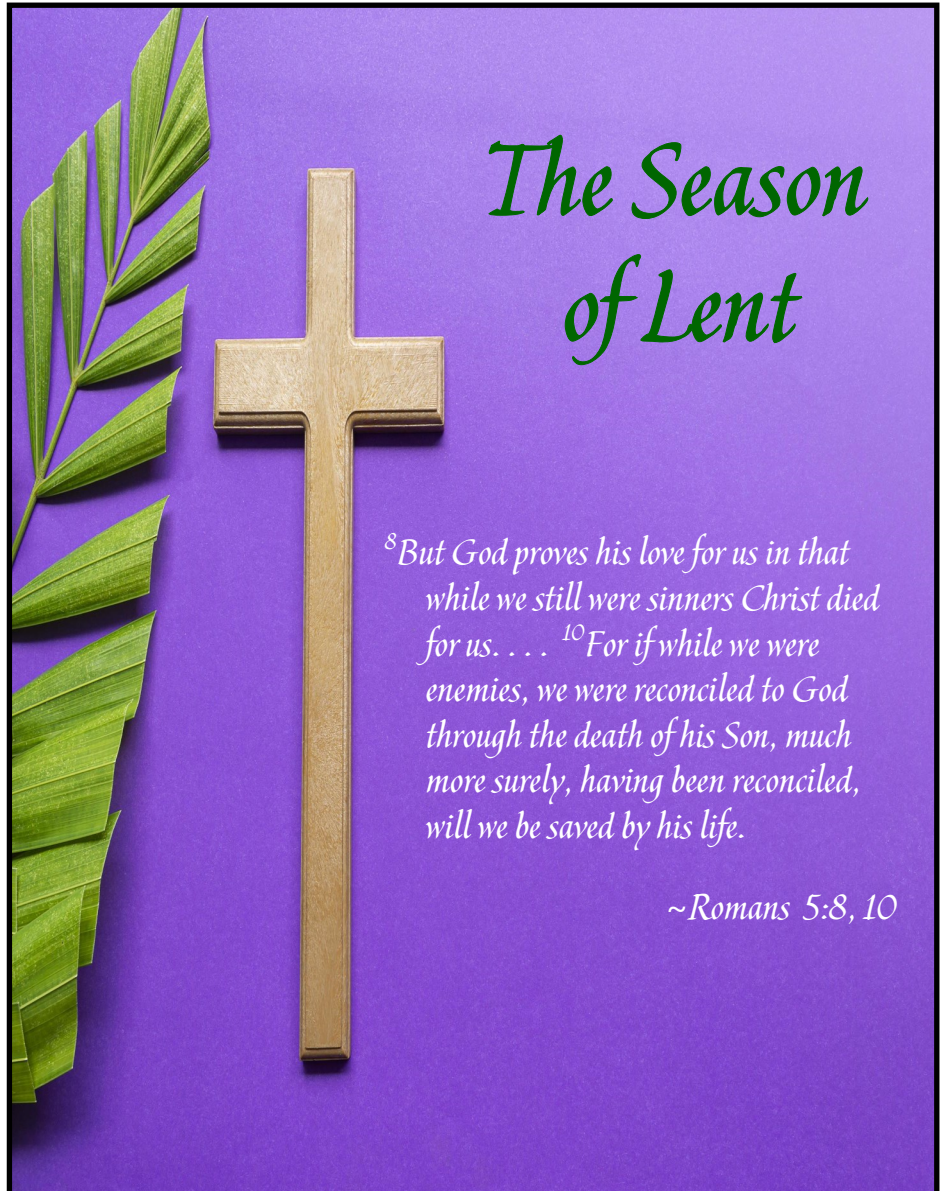
YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/
@ourredeemerchurchGGCA/](https://www.youtube.com/@ourredeemerchurchGGCA/)

Our Mission Statement:

To spread the Good News to all through joyful worship and
service, so that others may believe and accept Jesus Christ as
their Lord and Savior.

Our Redeemer Lives!



The Season of Lent

*⁸But God proves his love for us in that
while we still were sinners Christ died
for us. . . . ¹⁰For if while we were
enemies, we were reconciled to God
through the death of his Son, much
more surely, having been reconciled,
will we be saved by his life.*

~Romans 5:8, 10



Our Redeemer Says "Goodbye" to Our Interim Pastor

Pastor Misael preached his last sermon as Interim Pastor for Our Redeemer on Sunday, February 26th. Pastor Misael has been invaluable as he guided ORC through the Call Process, as well as many challenges (such as the fire at the Magnolia House) over the course of 2022. His ministry was celebrated during Sunday's worship services—his favorite songs were featured and a special slide show¹ was shown. And the congregation had a chance to express their gratitude and wish Pastor Misael "Godspeed" at a reception between the first and second service. Cheesecake (of course) was served at the reception. The congregation also conveyed their appreciation with a gift—a "Waves Stoll" that Pastor Misael can wear during worship. (See photograph, next page.)

In addition to supporting ORC during a time of transition, Pastor Misael led, participated, and supported ongoing ministries, such as Grief/Bereavement Group, Tuesday Bible Study, Chapel time with the Preschool, Young-At-Heart, Men's Breakfast, and Vacation Bible School. He attended the annual Labor Day Weekend at Luther Glen, and was ORC's representative at Rowntree monthly services. He brought his cheerful demeanor to the homebound, visited members in the hospital, and stood by us as we grieved, remembered, and celebrated the lives of ORC members who passed away in 2022.

Pastor Misael has been Called to Christ Lutheran Church in West Covina. He may be away from ORC, but he'll always be in our hearts.

¹The slide show can be viewed on
You Tube at <https://youtu.be/0fPDRMFUQj0>





"Waves" Stoll





OUR REDEEMER SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday, March 12th @ 9:40am

ANNUAL EASTER LILY ORDER

Our Redeemer Church ~ Easter Lily Order

DEADLINE: Last Sunday BEFORE EASTER

If you wish to donate one or more of the Easter Lilies which will decorate the chancel of our sanctuary on Easter, please:

- Fill out the information below
- Enclose \$10/per plant
- Place **completed** envelope in **offering box** (or send to the church office)

Donors and those who are honored/remembered will be published in the Easter worship bulletin.

Name(s) _____ would like to provide _____ Easter Lilies
(Please print your first and last name) (number)

in memory of **OR/** in honor of _____
(please circle one) (please print)

in memory of **OR/** in honor of _____
(please circle one) (please print)

**To Order, Use the Envelopes in the Narthex
or Contact the Church Office**





*Save
the
Date*

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Spring Garden Party

Saturday, April 15th

1:00pm—3:00pm



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

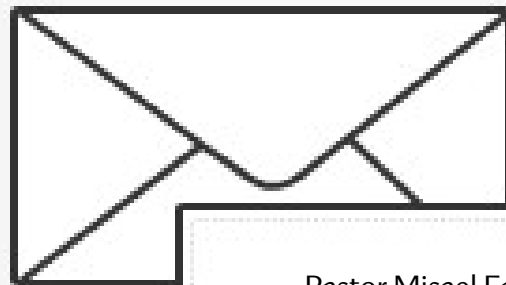
If you need pastoral care,
please contact

Patty Erickson (714.272.3804 or
thepattywagon15@aol.com) or

Lorrie Klevos (714.350.3003 or
loloklevos@aol.com)

or

the church office (714.539.9541 or
office@orcgg.org)



Pastor Misael Fajardo Perez
3811 2nd Street
Apartment B
Long Beach, CA 90803



ORC PRESCHOOL SPRING FUNDRAISER

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN . . .

ORC Preschool is selling an assortment of Easter candies. If you are interested, there is a sign-up form in the narthex or call the church office (714.539.9541). You can pick up your candy at the church office.

Upcoming Weekly Events at Our Redeemer

SUNDAYS

WORSHIP SERVICES —at 8:30am AND 10:00am

- 8:30am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary with
the Adoration Choir
Children's Sunday School in Preschool Rm 1
- 10:00am Prayer & Praise Worship in Sanctuary
Adult Education in the Choir Room

MONDAYS

GRIEF GROUP—at 11:00am

Meets in Choir Room, with Patty Trevor leading.

TUESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY—at 12:00pm

Meets in Choir Room

PRAISE TEAM—at 7:00pm

Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAYS

LENTEN SERVICE—at 7:00pm

Worship Service in the Sanctuary
Holden Evening Prayer
with a focus on *The Lord's Prayer*

THURSDAYS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—at 7:00am

Meets via ZOOM

Contact Lynn Badertscher (lbadertsch@aol.com or 714.852.2064)

ADORATION CHOIR—at 7:00pm

Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

SATURDAYS

LORD'S PANTRY—8:00am until 11:00am

Distributing food (Patio)

Upcoming Monthly Events at Our Redeemer

March 7th
First Tuesday
of the month

RACIAL JUSTICE GROUP—at 7:00pm

All interested persons are invited to attend the ZOOM meeting of the Racial Justice Group on March 7th at 7:00pm.

Contact Person: *Lynne Prechel* (714.966.0124 or lynne@fanfaremusic.net)

MEN'S BREAKFAST—at 7:30am

This month's **Men's Breakfast** is **March 11th** at **7:30am** in Endter Hall, with a program featuring interesting facts about holidays and seasonal celebrations.

Contact Person: *Will Fleming* (714.318.3394 or willvalryan@aol.com)

March 11th
Second Saturday
of the month

March 20th
Third Monday
of the month

YOUNG-AT-HEART—at 11:00am

JOIN US this month on March 20th at 11:00am in Endter Hall for corned beef and cabbage and Irish-inspired side dishes and some entertainment celebrating Saint Patrick's Day!

Contact Person: *Dorothie Bair* (714.746.6290 or ddbair@gmail.com)

ORC BOOK CLUB—at 2:00pm

Meeting on ORC's campus on **March 25th** at **2:00pm** for fellowship and a discussion of a this month's book, The Midnight Library, by Matt Haig.

April's selection: Coyote Waits, by Tony Hillerman

Contact Person: *Ron Stearns* (714.891.9462 or rcs949@yahoo.com)

March 25th
Fourth Saturday
of the month

Upcoming Monthly Events at Our Redeemer



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (WELCA) CIRCLE MEETINGS



Women of ORC meet in-person or via ZOOM once a month:

Grace Circle	@ 1:00pm 2 nd Monday of the month	March 13
	CONTACT PERSON: SHARON THOMPSON (oldppqofficer@msn.com)	
Sincerity Circle	@ 1:00pm 2 nd Monday of the month	March 13
	CONTACT PERSON: WENDY FITZHARRIS (fourfitz2@gmail.com)	
New Faith Circle	@ 2:30pm 3 rd Wednesday of the month	March 22
	CONTACT PERSON: VAL FLEMING (willvalryan@aol.com)	
New Joy Circle	@ 7:00pm 4 th Tuesday of the month	March 28
	CONTACT PERSON: KAREN GUSTAFSON (karengusr1@verizon.net)	

COUNCIL and COMMITTEE MEETINGS



March 1	@ 6:00pm	Call Committee Meeting
March 13	@ 9:00am	Magnolia House Committee Meeting
March 13	@ 4:30pm	Ministry Resources Committee Meeting
March 13	@ 6:00pm	Preschool Board Meeting w/Church Council
March 14	@ 7:00pm	Church Council

ALTAR FLOWERS BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY!



If you donate altar flowers on a Sunday, you may take them home after worship services. Sign up on the bulletin board in the sanctuary hallway.



JOIN US for services throughout this season of Lent:



Holden Evening Prayer each Wednesday

March 15th @ 7pm

March 22nd @ 7pm

March 29th @ 7pm

Palm Sunday Worship Services

April 2nd @ 8:30am and 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Worship Service

April 6th @ 7pm

Good Friday Worship Service

April 7th @ 7pm

Easter Sunday Worship Services

April 9th @ 8:30am and 10:00am

Greg Prechel	03/02
Joey Pyle	03/02
Cathy Seabourne	03/06
Jared Venard	03/11
Dorothy Aanestad	03/13
Emily Leeb	03/13
Jennifer Leeb	03/15
Kenny Insouvanh	03/17
Ann Badertscher	03/21
Susan Nemitz	03/22
Karen Smith	03/22
John Glessner	03/24
Andrew Garcia	03/25
Darrell Tuntland	03/25
Fran Shigeno	03/30

March Birthdays



March Anniversaries

Larry & Sandee Collier	03/12
Gerry & Sue Hanson	03/18

The Season of Lent

Each year, the Christian church embarks on a forty-day journey leading up to Easter, known as the season of Lent. For Lutherans, this season is important. But what is Lent? Why do we observe it?

The Scriptures do not specifically mention Lent, but it has a longstanding tradition in the Church closely derived from the contents of Scripture. As Christ prepared for Good Friday and the Resurrection, the Church follows the Lord into sin's death and resurrection life through the liturgical calendar. Lent recalls the time Christ spent overcoming temptation in the wilderness. Derived from the Anglo-Saxon word, "lencten" (meaning "lengthen" or the time of lengthening of the days), Lent is one of the six seasons of the Christian calendar.

There are many traditions and symbols which mark this season. For example, the color purple adorns the Lord's house throughout the days of Lent. The significance of purple dates back to ancient times, when dye to make purple was very difficult to source, thus purple was a color attributed to royalty. Jesus was draped with purple only once—when He was mocked and ridiculed as the "King of the Jews" prior to His crucifixion. This deep hue has come to represent solemnity, penitence, and prayer as God's people meditate on the agony His Son willingly endured.

Twice during the Lenten season—on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday—the color black decorates the church to symbolize the absence of light, and the curse of sin and darkness which fell over all of creation. Only the death of God's perfect Son could abolish that darkness and provide atonement for sin.

On Ash Wednesday, the sign of the cross is applied upon a Christian's forehead during the imposition of ashes. Traditionally, the ash is created by burning palms from the previous Palm Sunday. This symbolic rite reminds us of the sign of the cross that was placed on us in our Baptisms, reminds us of our mortality ("[r]emember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return"), and the filth of our sin that the blood of Jesus has washed away.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 10)

Another traditional component of the Lenten season is the omission of the word "Alleluia" from the liturgy and hymnody, as well as an omission of the Hymn of Praise. "Alleluia," meaning "*Praise the Lord*" in Hebrew, returns full-voice in the glorious celebration of Easter morning.

The practice of fasting or giving something up during Lent is not required for Lutherans because it is not commanded in Holy Scripture. However, Lutherans may elect to abstain from a "pleasure of the flesh" to remember the great sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to pay for the world's sin.

There are two guiding principles for the observance of Lent: *We should grow in our faith and love toward Jesus crucified, and we should exercise a penitent heart while always keeping an eye on the victory of God on Easter.*

May your Lenten journey bless you as you experience the depth of Jesus' obedience and the great love of God to redeem a world so desperately in need of salvation.

SOURCES: "Lutheran Liturgical Practices During Lent" by Jonathan Swett, www.LutheranReformation.org, March 2017.

"Why Lent?" by Rev. John J. Bombaro, www.stjohnsfarmville.org, 2023.

Happy are they whose transgressions are
forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
Happy are they to whom the LORD
imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
~Psalm 32:1-2





✚ MARCH -AT-A-GLANCE ✚

Mondays	@ 11am	Grief Support Group (Choir Room)
Tuesdays	@ 12pm	Bible Study (Choir Room)
	@ 7pm	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Wednesdays	@ 7pm	Lenten Worship Services (Sanctuary)
Thursdays	@ 7am	Men's Zoom Bible Study (led by Lynn Badertscher)
	@ 7pm	Adoration Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Fridays	Church Office Closed	
Saturdays	@ 8am-11am	Lord's Pantry (Patio)
March 1	@ 6:30pm	Call Committee (Choir Room/Zoom)
	@ 7:00pm	Lenten Worship Service (Sanctuary)
March 8	@ 7:00pm	Lenten Worship Service (Sanctuary)
March 11	@ 7:30am	Men's Breakfast Fellowship (Endter Hall)
March 13	@ 9:00am	Magnolia House Committee Meeting (Zoom)
	@ 9:30am	Staff Meeting (Library)
	@ 1:00pm	Grace Circle
	@ 1:00pm	Sincerity Circle
	@ 4:30pm	Ministry Resources Meeting (Zoom)
	@ 6:00pm	Preschool Board Meeting (Zoom)
March 14	@ 7:00pm	Church Council Meeting (Zoom)
March 15	@ 7:00pm	Racial Justice Group (Zoom)
	@ 7:00pm	Lenten Worship Services (Sanctuary)
March 20	@ 11:00am	Young-At-Heart (Endter Hall)
		NO GRIEF GROUP MEETING
March 22	@ 2:30pm	New Faith Circle
	@ 7:00pm	Lenten Worship Service (Sanctuary)
March 25	@ 2:00pm	ORC Book Club
March 28	@ 7:00pm	New Joy Circle (Zoom)
March 29	@ 7:00pm	Lenten Worship Services (Sanctuary)



KEEP CONNECTED at Our Redeemer!

If you would like more information about any meeting or activity, contact the church office (office@orcgg.org or 714.539.9541)



The Church Calendar is available to view at www.orcgg.org

