

Explanation of Cover Art

In an early November liturgical arts planning meeting, Katie Porcho said that Advent this year should feel like a warm sweater. We began visioning wool and soft textiles to convey cozy warmth, even as we are physically apart in worship. Then, as we went along, all our original ideas for Christmas Eve adapted to be a mobile Advent spectacle that came to you where you were, like Jesus coming to us.

Central to our ideas throughout was the Ojo (God's eye) that looks like a cross or star. Some of the large ones were made many years ago for a different Advent. Kurt Green made the large yellow one, Erin Hall made the intricate one near the front of the stage (stage right), and Moriah Miller made the round star yarn sculpture by the organ. The 2 banners of Ojos were made by many youth, children, and small groups woven together. Each was made at home and brought together to make a beautiful pattern, to be warm and comfy like a sweater.

Explanation of Stage Triptych Art

By Bethany Sanders

The first panel is for 1 Peter 4:12–13, where Peter talks about fiery ordeals.

The second panel is for 1 Peter 5:1-4 where Peter addresses the elders and exhorts them to be shepherds of God's flock. I was thinking about how in 1 Peter 5 the shepherds are also the sheep. So I have a sheeple shepherd doing a fire-man carry of a sheeple from his flock. The background is a cracked desert because the shepherd is carrying the other sheep to safety.

The third panel is for 1 Peter 5:8-9, where Peter tells Christians to resist the devil who "prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." I wondered how sheep could resist a lion. Peter uses the term "resist" instead of "defeat," so I drew the sheep with staffs—defensive rather than offensive weapons—and had them face the prowling lion together.

Explanation of Window Art

By Erin Hall

These tattered royal garments are arranged in structured community. From the perspective of one piece, they may be overshadowed or feel exposed and rub against the frays of another, but from afar even the tattered humble fragments show glimpses of their beauty in how they play off each other. There are many circles and intersections in our body, but one strong common chord. I was also meditating on the ideas of "casting anxiety on him" and clothing ourselves in humility toward one another; submitting to elders as part of the necessary structure: for each piece, if not tied in, would easily drift away. It is also such joy that our Lord sees our beauty now, and delights in us, even as we are.

Welcome

Call to Worship

from Psalm 36:5-9

Leader	LORD, Your faithful love reaches to heaven, your faithfulness to the clouds.
All	Your righteousness is like the highest mountains; your judgments, like the deepest sea.
Leader	LORD, you save both man and beast.
All	God, your faithful love is so valuable that people take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
Leader	They are filled from the abundance of your house; you let them drink from your refreshing stream,
All	For with you is life's fountain. In your illumination we understand what true light is.

Opening Hymn

"All You Do is Good"

All You are full of compassion and abounding in love,
You create things from nothing, call what's not though it was.
You are light with no shadow, with no shifting or change.
You turn weeping to dancing and despair into thanks.

You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good, All you do is good.

You release every captive, cut the shackles from slaves Those who hate you, you ransom, give you blood for their shame. With the bent stem, you're tender, shield the smoldering flame You bring home the unwanted, call the lost back by name.

You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good, All you do is good.

You lift up, you, you revive, you, you restore, you, you increase, you, You anoint, you, you fill up, you, you spill out, you, you release, you, You make grow, you, you bring forth, you, you call out, you, you set free, it's Who you are. It's who you were. It's who you will always be.

Your life is eternal, not in measure but kind Running over with healing, inexhaustible might You in us, and we in you, the delight in your face. Resting here we enjoy you, and our joy is your praise.

You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good. You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good, All you do is good.

Nathan Partain, 2015

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

Based on Romans 1:25; Luke 15:12-13; Romans 8:12; Ephesians 2:3; Galatians 5:19-21

Leader We have turned away from our Creator, and our sin rightly condemns us.

All We exchange God for what he has made, looking for life and meaning in created things.

Leader We have rejected our Father, and our sin rightly condemns us.

All We run away from home, telling our Dad,
"We wish you were dead. Give us your stuff,
so that we can live how we want."

Leader We distrust your promises and listen to our own condemning thoughts and emotions.

All We believe the lies of others and our own self-talk:
"You're a failure. You're worthless."
"I can't ever get that right. I won't ever get that right."

Leader We live according to the flesh, gratifying its cravings.

All
Our minds are set towards this world, what it offers.
We covet and envy.
We divide into factions.
We dabble, and then indulge, in sexual immorality.

Leader Who will rescue us from sin, the flesh, the world, and the devil?

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

Based on Romans 8:1-4; Galatians 5:13-26

Leader Jesus Christ has come in the flesh—even more, the likeness of sinful flesh—to condemn sin and crucify the sinful flesh.

All Christ's life, Christ's obedience, Christ's righteousness are all ours in him.

Leader The Son became a sin-offering for us:
all your condemnation, your guilt, your failure, your self-righteousness
has been poured out on him!

All Praise be to God: we are justified, forgiven, and freed!

Leader Jesus has become the resurrected, ascended Lord in heaven, from where he has poured out his Spirit to give you life.

All Let us then
live by the Spirit, be led by the Spirit, bear the fruit of the Spirit,
and keep in step with the Spirit.

Song in the Gospel

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

All When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down; Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts, 1707; arr. Lowell Mason, 1824; Public Domain

Song in the Gospel

"I Love the Lord With All My Heart"

All I love the Lord with all my heart, his blessings never end, Like water rolling from a fount, his Spirit is within.

I love the Lord, he first loved me, before his name, I knew His life, his death, for me his blood, healed my deservéd wounds. I love the Lord though troubles tempt, my heart to doubt his will. I wrestle with my wayward mind, until my soul is still.

All I want is you, all my springs in you, All my strength and good, all my drink and food, All I want is you.

I love the Lord with all my heart, his presence I adore I want to linger in this place, and worship evermore I love the Lord and I will sing, I lift my hands and voice. My heart now brims with thankfulness, in his love, I rejoice.

All I want is you, all my springs in you,
All my strength and good, all my drink and food,
All I want is you.
All my hope is you, all my joy is you,
All I've sought and searched, in heaven and on earth,
All I want is you. All I want is you.

I love the Lord with all my heart, his blessings never end, Each morning as I search them out, His beauty's new again.

Nathan Partain, 2015

Prayer of Dependence

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Scripture

Romans 8:1-4

Reader

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Charles Anderson
No Condemnation

Community Group Questions

- 1) How do you experience condemnation? What areas does it come at you? What are the signs for you that you're feeling condemned?
- 2) What does it mean that God has justified you in Christ Jesus? Look at Romans 3:21–24 and 4:1–8. How does that answer our condemnation?
- 3) Take one area where you experience condemnation. How can you preach and believe your justification in Christ in answer to that condemnation this week?

Prayer of Response

Community Life

Community Reading of Dr. King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Part-time Deacon Team Coordinator position open. www.redeemindy.org/jobs

Valediction

From Ephesians 6:23-24

Leader

Adopted brothers and sisters, your Father and your brother, the anointed Lord Jesus, sends you with spiritual blessings.

All

Their peace rests on us and stills our turmoil; their love holds us secure, calms our fear, and emboldens us. Their faith gives us what we need to trust our God for all things in every confusing circumstance.

Leader

God's generous gifts and favor are with all of you who love our Lord Jesus Christ with sincere and active love.

Closing Hymn

"A Child of God"

All
I lie down and rest, cause I work no longer;
I breathe in, refreshed no more soiled in disgrace;
I look up at him, to whom I am kneeling,
And I see just delight there in my Father's face.

I am last and low, cause I fight no longer,
To be right or good or to prove my own worth;
I'm not driven or pushed or weighed down with duty;
I am filled with release that Christ did all for me.

I'm a child of God, and love is my freedom; I can ask anything of my Father the King. I'm an heir, I'm adopted, and my brother is Jesus; I'm a child of God, and my soul is at peace.

I stand up in faith, cause I fear no longer, And I pray and wait for my God to provide; I lean all of my weight on him who is able, And I set aside every effort of mine.

I'm a child of God, and love is my freedom; I can ask anything of my Father the King. I'm an heir, I'm adopted, and my brother is Jesus; I'm a child of God, and my soul is at peace.

I know now, I'm safe, cause nothing can harm me Or break in and take what's been stored up for me; I need not to cling to dead helpless idols; They no longer can hold any comfort for me.

I'm a child of God, and love is my freedom; I can ask anything of my Father the King. I'm an heir, I'm adopted, and my brother is Jesus; I'm a child of God, and my soul is at peace.

Nathan Partain, 2011

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2021 budget: \$ 2,256,301

year to date giving: \$ 31,193.99

Congregational Giving

Jan 10 th	\$ \$31,193.99
Jan Total	\$ \$31,193.99
Jan Budget	\$ \$188,025.08