

Opening Hymn

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

All

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.**

words: Anonymous, 9th cent.; trans.: John M. Neale, 1851; music: French melody, 15th cent.

Advent Reading

Reader

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. And above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

Call to Worship

based Psalm 29:1-2

Leader

Dearest children of God, this is happening right now in the heavenly realm,
there is unbridled response to the ever blooming glories of God.
Let us now join our hearts with theirs by faith and the whole kingdom of God:

All

**Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
May we worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.**

Hymn

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

All

**O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free, thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save, and give them victory over the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer, our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.**

words: Anonymous, 9th cent.; trans.: John M. Neale, 1851; music: French melody, 15th cent.

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

based on Matthew 28:18; Romans 8:9-11, 34

Leader Jesus has come and redeemed his people.
The baby born in Bethlehem
is now the risen Lord with all authority in heaven and earth.

All **We can't see Jesus, so we struggle to believe he's real.
If something's unseen, we think it's uncertain,
so we confess with our mouths that Jesus is Lord,
but waver with our hearts.**

Leader Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, interceding for us.

All **We feel like outsiders in God's presence.
We struggle to believe we can come to him.
We don't see ourselves as children whom he loves.
We feel like we have to prove we belong.**

Leader Jesus is with us now by his Spirit.

All **We feel like we're alone, left to fend for ourselves.
We trust ourselves to make our own way.**

Lord Jesus, we believe. Help our unbelief.

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

based on Hebrews 7:24-27

Leader Because Jesus has been raised from the dead and lives forever,
he has a permanent priesthood.

All **Therefore, he is able to save us completely,
as we come to God through him,
because he always lives to intercede for us.**

Leader Jesus the high priest truly meets our need:
He is holy, blameless, pure.

All **He does not need to offer sacrifices any more.
He has offered himself as the sacrifice for our sins once for all.**

Song in the Gospel

“Thou Who Was Rich”

All **Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love’s sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love’s sake becamest poor.**

**Thou who are God beyond all praising,
All for love’s sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising,
Heav’nward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who are God beyond all praising,
All for love’s sake becamest man.**

**Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
Make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.**

words: Frank Houghton; music: French Carol Melody; arr.: Charles Kitson, 1930

Song in the Gospel

“O Savior Rend”

All

**O Savior, rend the heavens wide;
Come down, come down with mighty stride;
Unlock the gates, the doors break down,
Unbar the way to heaven’s crown.**

**O Morning Star, O Radiant Sun,
When will our hearts behold your dawn?
O Sun, arise; without your light,
We grope in gloom and dark of night.**

**Sin’s dreadful doom upon us lies;
Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
O, come, lead us with mighty hand,
Through exile to the promised land.**

**There shall we all our praises bring
Ever to you, our Savior King;
There shall we laud you and adore
Forever and forever more.
Forever and forever more.
Forever and forever more.**

words: German spiritual song; trans.: Martin L. Seltz; music: Nathan Partain, 2003

Prayer of Dependence

Children’s Worship is for ages 3 through kindergarten and is a time for children to worship through song, Bible stories, and response (art or story play). Children will return to the sanctuary before communion. Parents, please pick them up in the back of the sanctuary at that time. Visitors are welcome, and parents are always invited to attend with their children.

Offering of Gifts and Service

Remembering our Baptism

Based on Matthew 28:18-20

Leader Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Westminster Shorter Catechism: Question #94

Leader What is Baptism?

All **Baptism is a sacrament in which the washing with water, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, does signify and seal our grafting into Christ, and receiving of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord’s.**

Song of Baptism

“Baptized in Water”

Leader Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting His promise, faithfully now God’s praise we sing.

All **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
One with His rising, freed and forgiven, looking to heaven now we sing.**

In the name of God, the Father, with the Son and Holy Ghost.

words: Michael Seward, 1982; add. lyrics: Bruce Benedict; Traditional. Gaelic Melody

Baptism

1st Service

Adelyn Lou Freeman, daughter of Brent and Alex Freeman

Jonathan Matthew Wallace Johnson, son of Ryan and Gretchen Johnson

2nd Service

Philip Elliott Overley, son of Matt and Ashley Overley

Parents' Vows

Leader

1. Do you acknowledge Adelyn/Jonathan/Philip's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on her/his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her/his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly commit Adelyn/Jonathan/Philip to God and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her/him a godly example, that you will pray with and for her/him, that you will teach her/him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her/him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Congregation's Vows

Leader

Our God made a covenant with Abraham, the father of all who believe, saying,

"I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."

All

**Peter preached the gospel to the church saying,
"The promise is for you and your children,
and for all who are far off
for all whom the Lord our God will call.""**

Leader

Do you, the members of this congregation, receive Adelyn Freeman/Jonathan Johnson/Philip Overley into this church as one whom God has called his own according to the covenant? And do you now promise to surround her/him with Christian love, to pray for her/him, and to set an example of genuine faith and virtue?

All

**We do, for whoever welcomes this child in Christ's name, welcomes him.
And whoever welcomes Christ, welcomes the one who sent him.**

Ministry Interview

Brandon Buller, CCO

Scripture

Exodus 33:12-23

Reader

¹² Moses said to the Lord, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” ¹⁴ And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” ¹⁵ And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.” ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” ¹⁸ Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” ¹⁹ And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The LORD.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.” ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” ²¹ And the LORD said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock,” ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

Reader
People

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Brandon Buller

We belong to God. God belongs to us.

Notes

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Community Group Questions

- 1) *We all have portions of our identity that we take for granted, which play out subconsciously in our lives. In the spheres of family, work, and friendship, functionally how do you take God’s presence with you into the world as one who belongs to him?*
- 2) *It can feel insecure to say that “God belongs to us” because he is so great and holy (“No one may see me and live” Ex 33:20). What are some of the individual reasons that cause us to doubt that he is ours, or block us from desiring all of God’s presence? Why aren’t we as boldly confident as Moses was, given that we have Jesus as our guarantor?*
- 3) *Some think that heaven sounds like sanctified boredom. Do you agree? Be honest. How do Exodus 33:12-23 and Revelation 22:1-5 impact your response?*

Children’s Questions:

Jesus, who is God, says to “Ask, and it will be given to you.” What are some of the things you want to ask God for? Do you think asking to know God more should go on the top of the list?

Call to Communion and Prayer

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation and who are members of congregations which proclaim the gospel to receive Communion with us. We will be coming forward for the distribution of Communion. Please eat the bread privately, and then drink the cup together with us after everyone has returned to their seats. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Children who have been interviewed by the elders are able to partake of Communion.

The ministry of prayer is one of the ways we live together as a community of believers and seekers. During Communion, members of our prayer team are available at the front of the sanctuary. It would be our privilege to pray with you as we walk together through the joys and struggles of life. We also encourage you to pray with one another in the pews during this time of movement in our service.

Prayers

Prayer for Guidance to Truth

God, I don't know how I feel about what I have heard today but I want to trust that you are good, that you are loving, and that you are just. I want to know if you are the true God. If you are there, would you guide my soul to the truest truth. I don't want to be tricked or believe a lie. I don't want to believe in something just to make me feel better. Please God, lead me to the truth.

Prayer of Belief and Repentance

Jesus, I believe that you are who you say you are: the Son of God and the savior of broken people like me. I need forgiveness. I need to be made new and to start over again. I now turn away from all I have been doing. I turn away from my self-centered life. I turn my whole heart toward you. I believe that when you were crucified, you took all of my evil and somehow you gave me all of your beauty. I invite your Holy Spirit to live in me. I do not want to live for myself any more. I want you to lead my life. I want to know you and to receive your love for me. Please teach me and protect me and guide me. I am yours. I ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Doubt and Faith

God, I don't really believe all of this, but there is a part of my heart that knows there is truth and goodness here. I am confused by the fact that there are so many things that I don't understand or that make me angry about you. There are also so many things that fill my heart with hope and many things that draw me to you, and I want to put my trust in you. God, you say I can come to you and ask for anything, so if you are real, please give me the faith I need to believe. Give me the desire to continue to seek after you. Keep my heart from self-deception. Protect me from any evil misleading or binding spirits. Calm my fears. Soften my cynicism. Be patient with me, and if you are God, please don't let me go, but instead let me know that you are real. I have a little faith, help me in my doubt.

Song of Celebration

“For His Own Sake”

Ensemble

I have seen the bright birth of the morning.
I have worked through the sweat of the day.
I have laughed as the summer rains poured down from heaven and
I’ve harvested oceans of grain.
I have worked and I’ve worked and had nothing.
I have prayed and I’ve prayed with no rain.
I have lost to the fire, storm and locust and
Woke up to find all my land left in shame.
Still each morning and noon and in evening,
I will trust my Lord and bless his name.
Not seeking the gain but the Giver,
So that I love him for nothing but for his own sake.

I have made the mistake that my blessing,
Means the favor of God on my ways,
And thought every hardship, his anger against me and
Cried out in darkness for grace.
Now I know that his favor is steadfast,
He has anchored my soul in his peace,
So that suffering is now just the pangs of my hunger,
To know the embrace of my King.
Still each morning and noon and in evening,
I will trust my Lord and bless his name.
Not seeking the gain but the Giver,
So that I love him for nothing but for his own sake,

I have learned that this world is not truest.
That there’s hope held securely beyond and
Since Jesus has suffered through my own destruction,
I entrust my all to my God.
I have seen deepest loss bring rejoicing,
Seen a mother with her stillborn sing praise,
I have seen those abused and those ravaged by sickness,
Through tears and in anguish give thanks.
Still each morning and noon and in evening,
I will trust my Lord and bless his name.
Not seeking the gain but the Giver,
So that I love him for nothing but for his own sake.

Nathan Partain, 2014

Song of Celebration

"It's a Lovely Wait"

Ensemble

I've seen great beauty in the starlit sky,
In the sweep of music, in my lover's eyes
But it has no weight apart from you.
I've sought for comfort, and I've scrounged for rest,
And I've searched for someday I could be content,
But the land is wanton, without you.

I've known man's glory, just how it lasts,
With its fading flower and its withering grass
Cause There's nothing living, without you
I found innocence was stained, all the gold was lead,
I drank the ocean but I thirst again.
Cause the heart is restless without you.

So, I eat the dust, I wear the ash
I bear the hunger, I keep the fast
It's a lovely wait, to be with you.
I cry out in losses and I wait through wars,
But I know my Portion, my great Reward
It's a lovely wait, to be with you.

I'm across from Canaan I'm looking in,
At the beautiful splendor of the Promised land
But I will not enter, without you.
There is no affection, there is no feast,
There is no pleasure, there is no peace,
No, there is no heaven, without you.

So, I eat the dust, I wear the ash
I bear the hunger, I keep the fast
It's a lovely wait, to be with you.
I cry out in losses and I wait through wars,
But I know my Portion, my great Reward
It's a lovely wait, to be with you.

Nathan Partain, 2015

Life as Worship

Lunch with the Hinkles | Next Sunday

Nathan Partain's Advent Album Release | Find it on nathanpartain.com

Valediction

based on 1 Corinthians 6:14-20

Leader

O favorite ones,
your bodies were made to be inhabited by God
and his indwelling of you was his purpose for himself as well.
By his great power, our Father raised Jesus from the dead
and he will raise us in our bodies also.
Do you not know that your bodies are mysteriously a part of Jesus himself?
Whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.
Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit,
who is in you, whom you have received from God?

All

**O amazing love, to be one with our Lord and God.
We are joyfully not our own anymore,
we were bought back from what we deserved.
May we seek relationship with God everyday
that he gives his breath to our bodies.**

Departing Hymn

“Canticle of the Turning”

All

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight,
And my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?**

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!**

**From the halls of pow’r to the fortress tow’r,
Not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears,
Ev’ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
For the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev’ry mouth be fed,
For the world is about to turn.**

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!**

**Though I am small, my God, my all,
You work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past,
To the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
And to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
For the world is about to turn.**

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!**

words and arr.: Rory Cooney, 1990; from the Magnificat, Luke 1:46-55; music: trad Irish tune

Benediction

Connecting University Students to Jesus

Brandon Buller, on staff with CCO and Redeemer, serves college students in our congregation and on campus, spending his week primarily at IUPUI. Since IUPUI is part of the very fabric of Indianapolis, being located just on the other side of downtown, we can't be "for the city" without being "for IUPUI" too.

Why College Ministry?

College students have such a capacity to grow the Kingdom, through evangelism and lifelong vocations under the name of Jesus. There is an open exchange of ideas, culture, and particularly identity-claims in the university that allows students to challenge one another, and chances are likely they won't have a community platform for the gospel like college after graduation. During this pivotal time in their lives, we have the responsibility of showing who it is we worship, and what it means to be Kingdom servants in our careers.

Our Role

This is a brand new ministry at Redeemer. We haven't even completed our first semester of ministry yet! In partnership with with CCO, an organization which provides rich resources and expertise, we're aiming to serve college students, and to integrate them well into the worshiping body of Christ. The local church is the place where believers gather and bear the name of the Lord together, and this is no less true for college students. Students have much more to learn from the congregation of Redeemer than they do from Brandon alone, so this ministry cannot afford to be done alone.

Your Role

Over time, expect to see more college students attending and serving in ministries at Redeemer. Be on the lookout for students, help welcome them to the church, and begin building relationships. You can also be praying for the students and for IUPUI more broadly. In fact, please pray that IUPUI would be a place where students develop their spiritual lives as much as their minds, and that Redeemer would be a place students call their spiritual home. If you would like more information on how to be involved with this ministry, or would like to receive a regular newsletter about Redeemer College Ministry, reach out to Brandon at bbuller@ccojubilee.org.



Upcoming Events

Take Part in Advent Art

In light of this year's Advent art theme focusing on the Tabernacle, each of the four Sundays of Advent, immediately following second service, the congregation is invited to come and contribute to an ongoing art piece. Nick Dodge will be organizing volunteers each Sunday at the back of the sanctuary. No art skills required!

The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference - Registration

The Gospel Coalition Women's Conference is coming to Indianapolis this summer, June 11-13. This is a three day conference with women from around the world, studying the book of James and worshipping. Redeemer Women has a discount code to help with the cost. On the conference website, please choose the individual registration option, and enter the discount code (REDEEMINDY) at the bottom of the first page, which will give \$25 off. Email [women@redeemindy.org] if you are interested in opportunities to gather with other Redeemer Women going to the conference.

Feeling inadequate to handle life and relationships?

Redeemer's counseling service, New Hope Counseling, is here to assist you [newhopeindianapolis.org]. Email [counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org] and you'll be connected with the right counselor for you. Placement may take 1-2 weeks. Our team sees children, teens, couples, families, and individual clients. Partial scholarships available if needed.

Contact Us

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