

REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# EASTERTIDE

APRIL 11, 2021



## **Cover Art**

*Kipp Normand*

## **Flower Installation**

*Hidi Gardner led the concept, and many in our community worked to make many, many flowers.*

## **Tree Window Covering**

*Barb Knuckles and the Kyle Ragsdale Community Group*

## **Vestments**

*Lauren McElhaney and Molly Kelly*

## **Communion Set**

*TJ Samuels*

# Welcome

## Call to Worship

*Based on 1 Peter 1:3-12*

*Leader* Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

*All* **According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

*Leader* To an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
kept in heaven for us,

*All* **Who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

*Leader* In this we rejoice, even through the trials of life,

*All* **So that the tested genuineness of our faith may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  
If we share in his death, how much more will we share in his resurrection!**

# Opening Hymn

*“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”*

*All*

**Jesus, thy blood and righteousness  
My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
'Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,  
With joy shall I lift up my head.**

**Bold shall I stand in thy great day;  
For who aught to my charge shall lay?  
Fully absolved, through these I am,  
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

**So I join with the song of the Lord's redeemed.  
And I praise with the throngs at the throne of my King!  
Oh the might! Oh the fear! Oh the mercy that's His,  
In the blood of his Son and the grace that it gives.**

**O let the dead now hear thy voice;  
Now bid thy banished ones rejoice;  
Their beauty this, their glorious dress,  
Jesus, thy blood and righteousness.**

**So I join with the song of the Lord's redeemed.  
And I praise with the throngs at the throne of my King!  
Oh the might! Oh the fear! Oh the mercy that's His,  
In the blood of his Son and the grace that it gives.**

*words: Nikolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1739; music: Nathan Partain, 2010*

# Prayer of Adoration

## Prayer of Lament and Confession

*Leader* In this Easter season of resurrection, we lament the power of death in our midst.

*All* **We grieve the reality of death,  
from disease and in violence.  
We grieve how we die before we die:  
In loneliness and isolation,  
In addiction and abuse.  
This world is not how it was meant to be.**

*Leader* The Easter season calls us into the in-between:  
We have already been raised with Christ,  
and yet we still wait for our resurrection at the last day.

*All* **We confess that we don't wait well for God.  
We impatiently take matters into our own hands,  
as if we can find wholeness on our own.  
Distracted by the pursuits of this world,  
we don't groan for Christ to come again.  
We shrink back from suffering for Christ,  
preferring comfort over sacrificial love for others.**

*Leader* God of all creation and of our hearts—Father, Son, and Spirit—  
Have mercy and hear our lament and confession.

# Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

*Based on Romans 8*

*Leader* Hear this command of comfort and hope, “Do not fear!”

*All* **Jesus has died and been raised from the dead!**

*Leader* Do not fear!

*All* **We have been crucified, buried, and raised with him.**

*Leader* Do not fear!

*All* **Christ is our head, our husband, our covering, and our hope.**

*Leader* Do not fear!

*All* **We are no longer in our sins. We have been forgiven!**

*Leader* Do not fear!

*All* **The Spirit groans in us and for us and will raise us from the dead!**

*Leader* Do not fear! He is risen!

*All* **He is risen indeed!**

# Song in the Gospel

*“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”*

*All*

**How deep the Father’s love for us; how vast beyond all measure,  
That he would give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away,  
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the Man upon a cross, my guilt upon his shoulders.  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished.  
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no powr’s, no wisdom.  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.**

**How deep the Father’s love for us; how vast beyond all measure,  
That he would give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.**

*Stuart Townend, 1995*

# Song in the Gospel

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

*All*

**Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou with me dwelling and I with thee one.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

*Ancient Irish poem and melody, 8th cent; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; Public Domain, arr. Greg Johnson*



# Prayer of Dependence

## Offering of Gifts and Service

*Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]*



## Scripture

*Romans 8:14-17*

*Reader*

<sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Charles Anderson

*Joined to Jesus*

# Community Group Questions

- 1) Read Ephesians 1:3–14. Mark every instance of “in Christ” or “through Christ” (including when there’s a pronoun in place of Christ). What does that tell you about who you are, because you are joined with Jesus?
- 2) In what ways is our suffering part of union with Christ? Are there any ways that suffering is not part of union with Christ? How does suffering with Jesus differ from the world’s narrative about suffering? How might it shape our experience of suffering?
- 3) We live “in Christ.” What we do day-to-day we do “in Christ.” If you think of doing your job “in Christ,” how does that affect it? What about conversations with neighbors, or family relationships, or even eating and sleeping, that all of these are “in Christ”?
- 4) One of the surprising insights from union with Christ is that we are joined to each other because we are joined to him. Thus, how we treat other believers is how we treat Christ (see Jesus’ question to Paul in Acts 9:4). Reflect on ways you’ve spoken to and treated other Christians in the last few days. How would this truth shape your interactions? What kind of perspective does this give you on being part of your community group or Redeemer?

# Call to Communion

## *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 use the hand sanitizer. You will receive the bread into your hands and take a cup from the tray. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Wait to eat the bread and drink the wine until we all do so together, once we are back in our seats. Children who have been interviewed by the elders are able to share in Communion.*

*Communion is a time of connection with the Lord Jesus and with each other. Feel free to sing with the band during Communion. The ministry of prayer is also a way we live together as a community of believers and seekers. Please take the time to pray on your own, or with someone else in the pews (in a socially distanced way).*

## 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.*

# Communion Hymn

*“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

*All*

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it,  
Mount of God’s unchanging love.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by thy help I’ve come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor,  
Daily I’m constrained to be!  
Let thy grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for thy courts above.**

**O that day when freed from sinning,  
I shall see thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in my blood washed linen,  
How I’ll sing thy sovereign grace!**

*words Robert Robinson, 1758; music “Nettleton” from John Wyeth, 1813*

## **Doxology**

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## **Community Life**

Eastertide Prayer Guides

Email Ben Reed, [ben@redeemindy.org](mailto:ben@redeemindy.org), to request a paper or digital copy.

Men's Chili Cookoff, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

## **Benediction**

# Contact Us

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Redeemer Women / women@redeemindy.org

Worship, Hospitality, and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org

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year to date giving:  
\$490,230.40

2021 budget:  
\$2,487,554

## Congregational Giving

April 4 <sup>th</sup> .....	\$	\$14,683.15
April Total .....	\$	\$14,683.15
April Budget .....	\$	\$207,296.17

