



# Epiphany

Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
14 January 2024

God



## Back Wall

Kyrie Lewis, Esther Gray, and Katie Ito with the Yeomans and Peacock families, *Sacred Lineage, Holy Dependence*, 2023, oil of canvas, fabric, baskets, and clay

Themes of hospitality, womanhood, and human dependence are woven together in this piece. The women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy: Ruth and Tamar, Bathsheba and Rahab, call out to us across generations before Mary. Their words and wombs bear witness to the protective and steadfast love of God, represented in the cluster of baskets at the center. Their portraits flank the table-like installation, illustrating the intimate meeting of heaven and earth through a teenager that made space in her literal body to bear Christ.

We call attention to Mary through the clay artifacts in each basket that honor her pregnancy, as her cells expanded and divided, as her body stretched, bled, and tore to make way for the Living Word to dwell as flesh among us. The edge of the table is lined with a braided rope, reminiscent of an umbilical cord. Christ baptizes our human dependency through his reception of Mary's nourishment, hospitality, and affection.

Rejoice! Christ has put on flesh and bone for you. May we extend kindness and reverence to our bodies and our limits as we bear Christ in our daily life to our communities.

## Procession Art

Barb Knuckles, Susan Jones, Tom Peck, and Marcia Jones, 2023

Jesus was incarnate at the hidden level of cells and DNA. The four stands are made from a fallen sycamore branch, with the processed symbols of life sprouting from the dead "stumps". Week One is blood cells, Week Two is nerve and skin cells, Week Three is bone and muscle cells and Week Four is ultrasound images. The four "trees" also allude to the Body of Christ, made up of many parts, with Christ as the Head.

## Banners

Karyl Boring, *Dwelling as We Wait*, 2023

The patchwork of our dwelling together as God's people is joined piece-by-piece with all those who have lived or will live, past, present and future, eagerly longing for Jesus' Return in Glory. Yet, in all of life, Jesus comes to us to dwell in and through us by his Holy Spirit. In joy and sorrow, in community and in solitude, in conflict and peace, in work and rest, in birth and death, in the light of day and the darkness of night, he is present with us as we wait. What wonder in this glorious, mysterious Truth!

## Columns

Josie Thompson with Maggie Lotz, Merri Goebel, Moriah Taft, Sam Ueltschi, Megan Smith, and Quinton Thompson, 2023

## South Window

Caleb Keitt and Derek Bender with Mendy & Emma Foster and Trisha McHugh, *In Your Mercy*, 2023

## Communion Set

Emily Johnston

One can find a few meanings from this piece's colors. The light and dark clay symbolizes how, during birth, the baby emerges from the dark in the womb and into the light outside. It also illustrates the belief that Jesus was the light coming into the dark world. The swirl pattern shows the movement of the dark when lightened. The blue color is in honor of Mary, who delivered Jesus.

# Call to Worship

*from Ezekiel 36:26-27; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Peter 1:3*

*Leader* As it was prophesied, God sent His Spirit to dwell in us.  
We are delivered from our hearts of stone.  
It is by grace we have been saved

*All* **While we were dead in transgressions,  
God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ.**

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

*All* **In his great mercy  
he has given us new birth.**

*Leader* We have been cleansed,  
and are free to walk in the statutes of the Lord.

*All* **For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

# Opening Hymn

*“Arise, My Soul, Arise”*

*All*

**Arise my soul arise shake off your guilty fears  
The bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears  
Before the throne my surety stands, before the throne my surety stands  
My name is written on His Hands**

**Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise**

**He ever lives above for me to intercede  
His all-redeeming love is precious blood to plead  
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race  
And Sprinkles now the throne of grace**

**Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise**

**Five bleeding wounds He bears received on Calvary  
They pour effectual prayers they strongly plead for me  
“Forgive Him O Forgive” they cry, “Forgive Him O Forgive” they cry  
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die”**

**Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise**

**My God is reconciled His pardoning voice I hear  
He owns me for His child I can no longer fear  
With Confidence I now draw nigh, with Confidence I now draw nigh  
And “father, Abba, father” Cry**

**Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Arise (*Arise*) Arise (*Arise*) Arise, Arise my soul arise  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise**

*words, Charles Wesley, 1742, Public Domain;  
music and chorus, Kevin Twit, 1996, UBP*

## Prayer of Adoration

# Prayer of Confession

*based on Ecclesiastes 3:11; Matthew 5:6; Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15*

*Leader* God has made everything beautiful in its time,  
And has set eternity in our hearts.

*All* **We don't hunger and thirst for righteousness;  
We live for what's right in front of us.  
Our longing for beauty goes only skin deep.  
We judge things by how they look on the outside.**

*Leader* God charged humanity to rule over the creation,  
To work and develop and take care of his world.

*All* **We work to gain our identity  
instead of working from our identity.  
We exploit what God has made to serve our own ends.**

*Leader* God made us in his image,  
The crown jewel of his creation,  
To show forth who he is.

*All* **Instead of imaging God, we try to be god.  
We don't want to show what God is like—  
We want to show ourselves.  
We act god-like, trying to take charge of our lives.  
Lord, save us and help us!**

# Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

*based on Colossians 1:15-16; Hebrews 1:3; John 1:14; Isaiah 53:2, 12*

*Leader*      The Son is the image of the invisible God,  
                    The radiance of his glory  
                    And exact representation of his nature.

*All*            **In him all things were created:  
                    Things on heaven and on earth,  
                    Visible and invisible.  
                    All things have been created through him and for him.**

*Leader*      He took on flesh and made his dwelling among us.

*All*            **We have seen his glory,  
                    The glory of the one and only Son.  
                    He came to us from the Father,  
                    Full of grace and truth.**

*Leader*      Yet he had no beauty to attract us to him,  
                    Nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

*All*            **But he poured out his life to death,  
                    And was numbered with the transgressors.  
                    He bore the sin of many—  
                    He bore our sin!  
                    We are forgiven. Amen! Hallelujah!**

# Song in the Gospel

*“We Need to Hear Your Word—Psalm 119:33-40”*

*All*

**Train our hearts to love what you command  
We let go of our perception as you lead us by the hand.  
Every foreign step we trust you as we follow further on  
As you give us your desire, we obey with all we are.**

**Lord, we need to hear your word, Lord, we need to hear your word,  
Please don't let your branches wither or your children die for thirst,  
Lord, we need to hear your word.**

**Turn us back, we try to fill ourselves.  
Show the emptiness fulfillment is outside your perfect will,  
O how easily like sheep deceived without their shepherds voice.  
Make alive in us your scripture, melody against the noise.**

**Lord, we need to hear your word, Lord, we need to hear your word,  
Please don't let your branches wither or your children die for thirst,  
Lord, we need to hear your word.**

**Father, help our souls to hear you,  
Spirit, by your power, break through,  
Jesus, live in us and make true all you've said.**

**Lord, we need to hear your word, Lord, we need to hear your word,  
Please don't let your branches wither or your children die for thirst,  
Lord, we need to hear your word.  
Lord, we need to hear your word.**

*Nathan Partain, 2020*

# Song in the Gospel

*“Hold Thou My Hand”*

*All*

**Hold Thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,  
I dare not take one step without Thy aid;  
Hold Thou my hand; for then, O loving Savior,  
No dread of ill shall make my soul afraid.**

**Hold Thou my hand, and closer, draw me closer  
To Thy dear self—my hope, my joy, my all;  
Hold Thou my hand, lest haply I should wander,  
And, missing Thee, my trembling feet should fall.**

**Hold Thou my hand; the way is dark before me  
Without the sunlight of Thy face divine;  
But when by faith I catch its radiant glory,  
What heights of joy, what rapturous songs are mine!**

**Hold Thou my hand, that when I reach the margin  
Of that lone river Thou didst cross for me,  
A heavenly light may flash along its waters,  
And every wave like crystal bright shall be.**

**Hold Thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,  
I dare not take one step without Thy aid;  
I dare not take one step without Thy aid.**

*words and music: Nathan Partain, 2002, UBP*



# Prayer of Dependence

*Blake & Renata Jackson*

## Children's Worship + Nursery

Redeemer Kids' mission is to partner with parents to help kids develop a lifetime relationship with Jesus. We love having children of any age join us in the worship service and also provide options to families that can engage young children wherever they are developmentally.

The Nursery welcomes children ages 0-3.

Children's Worship welcomes kids ages 4-Kindergarten. We are glad to extend this age and make additional accommodations on a case by case basis (e-mail [emily@redeemindy.org](mailto:emily@redeemindy.org).)

You are welcome to drop your children off at any point. Kids attending Children's Worship must be picked up by the end of communion. Nursery and Children's Worship spaces are located through the doors on the front left of the sanctuary.

## Offering of Gifts and Service

*Online giving available at [[redeemindy.org/give](https://redeemindy.org/give)]*



# Scripture Reading

*Luke 1:67-79*

*Reader*

<sup>67</sup> His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

<sup>68</sup> “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
in the house of his servant David

<sup>70</sup> (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

<sup>71</sup> salvation from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us—

<sup>72</sup> to show mercy to our ancestors  
and to remember his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup> the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,  
and to enable us to serve him without fear

<sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup> And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

<sup>77</sup> to give his people the knowledge of salvation  
through the forgiveness of their sins,

<sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God,  
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

<sup>79</sup> to shine on those living in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

*Reader*

This is the Word of the Lord.

*People*

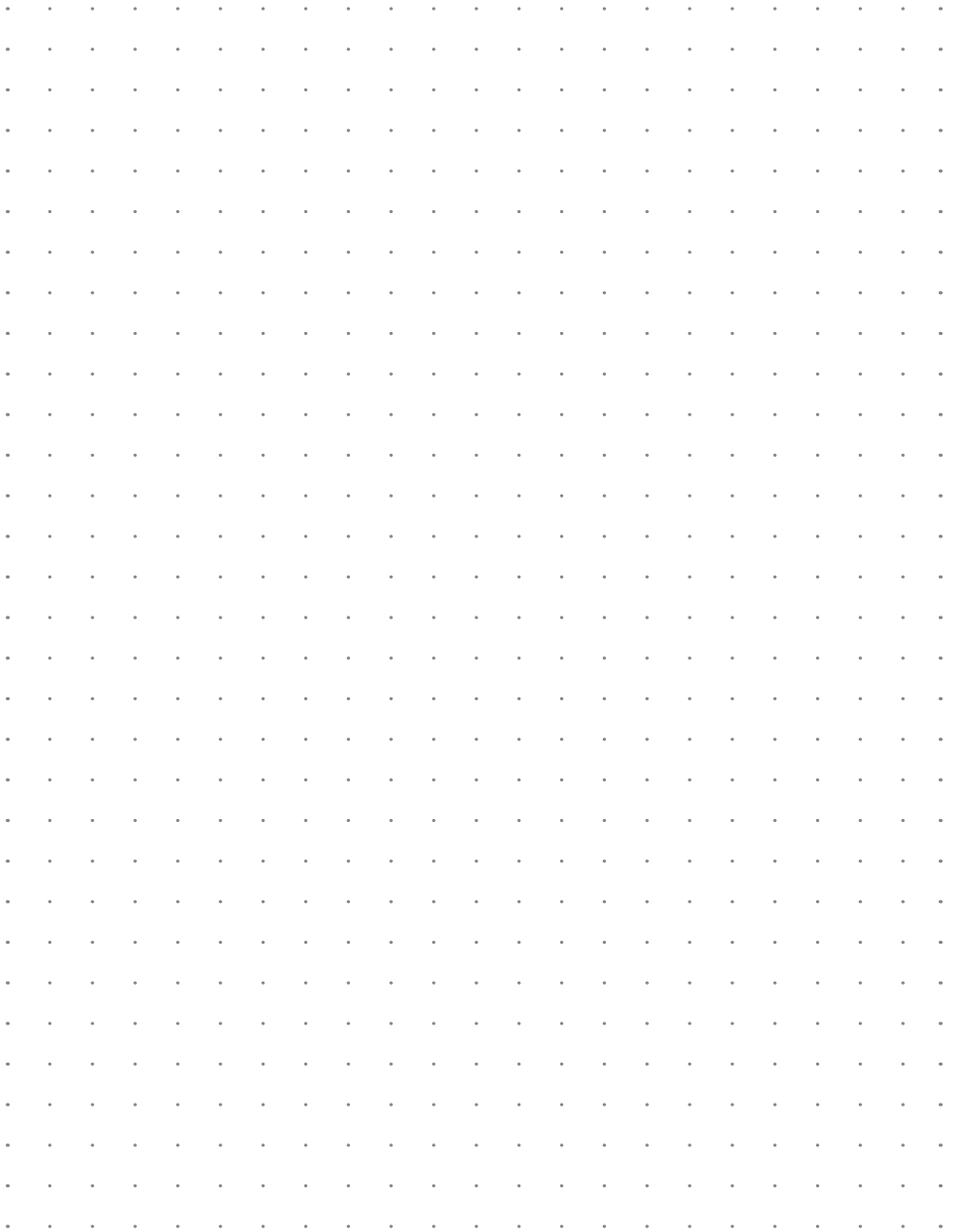
**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Nicholas McDonald

*Creating Beauty Where We Are*

# Notes



## Additional Text

### *Genesis 1:1–3*

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.”*

### *Isaiah 60:1–3*

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn!*

### *Isaiah 55:10–15*

*As the rain and the snow  
come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it  
without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,  
so is my word that goes out from my mouth:  
It will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.  
You will go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace (Shalom);  
the mountains and hills  
will burst into song before you,  
and all the trees of the field  
will clap their hands.  
Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,  
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.  
This will be for the Lord’s renown,  
for an everlasting sign,  
that will endure forever.*

*Joseph Campbell*

*[Back] then all meaning was in the group, in the great anonymous forms, none in the self-expressive individual; today no meaning is in the group—none in the world: all is in the individual. But there the meaning is absolutely unconscious. One does not know toward what one moves. One does not know by what one is propelled...And so every one of us shares the supreme ordeal—carries the cross of the redeemer — not in the bright moments of his tribe’s great victories, but in the silences of his personal despair.*

*John 8:12*

*Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”*

*Brian Jay Jones, “Jim Henson”*

*Kermit was more than a mere straight man; he was the sun around which the entire Muppet solar system revolved. He relates to the other characters on many different levels...More important, they have to relate to him. Without Kermit, they don’t work. Nothing could happen without him. The other characters do not have what it takes to hold things together.’*

## **Call to Communion**

### *Guidelines for the Reception of Communion*

*Redeemer welcomes to Communion 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. 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.*

# Prayer

*If you would like personal prayer during this time you can meet with today's prayer leaders Blake & Renata Jackson located in the back.*

## *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

*“Take My Life and Let it Be”*

*All*

**Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to thee  
Take my moments and my days Let them flow in ceaseless praise  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise**

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee  
Swift and beautiful for thee**

**Take my voice and let me sing, always only for my king  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee  
Filled with messages from thee**

**Take my love my Lord I pour at thy feet its treasure store  
Take myself and I will be, ever only all for thee  
Ever only all for thee**

*words: Frances Havergal, 1874; music: Louis Hérold, 1839.*

## Doxology

*All*

**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!  
Amen.**

# Community Life

OPEN  
NOW  
CLOSES  
Tonight

**Spring Bible Study Registration Closes Tonight** Redeemer Women and Men will study the Book of Proverbs this spring. You will choose the option and time that works best for you (these are the same as the fall times.) Your Bible study leader will contact you by email as soon as possible after registration closes tonight. Register by using the QR code included here.



Today  
10 am

**Congregational Meeting** The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on calling Ben Hein as an associate pastor. Ben is currently an assistant pastor. This move to associate pastor is part of the process for him to be able to plant a church. As an associate pastor, he will be a member of the session and able to do certain things required of a church planter that our denomination does not allow an assistant pastor to do. We encourage all members to make it a priority to be at the meeting.

Jan. 21  
10 am

**Christianity Explored Interest Meeting** Please consider joining us for this information meeting in the Hank & Dolly Gallery if you have thought: "What is Christianity Explored all about?" "I'd like to invite someone, but I don't know how to extend the invitation!" or "I grew up in the church, but I don't really understand the gospel. It's kind of embarrassing to admit that..." We will cover these questions/thoughts and more. We'd love to have you join us. *Any questions before then, please email Erin at erin@redeemindy.org.*

Jan. 21  
12:30 pm

**Newcomer's Lunch** If you are new or newish to the church, we'd love for you to join us for lunch after the 2nd service. It's a great chance to meet people, ask questions, and learn more about Redeemer. Use the QR code to register.



**Join the Stream Team** If you are interested in or gifted with cameras, computers, or helping out at the church, then this is a great opportunity for you to serve. The stream team is a behind-the-scenes ministry (literally) that serves our members who are not able to make it to services in person. It's easy to learn and we are also recruiting high school students. *If you or someone you know would be a good team member, please contact David Atwell at davidatwell@gmail.com.*

More information can be found at our website: [redeemindy.org](http://redeemindy.org).

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

*All Sunday School classes and 10 am Nursery will resume next Sunday.*

*The Nursery will be closed between services this morning.*



## Closing Hymn

*“Nothing But the Blood of Jesus”*

*All*

**What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Oh! precious is the flow, That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**For my pardon, this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my cleansing this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus,**

**Oh! precious is the flow, That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Oh! precious is the flow, That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Oh! precious is the flow, That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Now by this I'll overcome, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Now by this I'll reach my home, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

**Oh! precious is the flow, That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

*Robert Lowry, 1826-1899*

## Benediction

# Contact Us

Charles Anderson Lead Pastor / [charles@redeemindy.org](mailto:charles@redeemindy.org)

Sam Haist Groups & Formation; Assistant Pastor / [sam@redeemindy.org](mailto:sam@redeemindy.org)

Erin Anderson Connections—New to Redeemer? / [erin@redeemindy.org](mailto:erin@redeemindy.org)

Jeff Nottingham Care & Counseling; Assistant Pastor / [jeff.nottingham@redeemindy.org](mailto:jeff.nottingham@redeemindy.org)

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Ben Hein Church Planting Resident; Assistant Pastor / [ben.hein@redeemindy.org](mailto:ben.hein@redeemindy.org)

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Emily Pilkington Redeemer Kids & Redeemer Women / [emily@redeemindy.org](mailto:emily@redeemindy.org)

Mary Paxton Lind Redeemer Students / [marypaxton@redeemindy.org](mailto:marypaxton@redeemindy.org)

Nicholas McDonald Redeemer Students; Assistant Pastor / [nicholas@redeemindy.org](mailto:nicholas@redeemindy.org)

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Giving / [giving@redeemindy.org](mailto:giving@redeemindy.org)

Global Missions / [missions@redeemindy.org](mailto:missions@redeemindy.org)

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) / [mops@redeemindy.org](mailto:mops@redeemindy.org)

General Info / [info@redeemindy.org](mailto:info@redeemindy.org)

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2024 year-to-date giving:

\$42,820



January-December 2023 budget:

\$254,909

Congregational Giving

January 7, 2023 .....	\$	42,820
<b>January Total</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>42,820</b>

## Membership at Redeemer

Membership is meaningful in multiple ways. First, we believe that as Christians, it is a part of our calling to be active and engaged in the Church. When you become a member, you take public vows to confirm your faith in Christ and commit to his Church. These vows submit members to the leadership and discipline of the church. We submit ourselves to accountability just like in marriage, friendship, citizenship, and any other relationship or institution that we enter into.

Membership also allows you certain benefits. Members in good standing are able to vote on church matters. They elect elders, call pastors, and have a say in other church business.

To become a member at Redeemer you must take our Discovering Redeemer class and meet with an elder for an interview. You will take membership vows privately and then publicly before the church. To begin this process, email [info@redeemindy.org](mailto:info@redeemindy.org).

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## Contact Us

1505 N. Delaware St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
317.238.5487  
[www.redeemindy.org](http://www.redeemindy.org)

Sunday Worship  
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Classes  
10:00 a.m.

## Nice to Meet You

We're glad you're here and we'd love to get to know you better. Please help us do that by filling out whatever information you are comfortable sharing below. *Tear it off and put it in the offering plate, or bring it to the Welcome Desk in the back of the sanctuary for a small gift!* We'll be in touch.

### I AM A...

- 1st/2nd-time Guest     Out-of-Town Guest  
 Regular Attendee     Redeemer Member

### FIRST & LAST NAME

---

- Male     Female

### SPOUSE OR FRIEND

---

- Male     Female

### CONTACT

Email 

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Phone 

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### USE THE QR CODES IF YOU'D LIKE TO...\*



Receive the  
Church Newsletter



Join a Community  
Group

\*Go to [www.redeemindy.org/ministries](http://www.redeemindy.org/ministries) for a full list of volunteer opportunities and descriptions.

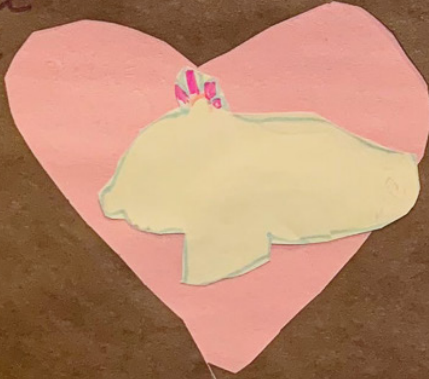
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Jesus  
Love's  
Me So  
Much

olive  
juliet  
engel



REDEEMER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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