



Advent

Redeemer Presbyterian Church
24 December 2023

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, 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 & Cover Art

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.

Hanging Sculpture

Nick Dodge, *Tracing Our Roots*, 2023

This piece expresses how truly tangible Jesus' connection to humanity was by blending the ideas of tree roots and blood lines. Much like a tree is rooted to a specific place, Jesus had a specific place where he was born, lived and matured. Much like blood lines show who we are related to, Jesus had a family tree that connected him to real people. The central intertwined light represents how Jesus takes root in history to instill new life and it is from this root that the whole tree will give new life to many.

Procession

from Psalm 8

Reader

LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.
Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
the son of man that you care for him?
You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,

the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.

All

**LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Call to Worship

from Psalm 98

Leader

Sing to the LORD a new song,

All

**for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.**

Leader

The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

All

**He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

Leader

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,

All

**burst into jubilant song with music;
shout for joy before the LORD, the King.**

Opening Hymn

“Joy to the World”

All

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy**

**No more let sin and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as, far as, the curse is found**

**He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love**

*Words by Isaac Watts, 1719 (based on psalm 98)
Music Lowell Mason (G.F. Handel, 1848)*

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

Leader The eternal Son of God took on flesh and blood, with a real body and soul,
and was born as Jesus, fully divine and fully human.

All **We imagine a Jesus who isn't really like us:
He floats above the ground by a few inches
and is too divine to really be human.**

Leader Jesus matured and got stronger, bigger, wiser;
he grew in favor with God and people.

All **We don't want process—we want results now.
It's hard to grow in our faith; it's slow.
We get discouraged and quit trying.
Sanctification must be for other people, not us.**

Leader Without a Jesus who's really human,
we act as if he's too far away to relate to us.

All **Jesus can't understand what I'm struggling with—
What does he know about it?
Maybe he's too exalted to care about what gets me excited,
or what keeps me up at night worried.
We decide things on our own, we don't depend on Jesus,
we take matters into our own hands.
We live functionally as if we don't have a savior.**

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

based on Isaiah 53; Hebrews 2; 4

Leader

The Son of God became like us in every way,
in order to save us, to rescue us,
so that he could make atonement for our sins.

All

**Because he's really human, Jesus can be our substitute;
he takes our place and bears our sin.**

Leader

Jesus, you know what it's like to be discouraged or tired,
curious, excited, upset, angry,
even to suffer when you're tempted.
Praise God, that through the whole of your life,
you trusted your Father and did not sin.

All

**Help us when we're tempted:
Give us the power of your Spirit to say yes to our Father
who loves us, controls all things, and will keep his promises.**

Leader

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,

All

**So that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help us in our time of need.**

Song in the Gospel

“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**

refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee o Israel

**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**

(refrain)

**O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death’s dark shadow put to flight**

(refrain)

(refrain)

words anonymous, 9th cen.; tr. John M. Neale, 1851

Song in the Gospel

“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide”

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 heavens 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.
Oh, 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 from German spiritual song; tr. Martin L. Seltz
music Nathan Partain, 2003, UBP*

Prayer of Dependence

Will and Laura Tolbert

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.)

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]



Scripture Reading

Hebrews 2:6-10

Reader

⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them,
a son of man that you care for him?

⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels;
you crowned them with glory and honor

⁸ and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.

Reader

This is the Word of the Lord.

People

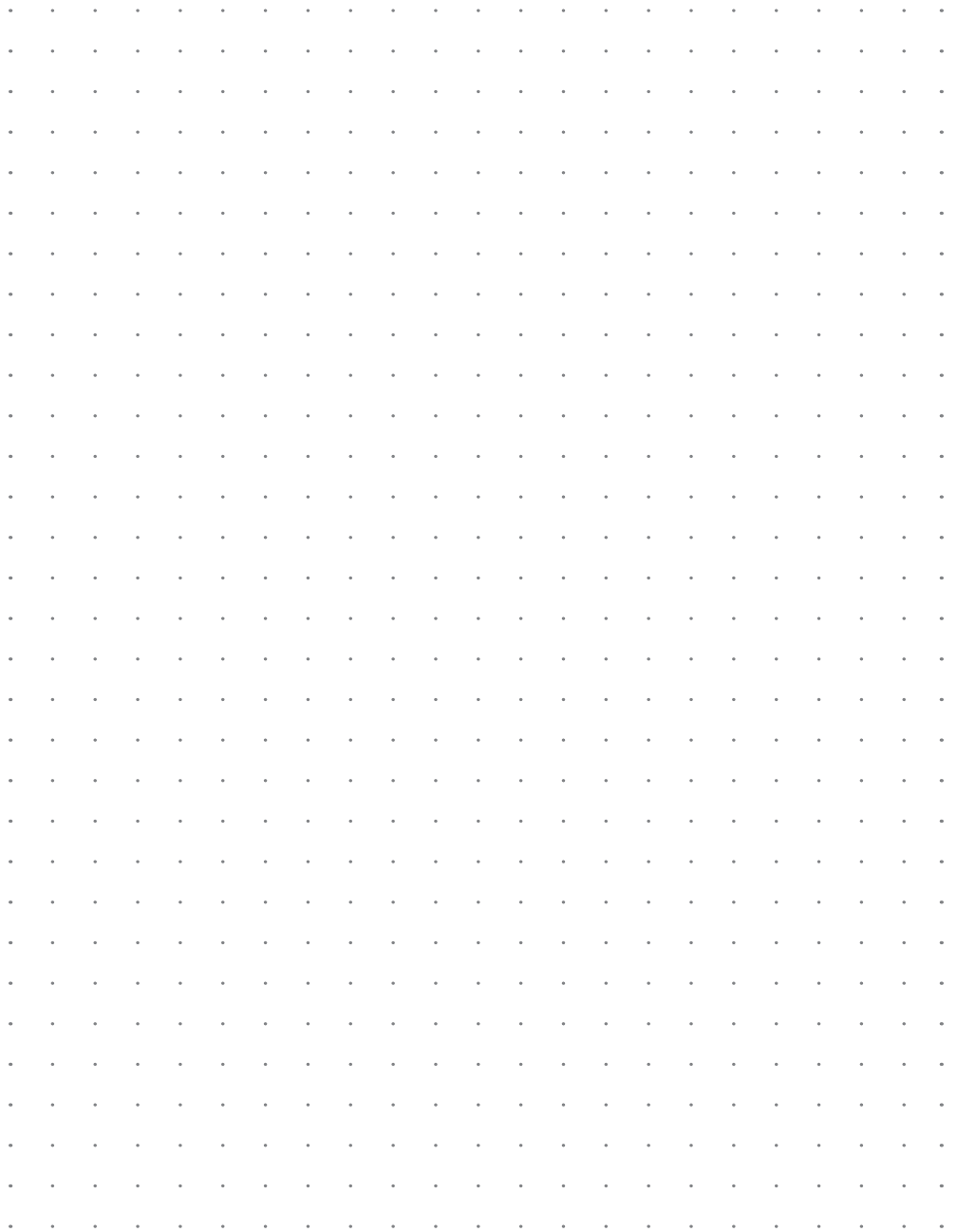
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Sam Haist

But we do see Jesus

Notes



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 Will and Laura Tolbert 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

“When the Lord Came Down”

All

**When the Lord came down, Well it made no sound
Just a little light, mid the noisy night, When the Lord came down**

**While Joseph prayed, Outside he paced
If this was all God’s plan, He couldn’t understand, While Joseph prayed**

**When Mary cried, She held Jesus tight
She was all alone, Far from her home, When Mary cried**

**As the Angels sang, Through the worlds it rang
The tyranny we’d known, Was being overthrown, As the Angels sang**

**What the shepherds saw, In the filthy and straw
Was the King of kings, In raw humility, What the shepherds saw**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Here we fall
With shouts of joy, and tears of awe
For while we were still wanting our sin
And hating Him, God entered in
To show all the scared, the weight of his love
And sparing none, He gave up his only Son**

**When they gave his name, They’d been told he’d save
They hoped he just might, They didn’t know how right, When they gave his name**

Nathan Partain, 2014

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

Feb. 2-3

DEADLINE
Dec. 31

CIP Men's Retreat Join us for a great opportunity to connect with other men, and set aside time to grow together in Christ! Bob Smart, pastor of Christ Church in Normal, IL, will address questions men ask as we are transformed by the gospel. *Email Sam (sam@redeemindy.org). Use the QR code to sign up.*



OPENS
Dec. 31

CLOSES
Jan. 14

Adult Spring Bible Studies 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 on January 14th. *If you have any questions, please contact Emily (emily@redeemindy.org) for more information.*

Other Updates

Church Plant Newsletter Want to learn more about our current church planting team and what they are up to in the Near Westside/Haughville area? *Use the QR code to sign-up for their newsletter to stay up to date.*



More information can be found at our website: redeemindy.org.

Christmas Eve Service Times

5 pm Evening Service

Childcare Provided

7 pm Evening Service

No Childcare

New Year's Eve Service Time

10 am Sunday Morning Service No Sunday School

Closing Hymn

“Arise and Shine, Your Light has Come”

All

**Angels shout and fill the heavens, Still we feel the trembling hum.
For the King of all creation, Long-awaited He has come
Go like shepherds’ humble stature, Not in pomp but earnest fear,
Seek the child and bear your witness, Tell the Hope of all is here.**

Chorus:

**Arise, shine, your Light has come!
Behold He rises like the dawn.
O hear the gathered nations sing,
Rejoice! Adore Him! Christ our King! O Arise!**

**O receive like Mary, Joseph, Wonder at this glorious sight.
See by faith, the angel’s ver’ty: This poor child is Light of light.
Herods will be always hunting, Some by slander, some by sword.
Stand steadfast, O dear believers, Holding out the living word
(Chorus)**

**Watch and wait and keep affection, Stir your hope and faith and love.
Soon you’ll see your vindication, Coming in the clouds above.
Praise and glory now and ever, In this world and that to come
Quick the city, down from heaven, Jesus calls His bride, “Come home!”**

(Chorus)

Nathan Partain, 2015

Benediction

Contact Us

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New Hope Counseling / counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org

Deacon Team / deacons@redeemindy.org

Giving / giving@redeemindy.org

Global Missions / missions@redeemindy.org

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) / mops@redeemindy.org

General Info / info@redeemindy.org

2023 year-to-date giving:

\$2,568,423

January-December 2023 budget:

\$2,785,909

Congregational Giving

December 3, 2023	\$	45,068
December 10, 2023	\$	126,982
December 17, 2023	\$	59,915
December Total	\$	231,964

Our Mission & Values

Redeemer exists to connect people to Jesus who is bringing wholeness to the city. We believe that the best way for us to follow Jesus in his mission is through:

- Walking in the light of who we truly are because of the ***transforming safety of the gospel***
- Joyfully receiving and being obedient to the ***life-giving authority of scripture***
- Coming wholeheartedly and attentively to our Father through ***thoughtful, expectant worship***
- Being daring and sincere with one another, seeking ***meaningful relationships***
- Bringing all that we have into every sphere of our lives, ***creating beauty where we are***
- Being ready at each moment with compassion and boldness, to step into ***respectful evangelism***
- Praying and following the leading of the Holy Spirit, remaining in our ***desperate dependence on Jesus***

Contact Us

1505 N. Delaware St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317.238.5487
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

Phone

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



Recieve the
Church Newsletter



Join a Community
Group

*Go to www.redeemindy.org/ministries for a full list of volunteer opportunities and descriptions.



REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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(317) 238-5487