

### Cover Art

Ouincy Owens

# **Window Covering**

Barb Knuckles

The window is a map of rebuilding: the rings represent us, our families, tribes, workplaces, neighborhoods, and the city. The metallic pipecleaners represent our interconnections, creating a beautiful pattern of God's grace and mercy reaching far beyond our individual selves.

### **Platform Art**

Towers represent the corners of the rebuilt temple, constructed during Ezra's time. Golden bowls, part of the treasure provided to build the temple, define the structures. Yet, as the church calendar progresses, they also become monumental Advent candles, signalling our anticipation of Jesus, savior of the world.

### **Banners**

The places we are from carry a feeling, a texture. The familiarity of a handrail or a rocking chair, a tile floor, a crack in the sidewalk can take us back in time, give us a sense of place, or keep us grounded. This season members of our community, mostly our youth and teens, have shared the texture of their place with us in these harmonious banners made of graphite rubbings on paper. These banners themselves are a tiny crack into small places and things that matter to big meaningful lives—and remind us to reconnect, engage, and to be present and intentional in the spaces we inhabit.

# **Stage Wall Installation**Dirk Edwards, Hidi Gardner, and Redeemer parishioners

### Golden Cloud

Kyle Ragsdale

### Heraldry

Hanging Disc Installation Barb Knuckles

As we rebuild, our unity is in Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the coming/already here kingdom of God. We are examples of the work of God redeeming people from every nation, tongue and tribe, unifying us without obliterating the beauties of our redeemed cultural differences. (Rev. 5:9) We are celebrating our unity and the beauty of our particularity using symbols of heraldry.

### Communion Set

Craig Dodge Lile

### Welcome

# **Call to Worship**

From Psalm 46:1-3; Matthew 7:24-27; Isaiah 40:28-31; Hebrews 12:26-28

Leader Look around you,

The earth is failing,

Our tactics aren't working,

Our foundations are crumbling,

The wind is growing, the storm is raging,

Comfortable religion is breaking,

Our weak identities need to be propped up.

All Jesus our Rock stands firm,

He does not grow weary,

He is not challenged or surprised,

He does not need our help or defense.

Leader Heaven and earth is his,

He has ordained our days to serve his loving purpose,

What is overwhelming for us does not hinder in the slightest

his plan to heal us, bring us to himself, and fill us with eternal joy.

All He is our God, we are his people.

His promises have not faded,

Jesus reigns in power from his throne.

Leader Let us now forsake all other hope,

And stir our faith in Jesus to bring about the kingdom we long for,

To provide for us in this present hour,

and to encourage our hearts by his Spirit.

All We are his cherished beloved.

# **Opening Hymn**

"The Glory of His Name"

All

Let my whole soul bloom like a morning flower,
Spread out my arms to sing my Maker's praise;
And let that sound, a flock of birds, come pouring,
The rivers rise and flood their rocky banks.
The flute o'erflows, the drum o'erflows, the voice o'erflows,
The glory of his name.

Then breaks my soul, a mighty clap of thunder,
The pillars shake, the heav'ns begin to fall;
The mountains split, a world of fear and wonder;
The dark is day, the forest stripped and bare.
The wise laid low, all might laid low, all thoughts made known,
The glory of his name.

Yet in my soul his calm is ever speaking,
Through every hour, against the violence there;
He is the King, though all I see is dying,
When all has passed, his word will still be there.
The earth rejoice, the sea rejoice, his saints rejoice,
The glory of his name.

The earth rejoice, the sea rejoice, his saints rejoice, The glory of his name.

Nathan Partain, 2003

# **Prayer of Adoration**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Based on Isaiah 40; 42; Ezra 3

Leader We fear that God has forgotten us in the wilderness, in exile, in a pandemic.

All Have we dropped off your radar, God?
We doubt that you notice us.
So, we make up our minds to make our own way.
May we lift our eyes to you and believe again that you are personally involved in our days.

Leader Our Father has spoken to us in his Word to assure us of his love, to share himself so that we would trust in him.

All
But we would rather not follow your ways,
or live in accordance with what is written.
We mistrust that we can really get to know you from old pages.
Our experience and insight feel much more relevant.
Help us to see the short sightedness of our wisdom,
and learn that you alone are trustworthy
that in all that you have said to us,
we will find fulfillment and life beyond what we can imagine.

Leader The new that you offer doesn't seem that necessary, we think; the old ways were doing all right.

All

We confess that we don't want to live by faith,
so we settle for the old ways we already know.

Teach us to walk by faith not in what is seen and felt
but what is unseen and to follow you into the unknown.

Leader Our Father, in your mercy, hear our confession.

All Jesus, in your mercy, do not leave us to ourselves.

Leader Spirit, in your mercy, lead us in the way of eternal life.

# **Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel**

Based on Isaiah 40-43

Leader.

O church, how can you say the LORD doesn't see your troubles? O Redeemer, how can you claim, "God doesn't see what's happened to us; our plight is overlooked"?

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

AllThe LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He never gets weak or weary. No one can get their head around his understanding.

Leader

You who bring good news to Indy, go up on Crown Hill. You who bring good news to Downtown, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid.

"Here is our God!" All

> The sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. He gathers his flock in his arms and carries them close to his heart.

Leader

So now, this is what the LORD says he who created you, Church, he who formed you, Redeemer:

All"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned."

Leader "I have given my Son in exchange for you. My Son has gladly laid down his life for you."

AllIt really is true; the Lord has done a new thing! He has made a way in the wilderness.

## Song in the Gospel

"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.

O 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.

O 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. O 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. O precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow; No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Robert Lowry, 1876

## Song in the Gospel

"Bring Your Sick"

All Bring your sick, your restless fevered, filled with anxious shaking moans,
 Who would kill for some relief from, all the itching in their bones.
 Who still search for some elixir, that could ease their gasping breath,
 Some sweet drink to drive the poison, from the writhing in their head.

Bring your wounded, all your broken, who can't stand up on their own. Who are weak beyond dignity, who will never become strong. They will only need more helping, each investment is a loss; Yes, bring all those who could never, return any of their cost.

Jesus Christ says, "Gather to me, all you lost, you poor, you dead! I'm your sacrifice, your ransom, I was given in your stead. I have found you, freed you, healed you, my compassion you can trust; I redeem the undeserving, I am generous with my love."

Bring your fearful, bring your cowards, bring your hiding cornered strays. Those who fly at every shadow, those who run without a chase. Bring the cursed, abused, neglected, who have lived their lives in caves, Who distrust the light as darkness, while they long to be embraced.

Jesus Christ says, "Gather to me, all you lost, you poor, you dead! I'm your sacrifice, your ransom, I was given in your stead. I have found you, freed you, healed you, my compassion you can trust; I redeem the undeserving, I am generous with my love."

Bring your bound, the souls imprisoned, bullied by the threat of pain, Who have tried and tried for freedom, but have always failed escape. Those who live with their aggressor, whisp'ring doubts into their ear, Who dare not hope on a savior, lest they be crushed by despair.

Jesus Christ says, "Gather to me, all you lost, you poor, you dead! I'm your sacrifice, your ransom, I was given in your stead. I have found you, freed you, healed you, my compassion you can trust; I redeem the undeserving, I am generous with my love."

Nathan Partain, 2014

# **Prayer of Dependence**

### **Children's Worship**

Children's Worship, for kids ages 3–5, is where children can begin to learn how to worship as a church family. Please check in your child before the service either in the back of the sanctuary or at the nursery desk. They will be dismissed right before the sermon, and we will bring them back into the sanctuary during communion. Parents must have their security tag when picking up their child in the sanctuary.

# Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



## **Scripture**

Ezra 4:1-24

Reader

- <sup>1</sup> When the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the exiles were building a temple for the LORD, the God of Israel, <sup>2</sup> they came to Zerubbabel and to the heads of the families and said, "Let us help you build because, like you, we seek your God and have been sacrificing to him since the time of Esarhaddon king of Assyria, who brought us here."
- <sup>3</sup> But Zerubbabel, Joshua and the rest of the heads of the families of Israel answered, "You have no part with us in building a temple to our God. We alone will build it for the LORD, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus, the king of Persia, commanded us."
- <sup>4</sup> Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building. <sup>5</sup> They bribed officials to work against them and frustrate their plans during the entire reign of Cyrus king of Persia and down to the reign of Darius king of Persia.
- <sup>6</sup> At the beginning of the reign of Xerxes, they lodged an accusation against the people of Judah and Jerusalem.
- <sup>7</sup> And in the days of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel and the rest of his associates wrote a letter to Artaxerxes. The letter was written in Aramaic script and in the Aramaic language.
- <sup>8</sup> Rehum the commanding officer and Shimshai the secretary wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king as follows:
- <sup>9</sup> Rehum the commanding officer and Shimshai the secretary, together with the rest of their associates—the judges, officials and administrators over the people from Persia, Uruk and Babylon, the Elamites of Susa, <sup>10</sup> and the other people whom the great and honorable Ashurbanipal deported and settled in the city of Samaria and elsewhere in Trans-Euphrates.
- <sup>11</sup> (This is a copy of the letter they sent him.)

To King Artaxerxes,

From your servants in Trans-Euphrates:

- <sup>12</sup> The king should know that the people who came up to us from you have gone to Jerusalem and are rebuilding that rebellious and wicked city. They are restoring the walls and repairing the foundations.
- <sup>13</sup> Furthermore, the king should know that if this city is built and its walls are restored, no more taxes, tribute or duty will be paid, and eventually the royal revenues will suffer. <sup>14</sup> Now since we are under obligation to the palace and it is not proper for us to see the king dishonored, we are sending this message to inform the king, <sup>15</sup> so that a search may be made in the archives of your predecessors. In these records you will find that this city is a rebellious city, troublesome to kings

Reader

and provinces, a place with a long history of sedition. That is why this city was destroyed. <sup>16</sup> We inform the king that if this city is built and its walls are restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates.

<sup>17</sup> The king sent this reply:

To Rehum the commanding officer, Shimshai the secretary and the rest of their associates living in Samaria and elsewhere in Trans-Euphrates: Greetings.

<sup>18</sup> The letter you sent us has been read and translated in my presence. <sup>19</sup> I issued an order and a search was made, and it was found that this city has a long history of revolt against kings and has been a place of rebellion and sedition. <sup>20</sup> Jerusalem has had powerful kings ruling over the whole of Trans-Euphrates, and taxes, tribute and duty were paid to them. <sup>21</sup> Now issue an order to these men to stop work, so that this city will not be rebuilt until I so order. <sup>22</sup> Be careful not to neglect this matter. Why let this threat grow, to the detriment of the royal interests?

<sup>23</sup> As soon as the copy of the letter of King Artaxerxes was read to Rehum and Shimshai the secretary and their associates, they went immediately to the Jews in Jerusalem and compelled them by force to stop.

<sup>24</sup> Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

### Sermon

| Charles Anderson  Drawing Lines |
|---------------------------------|
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |
|                                 |

## **Community Group Questions**

- 1. When have you not drawn lines in the Christian faith (and you think you really should have)? That is, when something crucial was at stake in who Jesus is and how we believe in and live for him (rather than not drawing a line as a wise, temporary, not-saying-everything-you-could-say decision). What led to your unwillingness to draw lines? What were you, perhaps, afraid of?
- 2. The apostles say they can't stop proclaiming Jesus, because "salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12) Why is that the case, and it's not just that the apostles are being pridefully stubborn? Why can't salvation be found somewhere else?
- 3. Given that it's right to draw lines when it comes to Jesus, what courage should that encourage in us? What compassion should that stir? How do you need to live out both the exclusiveness of Ezra 4:3 and the inclusiveness of Ezra 6:21?

### **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.

### **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 quide 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**

"He Bears Mv Soul"

All
The wolves outside are hunting and the dark of night is full,
And in my heart a wilder fear that I cannot control.
I'm helpless to get out, I feel I'm drowning all alone,
Yet in my great distress I pray, and there He bears my soul.

This house was left abandoned, I sleep curled up on the floor, My mind caves in with sorrows till I can't breathe anymore. I see no hope tomorrow, all the joy of life is cold, By fingertips I hang from faith, and there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede, His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me. He knows my way of thinking, 'cause my inner man he wove. See, I can't explain, I can't deny and yet somehow I know, He bears my soul.

I call but there's no answer and my straining voice grows weak. I'm sick of the hypocrisy of those who claim belief.
This sparrow seems forgotten, and my match is burning low,
In doubt and dissolution, even there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede, His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me. He knows my way of thinking, 'cause my inner man he wove. See, I can't explain, I can't deny and yet somehow I know, He bears my soul.

I stumble through the woods just like a fugitive, I roam. I distrust all directions of what's right except my own. I've given up at godliness, I break each contrite oath, I kick and stray and fall again, and there He bears my soul.

My Lord shall never cease to stand with blood to intercede, His Spirit groans in patient love and ceaseless prays for me. He knows my way of thinking, 'cause my inner man he wove. See, I can't explain, I can't deny and yet somehow I know, He bears my soul.

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**

Bible study registrations close today | redeemindy.org/biblestudy

Town Hall | Today at 10:00 a.m. Text questions to 317-699-8511

Sunday school starts | January 23, 10:00 a.m.

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

# **Closing Hymn**

"On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand"

All My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest upon unchanging grace; In every rough and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

When I shall launch in worlds unseen, O may I then be found in him; Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

On Christ the solid rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

words Edward Mote, 1834; music William B. Bradbury, 1863; Public Domain

### **Benediction**

### **Contact Us**

Charles Anderson Lead Pastor / charles@redeemindy.org

Ben Reed Assistant Pastor of Administration / ben@redeemindy.org

Sam Haist Assistant Pastor of Formation / sam@redeemindy.org

Jeff Nottingham Assistant Pastor of Care / jeff.nottingham@redeemindy.org

Todd Dawkins Assistant Pastor of Next Generation Ministries / todd@redeemindy.org

Ben Hein Assistant Pastor; Church Planting Resident / ben.hein@redeemindy.org

Nicholas McDonald Assistant Pastor for Connection / nicholas@redeemindy.org

Amanda Edgell Director of Community Groups / amanda@redeemindy.org

Nathan Partain Director of Worship and Culture / nathan@redeemindy.org

Pat Hickman Pastor of Fountain Square Presbyterian Church / pat@fountainsquarepres.org

New to Redeemer? info@redeemindy.org

Children, Students, and College / nextgen@redeemindy.org

Sunday Classes and Discipleship / adultministry@redeemindy.org

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

Redeemer Women / women@redeemindy.org

Worship and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org

2022 year to date giving: \$29.320.87

January 2022 budget: \$229,327

#### Congregational Giving

## **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.

# **Fountain Square Pres**

In 2014, Fountain Square Presbyterian Church opened its doors. The first daughter church of Redeemer, Fountain Square ministers to, worships with, and cultivates Christcentered community in the Fountain Square neighborhood of Indianapolis.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is part of a church planting movement in Indianapolis and we are earnestly working to fund the planting of another gospel community.

### Good to See You Again.

You've been around, but there are so many ways to get plugged in that you're not sure where to start. How about starting here? Give us your name and email, check some boxes, and drop this in the offering plate.

#### **FIRST & LAST NAME**

FMAII

| 'D | LIKE TO *                        |
|----|----------------------------------|
|    | Learn More About Redeemer        |
|    | Become a Member                  |
|    | Join a Community Group           |
|    | Work with Global Missions        |
|    | Use my Artistic Talents          |
|    | Serve with Kids                  |
|    | Serve with Students              |
|    | Greet on Sunday Mornings         |
|    | Make & Serve Food                |
|    | Join a Prayer Team               |
|    | Talk to Someone About Counseling |
|    | Do Something Else:               |

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

### Nice to Meet You

1 A M A

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 Table for a small gift! We'll be in touch.

| I AM A                                   |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| ☐ 1st/2nd-time Guest ☐ Out-of-Town Guest |  |  |  |
| Regular Attendee Redeemer Member         |  |  |  |
| Regular Attendee Redeemer Member         |  |  |  |
| FIRST & LAST NAME                        |  |  |  |
| ☐ Male ☐ Female                          |  |  |  |
| Birthday                                 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| SPOUSE OR FRIEND                         |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| ☐ Male ☐ Female                          |  |  |  |
| Birthday                                 |  |  |  |
| ,  |  |  |  |
| CONTACT                                  |  |  |  |
| Address                                  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| City, State, Zip                         |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Email                                    |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Dhone                                    |  |  |  |
| Phone                                    |  |  |  |
| I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE TO SAY!            |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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.

### **Church Plants**

### FOUNTAIN SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN

901 Shelby Street Indianapolis, IN 46203 303.408.9720 www.fountainsquarepres.org

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.