



3

Cover Art

“For With God Nothing Shall Be Impossible” by Kipp Normand

Banners

“Enlightened Juxtaposition” by Karyl Boring, Kathy Forbes, Marcia Jones, Caleb C. Keitt, and Advent Workshop

Table Runner

Advent Workshop

Communion Set

Noelle Hoover

Processional 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.**

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

Arrival Letter

Reader James writes to the church and asks:

Where does all your unrest and fighting come from? Does it not all stem from the desires that are waging war in your mind and emotions? You want but do not have so you turn on each other with murder in your hearts. You envy but don't have the power to get what you want, so you fight and are at war with each other. You do not have because you do not call out to God. When you do call out, you do not receive because your asking is diseased. You want to squander all that God gives you on your empty pleasures.

You adulterers, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Therefore, whoever decides to be a friend of the world, sets himself as an enemy of God. Or do you think that the scripture speaks for no reason about how God is jealous for the Spirit that he made to dwell in us? And yet he gives even more grace.

That is why the word says,
“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

So submit yourselves to God. Set yourself against the devil and he will run away from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Sinners, wash the guilt from your hands. You who have a divided mind, clear out your hearts. Grieve and mourn and wail. Trade your laughter for mourning and your gladness for gloom.

Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord and he will exalt you!

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 11:6-9

Leader A day is coming, when the wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion together.

All **And a little child will lead them.**

Leader The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,

All **And the lion will eat straw like the ox.**

Leader The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

All **On the mountain where Jesus reigns,
they will neither harm nor destroy.
For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea.**

Processional Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

All **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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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

Letter of Confession

All

Dear Jesus,

I've read your words, heard them so many times since I was young.
I'm still not sure they reach me.
I have so little joy in you.
Is there something wrong with me?

My heart can feel like a stale room,
All the bluster and noise and empty promises outside,
none of them able to give the fresh air I long for,
so the cry in me never quite goes away.

I've started to harden my heart.
When it's dark, I make sense of things myself;
when I am hungry, I take and eat;
when I need something or someone, I go and get them.
But like pouring water out in the desert, everything evaporates before it sinks in;
nothing soaks that place within that needs to drink the most.

I need different water,
water that can endure, outlast and overwhelm my thirst,
water that reminds me what thirst is for.

Jesus, you say all I have to do is keep asking, seeking, knocking.
You say that your Father knows how to give good gifts.
You say that you give the Spirit in a lasting way and not as the world gives.

Let me drink of your water,
that deep joy that flows from the river of your throne,
that brings life to every place it spills.
Revive this fading child.

Still asking, seeking, knocking,

Your Beloved

Letter of Redemption

From Isaiah 43; Psalm 103:12 and John 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:9

Leader

My Beloved, I see you.
I know your desire for more of me,
I gave it to you.
And oh how I plan to give you more than you could now handle.
No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived,
of what I have prepared for you.

Do not be afraid.
I have redeemed you completely.
I have called you specifically, claimed you as my own.
You are my responsibility now.

Saving you was just the beginning.
I will satisfy you with abundance, with joy and blessing,
with strength and glory, with my very self.

You are precious and honored in my sight, and I love you.

Do not be afraid. I am always with you.
No one can take you out of my hand,
And when I save, it cannot be reversed.

Forget the former things.
Do not dwell on the past.
Watch! I am doing something new.
It is already springing up.
Can you see it?
I have made the way for you.

You have betrayed and rejected me;
There is nothing you could offer to ever make things right.

So please believe me when I tell you . . .
You died with me, you were raised with me,
I am in you, you are in me, everything that is mine, is yours, forever.
There is nothing good that I withhold from you; you are my very heart.
I will so fill you that you will become a spring flowing out for others,
For my joy is not complete until my fullness is shared with you.

Keep these words I am sending you,
They still will be true tomorrow, whether you feel it or not.
I will be with you; my favor is on you, blessing you with grace upon grace,
For this is my glory; this is who I am.

Always abounding in steadfast love for you,

Your Savior

Song in the Gospel

“What Child Is This?”

All

What child is this who, laid to rest,
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise a song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Raise, raise a song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

trad. English carol, 16th cent.; adapt. William C. Dix, 1865; Public Domain

Song in the Gospel

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

All

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their strings of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heav'n's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies, they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds,
The blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing weight,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way,
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours,
Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest on Christ your heavy load,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast'ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years,
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heav'n and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace, their King,
And the whole world send back the song,
Which now the angels sing.

words Edmund H. Sears, 1849; music Richard S. Willis, 1850

Prayer of Dependence

Children's Worship

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 but also want to provide options to families that can engage young children wherever they're at developmentally. The Nursery welcomes children ages 0-3. Children ages 3-5 are also still welcome to attend Children's Worship. We hope this added flexibility encourages all families as they teach their children about what it means to worship.*

**If you would like your three year-old to attend Nursery and are able, we'd love to encourage you to attend the 11:00 service where more classroom space is available.*

Offering of Gifts and Service

Online giving available at [redeemindy.org/give]



Financial Giving Update

As we approach the end of the year, we want to keep you updated on our current financial situation.

- *2022 Budget: \$2,751,920*
- *2022 Giving: \$2,179,212*
- *2022 Still Needed: \$572,708*

Please prayerfully consider the role you can play in helping us reach this goal. In addition to giving online or through cash or check, you can give stocks or other appreciated assets.

Please email giving@redeemindy.org with any questions.

Baptism

Second Service:

Simon James Atwell

Parents: David & Natalie Atwell

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

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 praises 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.

Trad. Gaelic Melody, Michael Seward, add. lyrics Bruce Benedict, 1982

Vows of Baptism

Parents' Vows

1. Do you acknowledge Simon'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 his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly commit Simon to God and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring 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."

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 Simon James Atwell into this church as one whom God has called his own according to the covenant? And do you now promise to surround him with Christian love, to pray for him, and to set an example of genuine faith and virtue?

All

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

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:39-56

Reader

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea,
⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.
⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

*Reader
People*

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

Sermon

Sam Haist

Surprised by Joy

Notes

A large grid of dots for taking notes, consisting of 20 rows and 30 columns of small black dots.

Community Group Questions

1. *Sam made the point that “cynicism is fashionable.” Do you think that’s true? Why or why not? As you look at your life and think about your own story, what feels more natural to you: joy or cynicism?*
2. *Take a moment to read Luke 1:39-56 again. What stands out about Mary’s interaction with Elizabeth? What do you find most striking about the song Mary sings? Remember; Mary is in a place of significant vulnerability. How do you think she feels when Elizabeth confirms that what the angel said was true?*
3. *In Luke 1:46-55, Mary sings about a great cosmic reversal: where the humble are exalted and the proud are brought down. What is so dangerous about the sin of pride? How does it cut us off from the joy that Mary sings about? How might the story of Jesus lead us towards humility?*

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 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

“Isaiah 9”

All

Those in despair will see a great light,
Whose beams shall pierce the cruelest night,
Warm comfort in his glorious ray,
That gladdens the soul as the break of day.
And he shall relieve our burdened backs,
And break the Accuser’s violent mouth.
And he shall bring our toil’s end;
A well will soak this desert land.

This lion like a lamb will be
A curse raised up for all to see;
The sick will be healed by the King of kings,
All nations shall worship this Prince of Peace.
And he shall be called Almighty God,
And spread his wings o’er all the worlds.
His sovereign rule shall see no end;
Faint hope is now made sure.

Those in despair will see a great light,
Whose beams shall pierce the cruelest night,
Warm comfort in his glorious ray,
That gladdens the soul as the break of day.
And he shall be called Almighty God,
And spread his wings o’er all the worlds.
His sovereign rule shall see no end;
Faint hope is now made sure,
Joy fills the universe!
Joy fills the universe!
Joy fills the universe!

Nathan Partain, 2002

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

Today
10 am

Advent Sunday School Class Join us for a special Sunday School class on the “Mothers of Jesus” in the gym. The 1 Samuel Bible Study will meet in the Speck Gallery. Redeemer Kids classes will take place in their normal locations. Middle School Students will meet in the Underground, while High School Students will be in Room 205.

3:30-5 pm

Youth Group this Evening Middle school and high school students please join us this evening for youth group in the gym. Afterward, high schoolers are invited to hang out at Greek’s Pizza on 16th. Email Mary Paxton Lind (marypaxton@redeemindy.org) with any questions.

Near West Coat/Winter Clothing Drive Redeemer for the Near Westside is hosting a winter clothing and supply drive for the students and teachers at Matchbook Learning, a K-8 school on the Near Westside. We are collecting new and gently used winter clothing (coats, gloves, hats) for K-8 children and their families, as well as basic supplies for teachers. *We also have an Amazon list to purchase new items and supplies for teachers, but all donations are welcome.*



December 17
9-11:30 am

Redeemer Women Advent Morning Christmas is a time when two narratives compete for our attention. Too often the familiar story of the incarnation is overshadowed by the hustle and bustle of the season. This year, Redeemer Women invites you to slow down and savor the story of Christ’s birth. Join us in reading *Hidden Christmas* by Tim Keller and gather with other women in the Underground for a time of reflection, discussion, and worship. *Please use the QR code to register.*



December 18
5:15-7 pm

Youth Group Christmas Socials Redeemer Students will wrap up the semester with two Christmas socials. The Middle Schoolers will participate in a progressive dinner. The High Schoolers will have dinner in the Harrison Gallery followed by square/line dancing and dodgeball in the gym. *Use the correct QR code here to sign up.*



Middle School High School

December 21
4-7 pm

Redeemer Kids Christmas Party Christ’s birth is good news of great joy meant for all people. Wear your Christmas pajamas and enjoy pancakes and toppings in the Underground. We’ll have a live Nativity Petting Zoo in the back parking lot, a service project for Shepherd Community Center, and other fun activities in the Gym and Speck Gallery. *Use the QR code to register. If you would like to volunteer email Emily (emily@redeemindy.org).*



Christmas Eve, Christmas Sunday, and New Year’s Day Service Times

Christmas Eve | 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25 | 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 1 | 10:00 a.m.

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

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.**

**O Arise and 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 believer, Holding out the living word.**

**O Arise and 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!**

**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!”**

**O Arise and 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!**

Nathan Partain, 2015

Benediction

Contact Us

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

Sunday Classes and Discipleship / adultministry@redeemindy.org

Counseling / counseling@newhopeindianapolis.org

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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:
\$2,179,212

January-December 2022 budget:
\$2,751,920

Congregational Giving

December 4, 2022	\$	125,180
December Total	\$	125,180

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 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

FIRST & LAST NAME

Male Female

SPOUSE OR FRIEND

Male Female

CONTACT

Email _____

Phone _____

I'D LIKE TO... *

- Become a Member
- Join a Community Group
- Use my Artistic Talents
- Talk to Someone About Counseling
- Do Something Else:

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

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.

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.

