



Redeemer

Presbyterian Church

“Truly I say to you, all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men,
and whatever blasphemies they utter;
but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit
never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin.”
—Mark 3:28-29

The Lord's Service
June 21

Welcome!

If you are **visiting our church** today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. Please be sure to fill out the fellowship pad with your name and contact information when it is passed to you. This will help us serve you better. We promise to keep this information confidential and only use it for personal contact with you and your family. Please join us in the narthex for coffee and refreshments after the service. Note: since many of our families with small children sit near the back of the church, visitors may wish to sit closer to the front to avoid any possible distractions during the worship service.

If you are unfamiliar with **our form of worship**, please feel free to speak with the pastor or one of the elders. We would be glad to help you understand the biblical rationale for why we worship the way we do. You may also visit our website for articles, essays, and other helpful information on our worship and life at Redeemer: www.redeemertraversecity.org.

The **Lord's Supper** is observed every Sunday as the culmination of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God as an active member of a congregation in which the Gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Non-communing children are welcome to come forward with their parents and will be acknowledged by the pastor. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak to one of the elders or the pastor before or after the service. Note: The inner ring of cups in each communion tray contains non-alcoholic wine; the outer rings contain wine.

Silent Preparation for Worship
Prelude

Order of Worship

Call to Worship Psalm 22:23

Pastor Dan Millward

†**Opening Hymn** #76 “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

†**Invocation**

Psalm 22:25-26

Pastor: From You comes my praise in the great congregation;

People: my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.

Pastor: The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;

People: those who seek Him shall praise the Lord.

Pastor: May your hearts live forever! Let us pray.

†**God’s Greeting**

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

†**Response** (*in song*) “Thy Strong Word” v. 4

(Tune: Ebenezer)

God the Father, Light-creator,

To Thee laud and honor be.

To Thee, Light of Light begotten,

Praise be sung eternally.

Holy Spirit, light revealer,

Glory, glory be to Thee.

Mortals, angels, now and ever

Praise the Holy Trinity!

Confession of Sin

1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 2:12

Pastor: As the children of God, we are called to obedience and conformity to Christ. Like the Holy One who called us, we are to be holy in all our behavior, just as it is written: YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY. Yet, because of our flesh we fall short and do not live in a manner worthy of the God who called us into His own kingdom and glory. Therefore, let us repent, confess our sins, and seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

All: Gracious Heavenly Father, because of our fallen nature, we have not lived in accordance with Your holiness. We have transgressed Your laws and failed to keep Your commands. There

are those we have hurt, and those we have failed to help. Our thoughts and desires are stained with sin. Therefore, merciful Father, we confess to You all our sins with which we have offended You. We are truly sorry for them and sincerely repent of them. And we pray according to Your boundless mercy, and for the sake of Christ, that You would be gracious and merciful to us. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

from 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Pastor: Because of His great mercy, and for our sake, God has made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Through Christ, God has reconciled us to Himself, and has not counted our trespasses against us. Do you believe that Jesus Christ, by His perfect life, sacrificial death, and glorious resurrection, has atoned for your sins and satisfied the wrath of God toward you?

People: We do.

Pastor: In the name of Christ and by the authority of His Word, be at peace and know that your sins are forgiven.

†**Hymn of Assurance** #455 “And Can It Be”

vv. 1, 3, 4, 5

†**Prayer for Illumination**

Dave Schafer

First Reading 1 Samuel 8:1-7

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Sean Doran

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Text Reading Mark 3:20-35

Pastor Dan Millward

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Who is this Jesus?”

Giving of God’s Tithes and Our Offering

Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at this time.

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

All who are communicant members in good standing in any evangelical Christian church, or those who have been approved by the Session, may participate in the Lord's Supper. (Note about Communion wine: the outer rings contain wine; the inner rings contain non-alcoholic wine.)

Affirmation of Faith Heidelberg Catechism #1

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and death?

**That I, with body and soul,
both in life and death,
am not my own,
but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,
who with His precious blood
has fully satisfied for all my sins,
and delivered me from all the power of the devil,
and so preserves me
that without the will of my heavenly Father
not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, that everything must fit His purpose
for my salvation,
therefore by His Holy Spirit
He also assures me of eternal life
and makes me heartily willing and ready,
always, to live for him.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

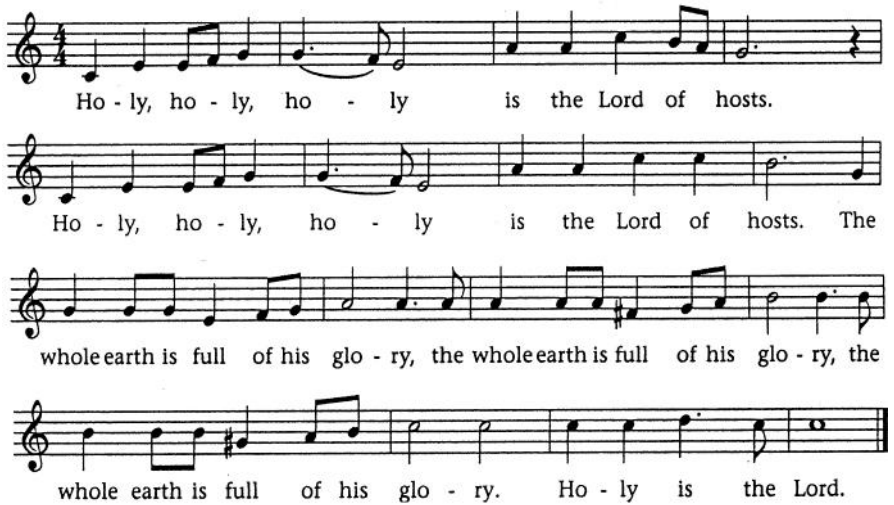
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right, and our greatest joy to give You thanks and praise, O Lord our God, Creator and Ruler of the universe. We ask You to set apart for Your holy use these common elements of bread and wine that they may strengthen and edify Your people. In Your wisdom, You made all things, and sustain them by Your power. You formed us in Your own image, setting us in this world to love and to serve You. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever proclaim to the glory of Your name:

Sanctus (*in song*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts. The

whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the whole earth is full of his glo - ry, the

whole earth is full of his glo - ry. Ho - ly is the Lord.

Words of Institution & Breaking of the Bread

Communion Hymn #553 “My Sins, My Sins, My Savior!”
#501 “Just As I Am”

Prayer after Communion (*in unison*)

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in Your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of Your Spirit, to live and work to Your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†Closing Hymn #570 “Faith of Our Fathers”

†Benediction

†Benediction Response “Three-fold Amen”

Serving Today

Elder: Dave Schafer
Reader: Sean Doran
Piano: Connie Van Til
Sound Board: Kyle Peterson

Today Pastor Millward is wearing a green stole. Green represents spiritual growth and world missions. It is worn during all “ordinary times” of the church year.

Announcements

After Today's Service...

There will be a **congregational meeting** to vote on Elder Elect Sean Doran, and to provide an update on the progress at the new facility. The meeting will be followed by some fellowship and light refreshment.

Next Sunday, June 28

Pastor Dan Millward will be preaching on Mark 4:26-34.

Hymns: #165 "Ye Servants of God"
#706 "Jesus Lives and So Shall I"
#257 "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"
#311 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated. Make a time this week for preparation and prayer.

This evening, 6:00pm - Pastor Klett, from Covenant Presbyterian Church, will lead a **worship service** in the Fellowship Hall of our new church building.

Saturday, June 20 through Friday, June 26 - Volunteers are needed to help **prepare and serve the meals** for the group from Covenant Presbyterian Church. Three volunteers will be needed for each day. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact Maggie Cairns (392-3985) for details. Also, those who would like to **donate snacks** for the morning and afternoon break time, please coordinate with Maggie Cairns.

Tuesday, June 23 & 30, 6:00pm-9:00pm – Church Work Days (at new building).

Wednesday, June 24, 6:30pm to 7:30pm - Prayer Group will meet at the home of Ethan and Heidi Van Til.

Friday, June 26, 7:00pm to 11:00pm - Bonfire at the Millward's beach. Please bring your own chairs, beverages, and snacks. Park on Hidden Valley Road.

Saturday, June 27, 9:00am – 5:00pm - Church Work Day (at new building).

Thursday Mornings - 7:30am to 8:30am - Men's Bible Study meets at the new church building on Ninth Street.

If you forgot to bring in the baby bottle for the Pregnancy Care Center, please drop it off at the church office by Tuesday.

Points to Ponder

Unpardonable Sin

When Jesus warned the Pharisees that blasphemy against the Holy Spirit was unpardonable both in this world and in the next (Matt. 12:32; Mark 3:29-30), it was because they were saying that he exorcised demons by being in league with Satan (Beelzebub). His warning revealed his view of their spiritual state.

He could, and later did, pray for the forgiveness of those whose blasphemy against himself was the fruit of ignorance: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34). But that was not how he saw the Pharisees.

It is possible for people to be enlightened to the point of knowing inwardly that Jesus is the divine Savior he claims to be, and still not be willing to admit it publicly, because of all the behavioral changes that such an admission would make necessary. It is possible to try to make oneself feel good about one’s own moral dishonesty by inventing reasons, no matter how absurd, for not treating Jesus as worthy of one’s allegiance. Jesus evidently perceived that in calling him Satan’s servant the Pharisees were doing exactly that. They were not ignorant; they were stifling conviction and smothering real if unwelcome knowledge; they were resolutely shutting their eyes to the light and callousing their conscience by calling it darkness. The madness that Jesus exposed in what they were saying (Matt. 12:25-28) was an index of the pressure of conviction that they were feeling; irrational reasoning is a regular sign of conviction being resisted.

By attributing exorcisms wrought through the Holy Spirit (Matt. 12:28) to Satanic power, the Pharisees were blaspheming (speaking impiously) against the Spirit. Such a sin would become unforgivable when the conscience had been so calloused by calling good evil that all sense of the moral glory of Jesus’ mighty works (which were in a real sense his credentials: Matt. 11:2-6; John 10:38; 14:11) was destroyed. This hardening of heart against Jesus would preclude any remorse at any stage for having thus blasphemed. But nonexistence of remorse makes repentance impossible, and nonexistence of repentance makes forgiveness impossible.

Callousing one’s conscience by dishonest reasonings so as to justify denial of God’s power in Christ and rejection of his claims upon one is, then, the formula of the unpardonable sin. Another version of it, this time in professed Christians who fall away from Christ, is described in Hebrews 6:4-8. Christians who fear that they may have committed the unpardonable sin show by their very anxiety that they have not done so. Persons who have committed it are unremorseful and unconcerned; indeed, they are ordinarily unaware of what they have done and to what fate they have sentenced themselves. Jesus saw that the Pharisees were getting close to committing this sin, and he spoke as he did in hope of holding them back from fully lapsing into it.

—J. I. Packer, *Concise Theology*

June 21, 2009

Sermon Notes

June 21, 2009

Prayer Requests

FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT REDEEMER...

Health / Healing

- Katina Gibson - pray for a safe, healthy pregnancy.
- Dominic Nittolo – Had surgery to have the fixator removed and is now in a cast. Please continue to pray for bone strengthening and filling in.

Other Concerns

- Pray for God's continued blessing on all the efforts being put forth for our new facility. Particularly pray for our pastor, elders, and deacons and the many people who are working overtime to get much work accomplished for our targeted move in date of July 5, 2009.

FOR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AND OTHERS...

Our Country and Armed Forces

- Men and women in the military and their families.
- Pray for President Obama, his advisors, and other national, state, and local leaders.

Ministers, Missionaries, and Mission Churches

- Hershberger family in Bulgaria; Thornton family in Ukraine (Julia is in her final trimester of pregnancy); and the mission work in Burma.

FOR CHURCHES IN OUR PRESBYTERY...

- Grace Central Presbyterian, Columbus, OH - Pray for: our son Sam who continues to respond well to treatment and whose doctor is cautiously optimistic, Grace Central as we seek ways to engage unchurched and unbelievers with the gospel, open doors of conversation, bold & humble witness and a hospitable, gracious church community.
- Good Shepherd, Valparaiso, IN - Pray for: Martha Coppage - diagnosed with Leukemia, desire of attending families to unite with the church, a possible restart at a future date for Tall Oaks Christian School which closed but we need, and wise leadership for the future by Session.
- Teaching Elder Satoshi Kawachi - Pray for: continued guidance for our long term missionary service, completion of the promo video of our seminary in Africa editing project and blessings on our daughters' French Bible camp in Quebec during the 1st week of August.

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The Session (Pastor and Elders)

Rev. Daniel Millward, Pastor	922-7270
David Schafer	946-5501
Fred Weber	947-0426

The Deacons

Jerry DeVries	938-2317
Forbes Husted	929-7291
C. J. Weber	275-3475

Scripture Readings for this Week

Our Scripture readings are taken from the Daily Lectionary. It provides for reading twice through the New Testament and once through the Old Testament during a two-year cycle. The readings also reflect the seasons of the liturgical year. (Please note that during various seasons of the Church year, the Psalm readings often repeat.)

Sun.	Psalm 19:1-14	1 Samuel 4:12-22	James 1:1-18	Matt. 19:23-30
Mon.	Psalm 135:1-21	1 Samuel 5:1-12	Acts 5:12-26	Luke 21:29-36
Tue.	Psalm 123:1-4	1 Samuel 6:1-16	Acts 5:27-42	Luke 21:37-22:13
Wed.	Psalm 15:1-5	1 Samuel 7:2-17	Acts 6:1-15	Luke 22:14-23
Thu.	Psalm 36:1-12	1 Samuel 8:1-22	Acts 6:15-7:16	Luke 22:24-30
Fri.	Psalm 130:1-8	1 Samuel 9:1-14	Acts 7:17-29	Luke 22:31-38
Sat.	Psalm 56:1-13	1 Samuel 9:15-10:1	Acts 7:30-43	Luke 22:39-51

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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www.redeemertraversecity.org

Worship: Sundays 10:00 a.m.