



Redeemer

Presbyterian Church

“Lord, now you are letting
your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation.”
—Luke 2:29-30

The Lord's Service
December 27, 2009

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 fellowship hall in the lower level 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. Any mothers who would like assistance with young children may take them to the nursery during the Hymn of Assurance and pick them up during the sermon hymn.

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. In the narthex, we have a booklet available that provides an introduction to our church. You may also visit our website for other helpful information: 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

Soloist Sings: O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

People Sing: Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee O Israel.

Order of Worship

Call to Worship 1 Peter 2:9

Pastor Dan Millward

†**Opening Hymn** #224 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

†**Invocation**

Psalm 27:1, 4a

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Pastor: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

People: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.

Pastor: Let us pray.

†**The Greeting**

2 Thessalonians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14

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

People: Amen.

†**Response** (*in song*) #218 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

v. 5

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising to th’ eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
the newborn King.**

Confession of Sin (*in song*) Psalm 60:1-5

Bulletin, p. 8

Declaration of Forgiveness

Matthew 1:21; 1 Timothy 1:15

Pastor: “... You shall call His name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” “... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...”

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** #207 “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

†**Prayer for Illumination**

Dave Schafer

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Epistle Reading Colossians 3:12-17

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Bill Morrison

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord’s Prayer

Pastor Dan Millward

Giving of God’s Tithes and Our Offering

Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at this time.

†**Doxology** (*in song*)

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**Sermon Text Reading** Luke 2:22-35

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon A Word to the Waiting, Part 1: “Depart in Peace”

Prayer of Application

†**Sermon Hymn** #691 “It is Well with My Soul”

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 Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made.
Who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy *catholic and apostolic church;
and we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*The word "catholic" means "universal."

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

Lamentations 3:41

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.

Psalm 118:1

Pastor: It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. As we set apart these common elements of bread and wine for holy use, we ask You to bless them and use them to strengthen and edify Your people. For by water and the Holy Spirit You have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth Your glory in all the world. Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of Your name:

Sanctus *(in song)*

Isaiah 6:3

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 Hymns #226 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

#219 “All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord”

Prayer after Communion (*in unison*)

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament, you have given us your Son who is the true bread from heaven, and food of eternal life. So strengthen us in your service, to be faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of Your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†**Nunc Dimittis** “Song of Simeon”



Now may your ser - vant, Lord, ac - cord - ing to your word,
de - part in ex - ul - ta - tion. My peace shall be se - rene,
for now my eyes have seen your won - der - ful sal - va - tion.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in a minor key (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Now may your ser - vant, Lord, ac - cord - ing to your word, de - part in ex - ul - ta - tion. My peace shall be se - rene, for now my eyes have seen your won - der - ful sal - va - tion." The score includes a treble clef for the voice parts and a bass clef for the piano accompaniment. There are two systems of staves, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are placed below the vocal lines. There are some musical notations like 'r' and '7' above the notes in the third system.

†**Benediction**

†**Benediction Response** “Three-fold Amen”



Prayer of Confession

Psalm 60



O God, Thou hast re - ject - ed us, Hast bro - ken us once more.



As Thou with us hast an - gry been, O once a - gain re - store.



- 2 For Thou hast made the earth to quake
Hast torn it fearfully.
O heal its gaping cracks, for, lo
It shakes in agony!
- 3 For Thou hast made the people see
The hardness of distress,
And Thou hast made them drink
the wine
Of reeling drunkenness.

- 4 But those that fear Thee Thou
didst give
A banner in their site,
That they might rally and be firm,
Made strong by truth and right.
- 5 O grant that Thy be-lov-ed ones
May safe delivered be.
O save them with Thy strong
right hand,
And do Thou answer me.

Points to Ponder

A Prophecy of Pain

Some time before the birth of Jesus Christ the Holy Spirit told a man named Simeon “that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Christ” (2:26). Doubtless many people regarded Simeon as presumptuous or insane, but he believed what God had told him and “was waiting for the consolation of Israel” (v. 25).

One day he went to the temple to see if the Messiah had arrived. He saw a poor family offering the purification sacrifices prescribed in Exodus 13:11–16 and Leviticus 12. Instantly he knew that this child was the Anointed One, the Christ, for whom he had waited. Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and sang a song of praise to God (vv. 29–32). We call this song, after the first two words in its Latin translation, the *Nunc Dimittis*. The church has sung it for two thousand years, often at the close of worship.

Then Simeon uttered three prophecies to Mary: First, Jesus will cause the falling of many in Israel, but also he will cause others to rise. There will be no neutrality. Men will be blessed or cursed according to how they respond to Jesus Christ.

Second, “the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed” (v. 35) as people respond to the revelation of Jesus. Simeon called the revelation of Christ “a sign that will be spoken against.” The word sign here means something visible and demonstrative, a miracle. The visible revelation of Jesus Christ will provoke hostility, because fallen humanity hates and rejects God.

The prophecy became poignant and personal with a word of sadness to Mary. Third, “a sword will pierce your own soul too.” Mary his mother will have to watch helplessly the sufferings of her Son. She will be standing in the crowd watching as he is crucified. As a young mother offered sacrifices in the temple, already she was being prepared to understand that Jesus was destined to be the final and complete sacrifice for sin and death.

—R. C. Sproul, *Before the Face of God*, Book 2

December 27, 2009

Prayer Requests

FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT REDEEMER...

Health / Healing

- Gayle Peterson - still in ICU in critical condition. Please continue to pray.
- Monica Scott - for a safe, healthy pregnancy.

Other Concerns

- Ron Chalfant

FOR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, AND OTHERS...

Our Country and Armed Forces

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

Ministers, Missionaries, and Mission Churches

- Hershbergers (Bulgaria); Thorntons (Ukraine); Nellie Vos (France); and the mission work in Burma.
- Shawn Newsome, Rev. Jason Helopoulos and Potential RUF work at MSU.

FOR CHURCHES IN OUR PRESBYTERY...

- Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fenton, MI - work for those needing jobs so they can honor the Lord with the work of their hands. Praise for: financial assistance from Covenant Church, Holland MI for our out of work families.
- Pathway Community Church, Brighton, MI - continued growth of children's and youth ministries, our church finances, and our worship attendance, and guidance seeking other location options for ministry growth as we have problems with enough room in the building we lease to handle growing numbers.

Serving Today

Elder: Dave Schafer
Reader: Bill Morrison
Piano: Nicole Gentry
Sound Board: Kyle Peterson

Announcements

Today Pastor Millward is wearing a white stole. White represents purity and reminds us of the sinless righteousness of Christ in which all believers are robed. This color is typically worn for Christmas Eve/Day, Easter Sunday, Easter season, and weddings. White is also commonly worn at funerals where it symbolizes the hope of the resurrection.

After Today's Service...

Please join us for some light refreshments in the fellowship hall.

If you would like the elders to pray for you, they are available after the service in the Library (the small room next to the chancel).

Next Sunday, January 3, 2010

Pastor Millward will be preaching on Luke 2:36-38.

Sunday School for all ages will begin at 9:00am. Our **Worship Service** will begin at 10:15am.

The Racine family will be taking the vows of membership, and their three daughters, Leah, Anna, and Ellen will be baptized.

Church Financial Update

YTD through November 30, 2009

Budget.....	\$120,542
Actual Expenses	\$121,986
Actual Income.....	\$108,453

The Session (Pastor and Elders)

Rev. Daniel Millward, Pastor	922-7270
Sean Doran	267-5632
David Schafer	946-5501
Dirk Van Til.....	223-8962
Fred Weber (on sabbatical until May).....	947-0426

The Deacons

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

Call to Worship

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
that you may proclaim the excellencies of him
who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

—1 Peter 2:9

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 150:1-6	1 Sam. 1:1-28	Col.1:9-20	Luke 2:22-40
Mon.	Psalm 145:1-21	Isaiah 49:13-23	Isaiah 54:1-13	Matt. 18:1-14
Tue.	Psalm 146:1-10	2 Sam. 23:13-17b 2	John 1-13	John 2:1-11
Wed.	Psalm 147:1-11	1 Kings 17:17-24 3	John 1-15	John 4:46-54
Thu.	Psalm 147:12-20	1 Kings 3:5-14	James 4:13-5:7-11	John 5:1-15
Fri.	Psalm 98; 148	Isaiah 62:1-12	Rev. 19:11-16	Matt. 1:18-25
Sat.	Psalm 48; 149	1 Kings 19:1-8	Eph. 4:1-16	John 6:1-14

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America
402 W. Ninth Street, Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 946-1700

www.redeemertraversecity.org

Sunday School: Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Worship: Sundays 10:15 a.m.