

10/29/2017



REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sanctuary Art:

John 1:14 was the meditation undergirding the 2016 Advent art installation. “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The Incarnation (God coming in human flesh) was a journey of great transitions: from heavenly to earthly realm, from God who is Spirit to God joined with human form, from Creator to inhabitant of creation, from inseparable divine community to broken human community, from God unseen to God revealed, from Word to flesh. It is a breathtakingly unimaginable cross-cultural journey.

Hanging Installation: Word Incarnate

Artists: Sarah Hedges & Katie Pourcho

Statement: The installation visualizes the Word becoming flesh to dwell among us. Conceptual pages of Scripture evolve into paper clippings that allude to marrow and DNA. Blue acrylic book binding symbolizes the Heavens. The shimmering of gold acrylic and ribbon in contrast to the flesh toned paper draw our attention to the wonder of our Savior who is fully God and fully man.

Window Installations

The window installation’s lines represent the Word’s journey “down” from heaven into our sphere. It is made up of the artwork and stripes painted by the congregation during the Advent Workshop. All of the individual pieces come together in a quilt of beauty and light raining from heaven.

“You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let the clouds shower it down. Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up, let righteousness flourish with it; I, the Lord, have created it.” Isaiah 45:8

Cover Photos

In our liturgical year as we think about Christ’s journey toward the cross, through boy hood, adolescence and ministry, it is important to remember that we are also on a journey where God tends to us along the way.

Ron Knuckles who worked for years driving freight took these photographs from his semi.

They capture the bleakness and beauty of the journey. ~~~ Kyle Ragsdale



Please see the Sound Tech for Assisted Listening Devices.

Welcome

Call to Worship

based on Hebrews 12:18-24

Leader

For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched
nor to a blazing fire, or to darkness or gloom and whirlwind,
nor to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words
which sound was such that those who heard
begged that no further word be spoken to them.

All

**We have come to Mount Zion
to the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem,
to myriads of angels,
to the whole gathering of God's people
to the church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,
to God, the Judge of all,
to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,
to the sprinkled blood, which cries out for mercy and not for judgment.**

Opening Hymn

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (Psalm 103)”

All

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?
Come and worship, come and worship, praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise him for his grace and favor, to our fathers in distress;
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.
Come and worship, come and worship, glorious in his faithfulness.**

**God our Father tends and spares us, well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands, he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Come and worship, come and worship, widely as his mercy goes.**

**Angels, help us to adore him, ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Come and worship, come and worship, praise with us the God of grace!**

Come and worship, come and worship, praise with us the God of grace!

words Henry F. Lyte, 1834; music Nathan Partain, 2000

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer of the Anglican Church of Kenya

Leader Come unto me all who are tired of carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest. So, all of you who repent of your sins, who love your neighbors, and intend to live a new life following the way of Jesus, come with faith and confess your sins to your heavenly Father who loves you.

People **All Almighty God, Creator of all, you marvelously made us in your image;
But we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness
by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbors.
We have done wrong and neglected to do right,
We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins.
Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son;
Remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel

based on 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Leader If you have confessed your sins in Jesus' name, you are forgiven.

People **The Lord has forgiven us!**

Leader Our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ will direct our ways

People **He will make us increase and abound in love for one another.**

Leader He will establish our hearts blameless in holiness

People **So that we can tell the world of his love, goodness, and mercy.**

Song of Thanksgiving

“Look There! The Christ”

All

**Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes,
Resplendent from the cursed tree,
And what he brings in his hurt hands
Is life on life for you and me.**

**Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all therein.
Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all in this good day’s dawning.**

**Good Jesus Christ, inside his pain,
Looked down Golgotha’s stony slope
And let the blood flow from his flesh
To fill the springs of living hope.**

**Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all therein.
Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all in this good day’s dawning.**

**Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died
In darkest hurt upon the tree
To offer us the worlds of light
That live inside the Trinity.**

**Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all therein.
Joy! Joy!
Joy to the world and all in this good day’s dawning.**

words John Bennett, 1920; music Nathan Partain, 2003

Song of Thanksgiving

“Hold Thou my Hand”

All

**Hold thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,
I dare not take one step without thy aid;
Hold thou my hand; for then, O loving Savior,
No dread of ill shall make my soul afraid.**

**Hold thou my hand, and closer, draw me closer,
To thy dear self, my hope, my joy, my all;
Hold thou my hand, lest haply I should wander,
And, missing thee, my trembling feet should fall.**

**Hold thou my hand; the way is dark before me,
Without the sunlight of thy face divine;
But when by faith, I catch its radiant glory,
What heights of joy, what rapturous songs are mine!**

**Hold thou my hand, that when I reach the margin,
Of that lone river thou didst cross for me,
A heavenly light may flash along its waters,
And every wave like crystal bright shall be.**

**Hold thou my hand; so weak I am, and helpless,
I dare not take one step without thy aid;
I dare not take one step without thy aid.**

words Fanny Crosby, 1879; music Nathan Partain, 2003

Prayer of Devotion

Offering of Gifts and Service

Search Committee Update

Children who normally attend Children’s Worship are invited to remain with their families and participate in the service. We welcome them as active members of our community! There are activity sheets and other quiet resources available at the back of the sanctuary to help focus their attention.

Scripture

1 Thessalonians 3:6-13, John 13:34-35

Reader

⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you— ⁷ for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. ⁸ For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. ⁹ For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Congregational Response

Reader

This is the Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Ben Reed

Loving More and More

Community Group Questions

1. *The love we are supposed to show each other is the same love that God has shown us. Are there recent examples in your life where you have experienced another Christian extending that kind of love to you? What does that look like? Why is it hard to extend that type of love to each other?*
2. *How does our avoidance of conflict hurt our ability to truly love someone well? Conversely, how does our selfishness and our desire to be right hurt our ability to truly love someone well?*
3. *Take some time to pray for each other. Pray that the Holy Spirit would remind you of the amazing love God has already shown you. Pray that He would show you ways in which you are not loving well - either by avoiding conflict or by putting your desires first. Pray that He would show you somebody in your life that needs to experience the love of God, and that He would compel you to go minister to them.*

Children's question

God sent his son, Jesus, to die for our sins because he loved us. He loved us so much, that he did not want to let us go. As much as your parents love you, God loves us even more. Isn't that amazing! And because we are followers of Christ, we are supposed to love people that same way. What are some ways that you can show that kind of love to your parents or your brothers and sisters or your friends? Can you also pray for your parents as they try to love people too? They would love that.

Call to Communion and Prayer

Guidelines for the Reception of Communion

Redeemer welcomes 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 to receive Communion with us. We will be coming forward for the distribution of Communion. Please eat the bread privately, and then drink the cup together with us after everyone has returned to their seats. Clear cups (located in the interior rings) contain grape juice. Red cups (exterior ring of tray) contain wine. Children who have been examined by the elders and admitted to the Lord's Table are able to partake of Communion.

Prayers

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

"In the Secret of His Presence"

Ensemble

In the secret of his presence, how my soul delights to hide!
Oh, how precious are the lessons, which I learn at Jesus' side!
Earthly cares do ever vex me, and my trials lay me low;
But when Satan comes to tempt me, to the secret place I go,
To the secret place I go.

When my soul is faint and thirsty, 'neath the shadow of his wing,
There is cool and pleasant shelter, and a fresh and crystal spring;
There my Savior rests beside me, and we hold communion sweet:
If I tried, I could not utter what he says when there we meet,
What he says when there we meet.

Only this I know: I tell him all my doubts, my griefs, and fears;
Oh, how patiently he listens and my sorrowed soul he cheers:
Do you think he ne'er reproves me? What a false friend he would be,
If he never, never told me of the sins which he must see,
Of the sins which he must see.

And when'er I leave the silence of that happy meeting place,
I must bring and bear the image of my Master in my face,
Of my Master in my face.

Words: Ellen L. Goreh, 1883 Music: Chris Minor, 2004

Song of Celebration

“More Love, O Christ, to Thee”

Ensemble

More love, O Christ, to thee, more love to thee;
Hear thou the prayer I make, on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ,
This is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee.

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now thee alone I seek; give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ,
This all my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee.

Let sorrow do its work, send grief and pain:
Sweet are thy messengers, sweet their refrain.
When they can sing with me, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ,
When they can sing with me, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee.

Then shall my final breath, whisper thy praise;
This be the parting cry, my heart shall raise.
This still my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ,
This still my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, more love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee,
More love, O Christ, to thee.

words Elizabeth Payson Prentiss, 1856; music Nathan Partain, 2001

Valediction

based on 1 John 4:13-19

Leader By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

People **We have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.**

Leader Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

People **So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us.**

All **God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.**

Leader By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment.

People **As he is
so also are we in this world.**

Leader There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

All **We love because he first loved us.**

Departing Hymn

“Arise, my Soul, Arise”

All

**Arise, my soul, arise! Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears;
Before the throne my surety stands, before the throne my surety stands;
My name is written on his hands.**

Refrain:

Men

Arise! Arise! Arise, arise my soul, arise!

Women

Arise! Arise!

Men

Arise! Arise! Arise, arise my soul, arise!

Women

Arise! Arise!

All

Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

**He ever lives above, for me, to intercede,
His all redeeming love, his precious blood to plead,
His blood atoned for every race, his blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.**

(Refrain)

**Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry, “Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die!”**

(Refrain)

**My God is reconciled, his pard’ning voice I hear;
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear;
With confidence, I now draw nigh, with confidence, I now draw nigh,
And “Father, Abba, Father” cry.**

(Refrain)

words Charles Wesley, 1742; music Kevin Twit, 1996

Benediction

Spotlight: Dodgeball is Back Again this Year

Join us for Redeemer's annual dodgeball tournament. Saturday, February 25th in the gym beginning at 9 a.m. Teams should number 10-15 people (ages 11 and older)

What you need to know to join in the fun:

- Children (10 and under) will have open dodgeball for an hour midday
- Some ideas for forming teams include community groups, CT&T classes, ministry teams, friends etc.
- Creative costumes and team uniforms are not required, but will be rewarded
- You must sign up your team by Friday, February 17th by emailing Amanda Edgell [amanda@redeemindy.org]
- If you'd like to play, but don't have a full team contact Amanda [amanda@redeemindy.org] and she can connect you with a team



Announcements

Today: Congregational Prayer for Lead Pastor Search

After each service today we will be continuing to pray for guidance in searching for a Lead Pastor and the efforts of the search team at the foot of the stage stairs.

Today: Youth Laser Tag and Pizza Party from 4:30-7:30 p.m.

If you signed up please remember to meet in the church parking lot at 4:15 PM and bring \$15. If you didn't get a chance to sign up contact Caroline (caroline@redeemindy.org) for directions and meet us there!

Feb 5: Missions Month Prayer Guides

February is Missions Month. This year we want to focus on getting to know our partners. To help with that, the Global Missions Team (GMT) will be creating a prayer guide for Missions Month that helps the entire church pray for our partners around the world. The guides will be available next Sunday, February 5th.

Feb 3: First Friday Art Show at The Harrison Center

Join us from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Harrison Gallery for *A Silent Night*, show by Johnny McKee, in the Speck Gallery: *Right of Sanctuary*, by Josh Rush, in the City Gallery: *Indy Structures Future Past*, by Quincy Owens, in the Gallery Annex: *I Want to Read You*, by Suzanne Dittenber, and in Hank & Dolly's Gallery: *The Stubborn Hope*, by Alicia Zaroni.

Feb 17 & 18: Discovering Redeemer Class

If you want to explore our beliefs, vision, and structure, this is an opportunity to learn about Redeemer. If you are considering membership at Redeemer this is also a prerequisite to membership. Friday night from 6 to 9:00 p.m. A light meal will be available. Saturday morning the discussion will continue from 9 to noon. A light breakfast will be served. For more information contact Shirley Ernest [shirley@redeemindy.org].

Feb 20: Youth Perfect North Ski Trip

Youth ski trip from 7:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$65 for those renting equipment and \$48 for those with their own equipment or for those who only wish to tube. RSVP deadline to [caroline@redeemindy.org] is Feb 5th.

Proactive Counseling for Marriages

Have you been married awhile and feel somewhat distanced from your partner? Are you struggling with the same conflicts and feel stuck in your communication? Consider scheduling a session and reconnect with your spouse! Email Laura Ferguson at laura@redeemindy.org.

Connect with Redeemer through the week:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/redeemindy Twitter: @redeemindy
Blog: www.redeemindy.org/news Instagram: redeemindy
The City: www.redeemindy.org/the-city

Congregational Giving

Jan 22nd	\$	20,354.25
Jan Total	\$	66,678.73
Jan Budget	\$	137,791.67

Designated Giving

Mercy 2017 Total	\$	165.00
Missions Team 2017 Total	\$	235.00
Building Team 2017 Total	\$	200.00

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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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.

Jamie MacGregor *Associate Pastor* / jamie@redeemindy.org

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

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

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

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

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

Questions? info@redeemindy.org

Children, Youth and College / nextgen@redeemindy.org

Christian Teaching & Training and Discipleship / adultministry@redeemindy.org

Community Groups and Parish / amanda@redeemindy.org

Counseling / counseling@redeemindy.org

Giving / giving@redeemindy.org

Global Missions / missions@redeemindy.org

Mercy / deacons@redeemindy.org

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

Worship, Hospitality and Liturgical Arts / worship@redeemindy.org