

December 28, 2008

For Your Information ...

Guests! We are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. It is our hope that worship is an encouragement to you and that you will have opportunity to return soon. Give us an opportunity to meet you today and introduce ourselves by staying around for coffee in the foyer after the service. Also, please assist us by **filling out the Guest Pad** when it is passed during worship.

Welcome Station: Located in the foyer, our Welcome Station is designed to assist you in understanding the ministry of Redeemer. Please help yourself to the purple guest packets, The Continuing Vision of Redeemer Presbyterian Church document, the Kerygma, our newsletter pronounced ke-rîg'me, and other materials.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) and a member of South Texas Presbytery. For more information about Redeemer Church visit: www.redeemersa.org. For more information about the Presbyterian Church in America visit: www.pcanet.org.

Community Groups: Community Groups are small fellowships of six to twelve people meeting every other week in homes, apartments and restaurants throughout San Antonio. They are the first place where we hope our people turn for applying the gospel to their lives. To find out how you can join a community group, please contact the church office at 930-4480 or a community group leader identified on the Making Contact page in the bulletin.

Book Table: The books found here are designed to assist you in understanding the Christian life. If you want to purchase a book, please fill out the appropriate form with money enclosed. Sermon CDs are also available; simply sign up at the table. Make all checks payable to Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

Sunday Schedule

9:15-9:25 a.m. **Prayer**
9:30-10:55 a.m. **Worship**
11:10 a.m. **No Christian Education**

Nurseries

Redeemer offers fully staffed nurseries for children ages newborn to 3 years of age. Redeemer encourages parents to utilize our *Training in the Pews* children's worship time during each service to better prepare your children, ages 3-5, for worship. All nurseries are at the Northeast end of the McAllister Fine Arts Center. (See map at **Welcome Station**.)

Infants I: newborn – 9 months

Infants II: 10 – 18 months

Toddler I: 19 months – 27 months

Toddler II: 28 months – 36 months

Training the Pews: 3 - 5 years

Christian Education

Toddler I (age 2)

Toddler II (age 3)

Pre K- K (age 4-5)

Primary I (ages 6-7)

Primary II (ages 8-9)

Junior (ages 10-11)

Youth (7th-12th grades)

Pastor's Forum (All ages)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

December 28, 2008

First Sunday after Christmas

In consideration of other worshippers, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Parents, nurseries are available during the worship service for children ages 6 weeks to 3 years. Babies and toddlers are also welcome in the auditorium. The balcony is available for nursing mothers; you may enter the balcony through the side door upstairs. The service is broadcast in the lobby area immediately outside the auditorium for the convenience of parents whose children become restless during worship.

Reflection & Preparation

“O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.” *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Tell the ones who here no sound
Whose sons are living in the ground
Peace on earth.

Jesus in the song you wrote
The words are sticking in my throat
Peace on earth

Hear it every Christmastime
But hope and history won't rhyme
So what's it worth
This peace on earth
Peace on earth
Peace on earth (*Lyrics from a U2 song*)

Welcome and Announcements

Mr. John Y. Ames

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Rev. Brandon S. Eggar

Minister: Praise the Lord! Give praise, O servants of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God!

People: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

Minister: Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord, throughout all ages.

***Hymn of Adoration**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and

earth re - ceive her King; let
 men their songs em - ploy; while
 thorns in - fest the ground; he
 makes the na - tions prove the

ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re -
 comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness and

heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound ing joy, re - peat the sound ing joy, re -
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his love, and

heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words by Isaac Watts; Music by George Frederick Handel

***Prayer of Invocation**

Mr. Eggar

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism[‡], Q. #32

Minister: Why are you called a Christian?

All: Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity.

[‡]The Heidelberg Catechism originated in Germany in 1562 under the authority of Elector Frederick III, who ruled the most important German province, the Palatinate, from his castle in Heidelberg. He commissioned the preparation of a new catechism for guiding ministers and teachers in instructing people in the Christian faith.

***Song of Praise**

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

Tune by Henry W. Greatorex

Understanding Ourselves Rightly

The Rev. Victor R. Martinez

Minister: Let us examine ourselves in the light of the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ as given in the Beatitudes. (Matthew 5:3-10) *After the Beatitudes are read please thoughtfully reflect on its truth and silently confess your sins.*

People: **Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

Romans 8:38-39

Minister: For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Song of Renewal

What Child Is This

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate, where ox and ass are
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to

sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the
own him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let

shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear, shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the

Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:
pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:
song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by:

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mar - y.
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y.

Traditional English Carol

***Scripture Reading**

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hesko

Jeremiah 31:10-17

Matthew 2:1-12

Reader: The Word of the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Prayers for Redeemer Church,
San Antonio & the World**

Mr. Martinez

***The Greeting of Peace**

Children, ages **three through five**, are dismissed through the side door to your right when facing the stage to *TRAINING IN THE PEWS*. After the sermon, parents will meet their children in the back of the auditorium so that the children can join their families for communion.

Minister: Let the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts. To this peace we are called as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Sermon

Mr. Eggar

"A Christmas Reality Check"

Matthew 2:13-18; Romans 8:16-26

A Word About Communion at Redeemer:

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, Communion (also called The Lord’s Supper or The Eucharist, which means ‘thanksgiving’) is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by Him as they eat bread and drink wine. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ. We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from partaking until doing so.

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

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

Minister: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and singing:

All:

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 from Isaiah 6:3; Music by Nolene Prince

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again! Hallelujah!

Minister: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Holy Communion

If seated in the front outer sections, please exit toward the center aisles to partake, returning to your seat by the outer aisles. If seated in the front center section, upon usher's direction starting from back row, exit to the aisle closest to you. Please use the outer aisles to return to your seats. If seated in the back section, please exit your row to the left and return to your row from the right. Please use our communion time to sing and/or meditate as communion is being served. Redeemer serves wine for communion. The inner circle of the tray contains grape juice for those desiring it. After partaking, place your cup in the baskets provided on the aisles.

Prayers for Those Not Communing

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen. **Prayer of Searching for Truth**

Lord, Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen. **Prayer of Believing on Jesus**

Lord, Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the pioneer and champion of my faith. Amen. **Prayer of Struggling Against Sin**

Songs of Communion

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
4. O come, thou Day spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

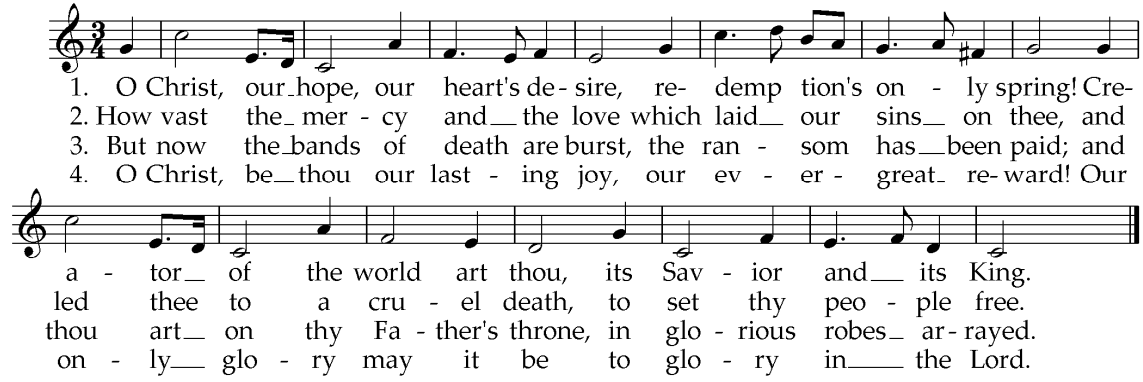
Is - - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - - ile
Si - - nai's height, in an - cient time didst give - - the
tyr - - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - - ple
draw - - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds - - of
heav'n - - ly home; make safe the way that leads - - on

here, un - til the Son of God - - ap - pear. Re -
law in cloud and maj - es - ty - - and awe.
save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er - - the grave.
night, and death's dark shad - ows put - - to flight.
high, and close the path to mi - - ser - y.

joyce! Re - joyce! Em - ma - nu - el shall
come to Thee, O Is - - ra - el.

Words from the 12th century; tune: Veni Emmanuel

O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire



1. O Christ, our hope, our heart's de-sire, re- demp tion's on - ly spring! Cre-
2. How vast the mer - cy and the love which laid our sins on thee, and
3. But now the bands of death are burst, the ran - som has been paid; and
4. O Christ, be thou our last - ing joy, our ev - er - great re-ward! Our
a - tor of the world art thou, its Sav - ior and its King.
led thee to a cru - el death, to set thy peo - ple free.
thou art on thy Fa - ther's throne, in glo - rious robes ar - rayed.
on - ly glo - ry may it be to glo - ry in the Lord.

Words by John Chandler; Music by George Frederick Handel

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

1. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice, _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____
2. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice, _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____
3. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice, _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ was born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and man is bless - ed ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! _____ Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! _____ Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! _____ Christ was born to save!

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. The first staff contains the first three lines of lyrics. The second staff contains the next three lines. The third staff contains the next three lines. The fourth staff contains the final three lines. The music is written in a single system with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some lines having blank lines for breath or continuation.

Medieval Latin carol; German melody

The Offering

Hymn of Blessing

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

1. All Hail the Pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let An - gels pros - trate
2. Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the
3. Let ev - 'ry kin - dred, ev - 'ry tribe on this terr - es - trial
4. O that with yo - nder sa - cred throng we at his feet may
fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him
fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him
ball, to him all ma - je - sty a - scribe, and crown him
fall; we'll join the e - ver - la - sting song, and crown him
Lord of all; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
Lord of all; hail him who saves you by his grace, and
Lord of all; to him all ma - je - sty - a - scribe, and
Lord of all; we'll join the e - ver - la - sting song, and
crown him Lord of all!
crown him Lord of all!
crown him Lord of all!
crown him Lord of all!

Words by Edward Perronet, John Rippon; Music by Oliver Holden

***Benediction**

Mr. Eggar

Minister: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in peace.

Postlude

**The Congregation Stands*

*Pastor: Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs
Associate Pastor: Rev. Brandon S. Eggar
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Victor R. Martinez*

*Musicians: Corrie Box, piano;
Michael Shay, trombone; Patrick Shay, trumpet;
Song Leader: Stacy VanKlaveren*

(Music printed by permission: CCLI # 2357621)

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Making Contact

Administrative.....Harriet Peavy, Heather Shimek 930-4480
Book Table/ Media Brandon Eggar 930-4480
Children's Ministries.....Jill Higey 930-4480
Community Life & Membership Brandon Eggar 930-4480
Financial (church).....Bob George 822- 2016
Local and World Missions.....John Fitch 824-5973
Men's Ministries.....Jeff Judson 822-1292; Henry Sauer 310-6542
Mercy/ Financial Aid.....Jake Gray 884-4729
Mission, Cultural Engagement & OutreachVictor Martinez 930-4480
Music Ministry..... Brent Watkins 785-0912
Pastoral Care.....Tom Gibbs 930-4480
Reformed University Fellowship (RUF).....Justin Clement 930-4480
Training in the Pews.....Ralph and Debbie Shay 488-2561
Usher/ Greeter Coordination.....Jason Register 829-0747
Women's Ministries.....Margaret Judson 822-5901; Heather Card 467-5792
Worship/ Event Assistance.....Ken Harrison 828-8864
Young Professionals Community.....Brandon Eggar 930-4480
YouthMatthew Beham, 930-4480
Redeemer Prayer Requests.....930-4480, ext. 330

Redeemer Presbyterian Church
3737 Broadway, Suite 300 ~ San Antonio, TX 78209
210-930-4480 ~ fax: 210-930-4481 ~ www.redeemersa.org

Serving Today

Nursery Greeters: Jill Higey
Infants 1 (9:30): Rachel Gravel, Haley Beham
Toddlers 1 & 2 (9:30): Erick & Laura Faul, Sarah Fields, Rachel Chaney
Training in the Pews: Charlie & Jennifer Hargis, Zac Hendrix
Greeters: Bernard & Georgianna Hildebrand, Bebe Camp, John & Chrissy Fitch
Worship Set-up/Take Down: Ken Harrison, Josh MacDiarmid, Jake Gray, Andy Scott, John Ames
Communion Set-up/Take Down: Linda Calhoun, Jeannie Martinez
Nursery Set-up/Take Down: Lisa Shay, Jordan McVicar, Reeves Hollimon
Cookies: Genean Hesko, Melissa Douglas

Serving Next Week

Nursery Greeters: Sam & Elizabeth Berenguer
Infants 1 (9:30): Rick & Susan Basse, Brandon & Elizabeth Woods
Toddlers 1 & 2 (9:30): The Castano Family, Amy & Elise Miller
Training in the Pews: Ralph & Debbie Shay, Josh & Carrie Alley, Margaret Fitch
Greeters: Will & Carter Greendyke, Barry & Rhonda Laxton, Greg & Rachel Chaney
Worship Set-up/Take Down: Jason Smith, Manny Alaniz, Sam Hairston, Ben Ingram, Ben Bingham
Communion Set-up/Take Down: Evie McVicar, Liz Goedecke
Nursery Set-up/Take Down: Jordan McVicar, The Basse Family
Cookies: Kelly Muck, Neeceia Eggar

Redeemer Staff

Tom Gibbs, Senior Pastor
Brandon Eggar, Associate Pastor
Victor Martinez, Assistant Pastor
Justin Clement, RUF Pastor at Trinity
Brent Watkins, Music Ministries Director
Jill Higey, Children's Ministries Director
Matt Beham, Youth Director
Harriet Peavy, Office Administrator
Heather Shimek, Assistant Administrator

Stewardship Corner

Actual Giving (YTD)	\$739,506
Budgeted Expenses (YTD)	\$882,622
Actual Expenses (YTD)	\$814,189
Actual Ahead (Behind)	(\$ 74,683)

YTD includes all activity for the fiscal year, which begins January 1.

Community Groups

Manny Alaniz--558-4714
& Victor Martinez--509-7716
Josh Alley--731-0880
& Jonathan Card--467-5792
Wes Bright--826-3100
& Jordan Inman--265-1812
Brandon Eggar--542-4012
John Fitch--824-5973
& Mark Randolph--822-6057
Bob George--822-2016
Tom Gibbs--930-4974
& James Sedgwick--954-2696
Jerry Hesko--659-3004
& Clay Miller--830-438-5218
Jason Higey--354-7444
& Bernard Hildebrand--833-7616
Charley Hollimon--829-5760
& Jason Register--829-0747
Jeff Judson--822-5901
& Larry Rickels--826-2628
Chris Olderog--491-4101
& Jason Smith--257-0677
Henry Sauer--832-9892
& Jeremy Whitley--320-5520
Ralph Shay--488-2561

Please visit www.redeemersa.org
to find a community group near you.

Sermon Notes

“A Christmas Reality Check”

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” ¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” **Matthew 2:13-18**

¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **Romans 8:16-26**