

**December 9, 2007**

## For Your Information ...

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**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 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](http://www.redeemersa.org). For more information about the Presbyterian Church in America visit: [www.pcanet.org](http://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

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9:15-9:25 a.m. **Prayer**  
9:30-10:45 a.m. **Worship**  
10:45 -11:10 a.m. **Congregational  
Mtg.**  
11:10-12:00 noon **Christian  
Education**

## Nurseries

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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

**Toddlers:** 19 months – 3 years

**Training the Pews:** 3 - 5 years

## Christian Education

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**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** (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)

**Pastor's Forum** (All ages)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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*December 9, 2007*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

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### **Reflection & Preparation**

“After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.” Luke 2:46-55

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Mr. Jeff Judson

### **Prelude**

Redeemer Choir

"Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

*Author unknown; Music by Ahasuerus; arranged by J.S. Bach*

**Call to Worship**

The Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs

Minister: Our souls magnify the Lord!

**People: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!**

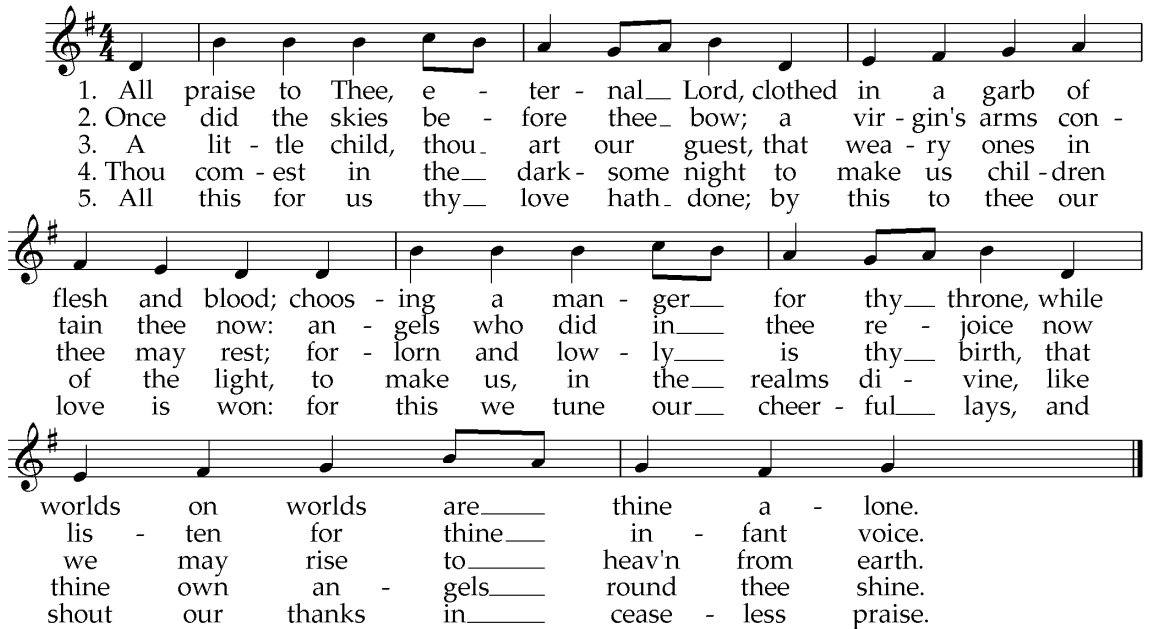
Minister: The mighty One has done great things for us!

**People: Holy is God's name!**

Minister: Let us worship God. For God is our Maker and our Redeemer; from generation to generation God gives mercy.

## \*Hymn of Adoration

### All Praise To Thee, Eternal Lord



1. All praise to Thee, e - ter - nal\_ Lord, clothed in a garb of  
2. Once did the skies be - fore thee\_ bow; a vir - gin's arms con -  
3. A lit - tle child, thou\_ art our guest, that wea - ry ones in  
4. Thou com - est in the\_ dark - some night to make us chil - dren  
5. All this for us thy\_ love hath\_ done; by this to thee our  
flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger\_ for thy\_ throne, while  
tain thee now: an - gels who did in\_ thee re - joice now  
thee may rest; for - lorn and low - ly\_ is thy\_ birth, that  
of the light, to make us, in the\_ realms di - vine, like  
love is won: for this we tune our\_ cheer - ful\_ lays, and  
worlds on worlds are\_ thine a - lone.  
lis - ten for thine\_ in - fant voice.  
we may rise to\_ heav'n from earth.  
thine own an - gels\_ round thee shine.  
shout our thanks in\_ cease - less praise.

*Words by Martin Luther; Music by Robert Schumann*

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

Mr. Gibbs

**The Reception of New Members**

Ruth Anderson  
Mark Austin  
Jeff and Sara Brouillard  
Bebe Camp  
Tim, Liz, Benjamin<sup>†</sup>, Madeleine<sup>†\*</sup>, John David<sup>†\*</sup> Culpepper  
Peter and Judy Dominick  
Rob, Kristen and Anna Katherine\* Eller  
Brian and Abby Fishero  
Sam, Beth, Erica, John, Jessica Hairston  
Rachel Hassan  
Monica Herrera  
Laura Kaupp  
André, Jessica, Pieter\*, Anneke\* Kok  
Chris and Cameron Olderog  
Marcus Rudd  
James and Laura Sedgwick  
Heather Shimek  
Erin Smith  
Chris Specia  
Brandon and Elizabeth Woods

\* Non-communing members  
† Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Eden, Lily and Asher Alley  
Covenant Children of Josh and Carrie Alley

**\*Song of Praise**

**Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord**

1. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord: un-bered bless-ings give my spir-it voice; ten-der to  
2. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his name: make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mer-cy  
3. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might: pow'rs and do-min-ions lay their glo-ry by; proud hearts and  
4. Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word: firm is his prom-ise, and his mer-cy sure. Tell out, my  
me the prom-ise of his word; in God my  
sure, from age to age the same; his ho-ly  
stub-born wills are put to flight, the hun-gry  
soul, the great-ness of the Lord to chil-dren's  
Sav-ior shall my heart re-joice.  
name, the Lord, the Might-y One.  
fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.  
chil-dren and for-ev-er more.

*Words by Timothy Dudley-Smith; Music by Walter Greatorex*

## Scripture Warning

The Rev. Brandon S. Eggar

Minister: For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." Galatians 3:10-11

## Public Confession

**All: Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; but our iniquities have separated us from God and our sins have hidden his face from us so that he does not hear. Our mouths are filled with anger, our lips are quick to speak lies and our eyes are filled with illicit and unnecessary desires. Our feet are swift to run to evil and our thoughts are the thoughts of iniquity. We have lost our way and are far from the way of peace. The roads we travel are crooked and desperate. We hope for light, but behold darkness. Lord, only you can intercede and bring health to us. Only your strong arm can bring us salvation. May the Redeemer of Zion save us.**

*Prayer adapted from Isaiah 59:1-12*

## Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

Hebrews 9:13-14

Minister: For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

## \*Song of Renewal

### O Little Town of Bethlehem



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie; a -  
2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath ered all a - bove, while  
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won drous gift is giv'n! So  
4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray; cast

bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by: yet  
mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love. O  
God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n. No  
out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day. We

in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the  
morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth! And  
ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin, where  
hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell; O

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to men on earth.  
meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.  
come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

*Words by Phillips Brooks; Music by Lewis H. Redner*

## Lighting of Advent\* Wreath—the Bethlehem Candle

Ms. Diane Deng  
Ms. Heather Shimek

Psalms 72:1-7; 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

**Reader:** We light the second candle of Advent, the Bethlehem Candle. We light a candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

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*\* Lighting the Advent Wreath originated in Germany in the nineteenth century, based on a Roman custom of the ceremonial entrance of a ruler to a province or city as his 'advent' (from the Latin adventus: 'arrival'). The wreath consists of four candles placed in the wreath itself and one candle in the center. One candle is lit the first Sunday of Advent. Two are lit the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, and so on. Each of the candles has special significance: The first is the Prophecy candle; the second is the Bethlehem candle; the third is the Angels' candle; the 4<sup>th</sup> is the Shepherds' candle; and the center candle is the Christ candle, lit on Christmas Eve.*

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

Mr. Gibbs

### \*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

### **“Unlikely Mary”**

*Advent Series: Reflections on the Characters of Christmas*

*Luke 1:26-38*

## Preparation for Communion

### 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 to 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.**

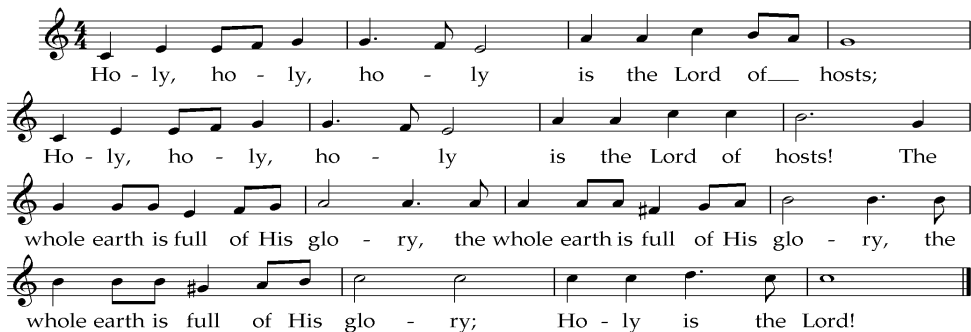
Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

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. And we praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior, by whom You have sent a new light to shine upon the world, that we who rejoice in that light may be found cleansed from our sins and without fear when He shall come again to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

### Sanctus



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!

## 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

Starting with the two front outer sections by rows, please form one line on the outer half of each center aisle. Upon approaching the front, please form a line in front of the first row of chairs of each outer section. After the two outer sections have partaken, the front center section should proceed. If seated in the back center section, please exit your row toward the left, form a line in front of the first row of chairs in the back center section, partake from those serving in the center cross-aisle, and then return to your row from the right side. Redeemer serves wine for communion. The center cup and inner circle of the tray contain grape juice for those desiring it. After partaking, place your cup in the baskets provided on the aisles and return to your seat. Please use the remaining time to sing and/or meditate as communion is being served.

### 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

### Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



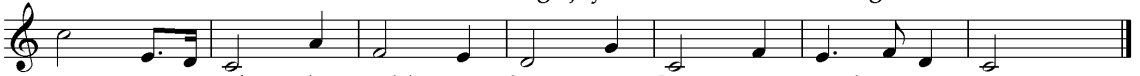
1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep\_ si - lence, and with fear and  
2. King of kings, yet born of\_ Mar - y, as of old on  
3. Rank on rank the host of\_ heav - en; spreads its van-guard  
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with  
trem - bling\_ stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly\_  
earth he\_ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man\_  
on the\_ way, as the Light of light de -  
sleep - less\_ eye, veil their fac - es to the\_  
mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his\_ hand,  
ves - ture, in the bod - y and the\_ blood,  
scend - eth from the realms of end - less\_ day,  
pres - ence as with cease - less voice they\_ cry,  
Christ our God to earth de - scend - - - eth,  
he will give to all the faith - - - ful  
that the pow'rs of hell may van - - - ish  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
our full hom - age to de - mand.  
his own self for heav'n - ly\_ food.  
as the dark - ness clears a\_ way.  
al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

*Words from the 5th century; Music arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams*

## 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!

*Medieval Latin carol; German melody*

The Offering

Hymn of Blessing

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2. Shep herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,  
Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Traditional French Carol

**\*Benediction**

Mr. Gibbs

Minister: May the God of peace, who, through the blood of the eternal covenant, brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will; and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ.

**People: To whom be glory forever and ever. (with great enthusiasm)**

Minister: You may go in peace!

**Postlude**

*\*The Congregation Stands*

*Pastor: Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs*

*Assistant Pastor: Rev. Brandon S. Eggar*

*RUF Campus Minister: Rev. Justin G. Clement*

*Musicians: Brent Watkins, piano*

*Patrick Shay, trumpet; Michael Shay, trombone*

*Song Leaders: Joel Cook, Stacy Van Klaveren*

*(Music printed by permission: CCLI # 2357621)*



## Making Contact

Administrative.....Harriet Peavy; Carri Jobe 930-4480  
Book Table/ Media ..... Brandon Eggar 930-4480  
Children's Ministries.....Jill Higey 930-4480  
Community Life & Outreach..... 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  
Mercy/ Financial Aid.....Jake Gray 884-4729  
Music Ministry..... Brent Watkins 785-0912  
Pastoral Care (Membership, Doctrine, Illness, Counseling).....Tom Gibbs 930-4480  
Reformed University Fellowship (RUF).....Justin Clement 930-4480  
20+ Singles Community.....Brandon Eggar 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  
Youth ..... Patrick & Aubree Shay 383-0132  
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

*Infants I (9:30):* Evie McVicar  
*Infants II (9:30):* Harriet Peavy  
*Toddlers (9:30):* Tyler and Valerie Jorgensen, Brandi Rickels  
*Training in the Pews:* Ben and Ann Bingham  
**Greeters:** Bowman and Mary Williams, Debbie Briggs, Shelley Galbraith, Charley and Katherine Hollimon  
**Worship Set-up/Take Down:** Ken Harrison, Glen Glass, Jake Gray, John Ames  
**Communion Set-up/Take Down:** Ginny Glass, Mary Williams  
**Nursery Set-up/Take Down:** Greg Sanderson, Jordan and Kitty Inman  
**Cookies:** Shelley Galbraith, Kelly Muck

## Serving Next Week

*Infants I (9:30):* Janice Preston  
*Infants II (9:30):* Redeemer Workers  
*Toddlers (9:30):* Henry and Mary Kessler Sauer, Alicia Poe  
*Training in the Pews:* Jason and Jill Higey  
**Greeters:** Wes and Elizabeth Bright, Rebecca Sharp, Janet Pursell, Bob and Terry George  
**Worship Set-up/Take Down:** Ken Harrison, Mark Randolph, Josh Alley, John Ames  
**Communion Set-up/Take Down:** Cyndi O'Leary, Marla Smith  
**Nursery Set-up/Take Down:** Greg Sanderson, Jordan McVicar  
**Cookies:** Jessica Castano, Carrie Alley

## Announcements

Christian Education (CE) will be held after the congregational meeting.

## Stewardship Corner

Actual Giving (YTD)	\$588,012
Budgeted Expenses (YTD)	\$701,896
Actual Expenses (YTD)	\$621,219
Actual Ahead (Behind)	(\$ 33,207)

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

## Community Groups

John Ames – 828-6891  
and Bowman Williams – 930-5915  
Jonathan Card – 467-5792  
and Josh Alley – 731-0880  
and Wes Bright – 826-3100  
Brandon Eggar – 930-4480  
John Fitch – 824-5973  
and Henry Sauer – 832-9892  
Tom Gibbs – 930-4974  
and Ross Van Klaveren – 653-2717  
Charley Hollimon – 829-576  
and Jason Register – 829-0747  
Jeff Judson – 822-5901  
and Larry Rickels – 826-2628  
Victor Martinez- 509-7716  
Clay Miller – 830-438-5218  
and Jerry Hesko – 659-3004  
Mark Randolph – 822-6057  
Jason Smith – 372-9337  
and Jason Higey – 354-7444

## Sermon Notes

### “Unlikely Mary”

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>27</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

**Luke 1:26-38**