

**February 14, 2010**

## 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 Continuing Vision of Redeemer Presbyterian Church document, our newsletter, the Kerygma (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 fellowships of twelve to twenty people meeting every other week in homes throughout San Antonio. They are the first place where we hope our people turn for applying the gospel to their lives. To find a Community Group, please contact Brandon Eggar at 930-4480, or visit our website, [www.redeemersa.org](http://www.redeemersa.org), under Ministries, then Community Groups, to find information on locations and leaders and fill out the online registration form.

**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 envelope 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**  
9:30-10:55 a.m. **Worship**  
11:15 a.m. **Christian Education**

## Nurseries

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Redeemer offers fully staffed nurseries for children ages 3 months to 3 years of age. Redeemer encourages parents to utilize our *Training in the Pews* children's worship time in the cafeteria during each service to better prepare your children, ages 3-5, for worship. All nurseries are at the East end of Edison High School. Room numbers are listed below.

**1116—Nursing Mothers**  
**1119—Itty Bitty Babies:** 3-7 mos.  
**1119—Crawlers:** 8-12 mos.  
**1113—Cruisers & Climbers:** 13-18 mos.  
**1120—Younger Toddler:** 19-27 mos.  
**1122—Older Toddler:** 28– 36 mos.  
**Cafeteria—Training the Pews:** 3-5 yrs.

## Christian Education

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**1120—Toddler I** (age 2)  
**1122—Toddler II** (age 3)  
**1200—Pre K- K** (age 4-5)  
**1202—Primary I** (ages 6-7)  
**1213—Primary II** (ages 8-9)  
**1215—Junior** (ages 10-11)  
**1219—Jr. High Youth** (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)  
**1217—Sr. High Youth** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)  
**1221—Adult CE**  
**Auditorium—Pastor's Forum** (All ages)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Redeemer Presbyterian Church

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*February 14, 2010*

*Transfiguration Sunday*

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In consideration of other worshippers, please program all communication devices to silent mode. Parents, nurseries are available during the worship service for children ages 3 months to 3 years. Babies and toddlers are also welcome in the auditorium. 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**

“The soul that loves God seeks no other reward than that God whom it loves. Were the soul to demand anything else, then it would certainly love that other thing and not God.” Bernard of Clairvaux

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. Psalm 73:25

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Rev. Brandon S. Eggar

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

The Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs

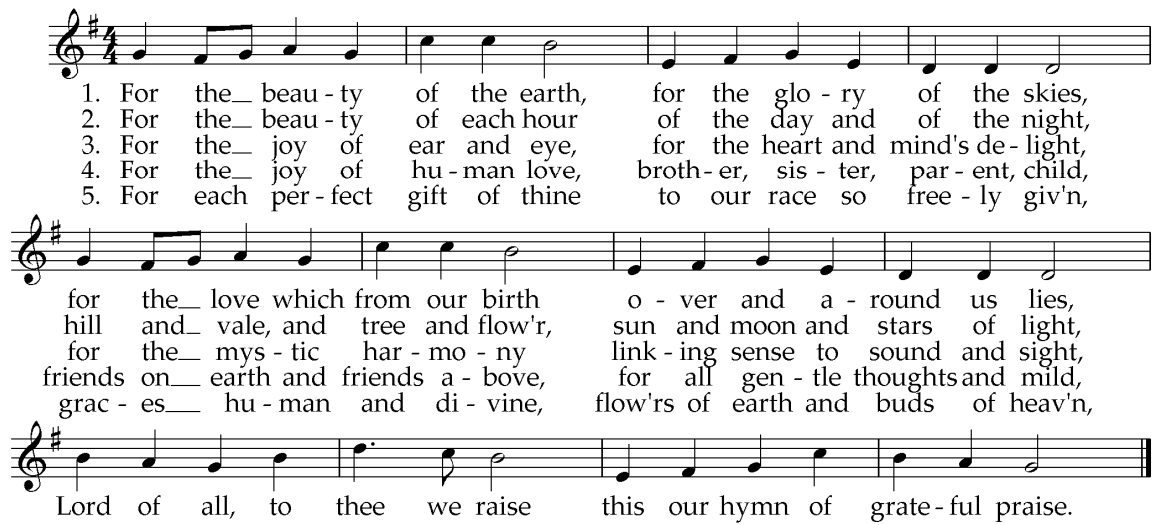
Minister: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

**People: He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.**

Minister: Let our mouths speak the praise of the Lord and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

**\*Hymn of Adoration**

**For the Beauty of the Earth**



1. For the\_ beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
2. For the\_ beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3. For the\_ joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4. For the\_ joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5. For each per - fect gift of thine to our race so free - ly giv'n,

for the\_ love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,  
hill and\_ vale, and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light,  
for the\_ mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,  
friends on\_ earth and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,  
grac - es\_ hu - man and di - vine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

*Words by Folliott S. Pierpoint; Music by Conrad Kocher*

Minister: What is the *Gospel* we preach, that which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved?

**All: Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.**

**We are not ashamed of the *Gospel*, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."**

**\*Song of Praise**

I Love You, Lord

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you; O my soul, rejoice.  
Take joy, my king, in what you hear, may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.  
(Repeat)

*Words and Music by Laurie Klein*

## Understanding Ourselves Rightly

Mr. Eggar

Minister: What is repentance unto life?

**All: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, wrought in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit and Word of God, whereby, out of the sight and sense, not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, and upon the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, he so grieves for and hates his sins, as that he turns from them all to God, purposing and endeavoring constantly to walk with him in all the ways of new obedience.**

*From the Westminster Larger Catechism Q/A #76*

## Public Confession

Minister: Let us confess our sins together.

**All: Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the pattern of this world and the desires of our hearts. We have broken your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done, and we have done those things that we ought not to have done. There is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Adapted from the Book of Common Worship, 1946*

## Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

Romans 10:10-11

Minister: For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

**\*Song of Renewal**

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;  
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,  
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;  
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,  
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;  
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,  
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,  
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine,  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine,  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

*Words by John Stocker; Music by Sandra McCracken*

**Extending the Kingdom**

The Rev. Heero Hacquebord  
*MTW Church Planter, L'viv, Ukraine*

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

Mr. Eggar

**\*The Greeting of Peace**

Children, ages **three through five**, are dismissed through the rear door and into the cafeteria for 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. Gibbs

**"Racing to Win"**

*Continuing the Series: The Church In the City*

*1 Corinthians 9:23-27*

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 partake of the elements. 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

Upon usher's direction, starting front to back, please exit and form a line in front of your section. Return to your seat using the opposite aisle from which you exited. After partaking, place your cup in the baskets provided on the aisles. Please use our communion time to sing and/or meditate as communion is being served.

During the distribution of the elements, an elder or pastor of Redeemer is available to pray with you at the rear of the auditorium if you so desire.

### 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

### My Faith Looks Up to Thee

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2. May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,  
4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine: now hear me while I pray,  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me,  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day,  
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love,

take all my guilt a - way, O let me  
O may my love to thee pure, warm, and  
wipe sor - row's tears a - way, nor let me  
fear and dis - trust re - move; O bear me

from this day be whol - ly thine.  
change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul.

*Words by Ray Palmer; Music by Lowell Mason*

## Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.  
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, out of life's storms and into Thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, out of despair into raptures above,  
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

*Words by William Sleeper; music by Greg Thompson*

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain  
That morn shall tearless be.

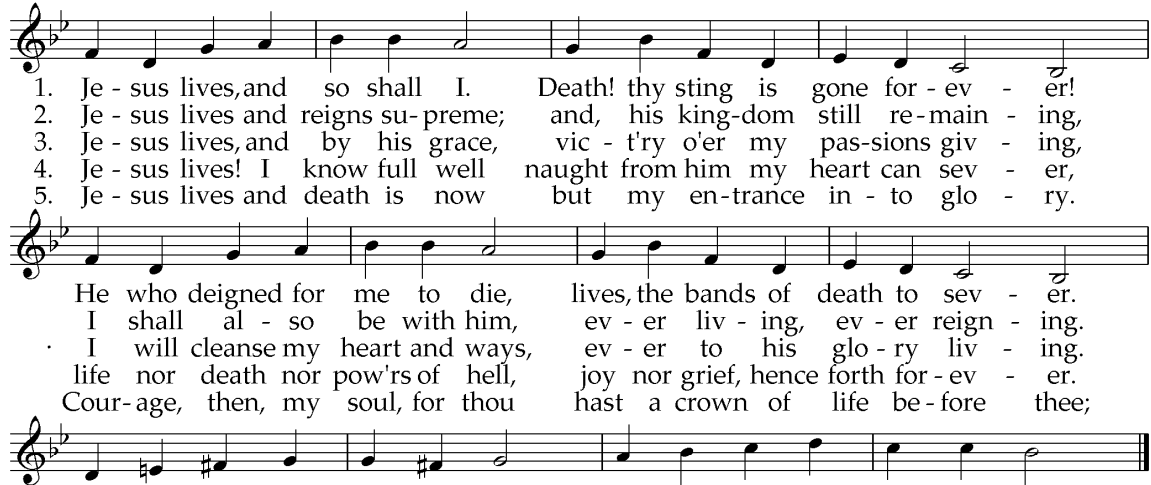
O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red,  
Life that shall endless be.

*Words by George Matheson; music by Christopher Miner*

The Offering

Hymn of Blessing

Jesus Lives, and So Shall I



1. Je - sus lives, and so shall I. Death! thy sting is gone for - ev - er!  
2. Je - sus lives and reigns su-preme; and, his king-dom still re-main - ing,  
3. Je - sus lives, and by his grace, vic - t'ry o'er my pas-sions giv - ing,  
4. Je - sus lives! I know full well naught from him my heart can sev - er,  
5. Je - sus lives and death is now but my en-trance in - to glo - ry.

He who deigned for me to die, lives, the bands of death to sev - er.  
I shall al - so be with him, ev - er liv - ing, ev - er reign - ing.  
I will cleanse my heart and ways, ev - er to his glo - ry liv - ing.  
life nor death nor pow'rs of hell, joy nor grief, hence forth for - ev - er.  
Cour-age, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life be-fore thee;

He shall raise me from the dust: Je - sus is my hope and trust.  
God has prom-ised; be it must: Je - sus is my hope and trust.  
Me he rais - es from the dust: Je - sus is my hope and trust.  
None of all his saints is lost: Je - sus is my hope and trust.  
thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Je - sus is the Chris-tian's trust.

Words by Christian F. Gellert; Music by Johann Cruger

**\*Benediction**

Mr. Gibbs

Minister: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord turn his face to you and give you his peace.

**Postlude**

*\*The Congregation Stands*

*Senior Pastor: Rev. Thomas C. Gibbs  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Brandon S. Eggar  
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Victor R. Martinez  
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Brent M. Watkins*

*Musicians: Brent Watkins, piano; Jonathan Card, guitar;  
Michael Shay, trombone; Wes Bright, bass;  
Song Leaders: Jonathan Card, Sarah Gill*

*(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.*

# REDEEMER Highlights...February 14, 2010

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## This Week

February		<b>Elder/Deacon Nominations:</b> All month long the Session of Redeemer will receive nominations from the congregation for the 2013 classes of ruling elders and deacons, respectively. Nomination forms are available in the foyer and at the church office. Officer elections will be in June.
Today	11:15 a.m.	<b>"Lord, Teach us to Pray" CE Class:</b> 7-week class taught by Brandon Eggar in Rm. 1221.
Today	1:00-2:30 p.m.	<b>Jr. High Community Group:</b> Boys will be at the Beham home, 265 W. Wildwood, 78212, and girls will be at the Randolph home, 417 Canterbury Hill, 78209. Feel free to bring your lunch.
Today		<b>Lent Calendars:</b> Available at no cost on the book table in the foyer.
Tonight	6:00-7:15pm	<b>The Doctrine of the Church Class:</b> At the church office. 12-lesson leadership training class that is open to anyone, and required for those desiring to become deacons, elders, or leaders of Redeemer Women's Ministries. Sign up in the bulletin flyer.
Monday	12:00 p.m.	<b>Jr. High Hangout:</b> At the Stolhandske home, 3109 Fallbrook View, 78163. Call Matt Beham for more info, 508-7662.
Wednesday	10:00-11:30 a.m.	<b>Women's Morning Bible Study:</b> At Alamo Heights UMC, 825 E. Basse, Rm. S107.
Friday-Saturday		<b>Winter Grace Women's Retreat:</b> "Which Voice Are You Listening To? The Call of Wisdom in Proverbs." Speaker: Kathleen Nielson. 6-9 pm Friday, and 9 am-noon on Saturday. Childcare provided. \$16/person or \$20 at the door. There will be a registration table in the foyer today. Please sign up today so a more accurate count may be given to the Bright Shawl.
Friday-Sunday		<b>Sr. High Youth Retreat:</b> To TBarM, Lake Travis. Call Matt Beham for more info, 508-7662.

## Upcoming Events

February 27	9:30-11:00 a.m.	<b>Parents' &amp; Children's Communicants Class:</b> At the church office. Email Jill Higey at <a href="mailto:jillhigey@gmail.com">jillhigey@gmail.com</a> to reserve a spot, or fill out the bulletin flyer and place in the offering.
March 5-6		<b>Intro to Redeemer Class:</b> On Friday night, Mar. 5 <sup>th</sup> , from 6:00-9:30 p.m. and Sat. morning, Mar. 6 <sup>th</sup> , from 8:30 until noon, Redeemer will hold its membership class. Call 930-4480 to sign up, or sign up in the bulletin flyer.

## Making Contact

Administrative.....Harriet Peavy, Heather Rudd, 930-4480  
Book Table/ Media ..... Brandon Eggar 930-4480  
Children's Ministries.....Jill Higey, 930-4480  
Clerk of the Session.....Brandon Eggar, 930-4480  
Community Life & Membership .....Brandon Eggar, 930-4480  
Financial (church)..... Bob George, 822- 2016  
Local Missions..... Victor Martinez, 930-4480  
Men's Ministries..... Henry Sauer, 310-6542, John Browning, (713) 560-6211  
Mercy/ Financial Aid.....Wes Bright, 826-3100  
Mission, Cultural Engagement & Outreach .....Victor 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.....Wes Bright, 826-3100  
Women's Ministries.....Ann Bingham, 930-4503; Tara Gibbs, 930-4974  
World Missions.....Elizabeth Bright, 995-3600  
Worship/ Event Assistance.....Ken Harrison, 828-8864  
Young Professionals Community.....Brandon Eggar, 930-4480  
Youth .....Matthew 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

*Worship Set-up/Take Down:* Henry Sauer, Kevin McConnell, Larry Watford, Jake Gray, Ben Bingham  
*Greeters:* Jason Higey, Diane Deng, Carlos & Brenda Ramos, Quincy & Anne Davidson, Stephanie Swords  
*Communion Set-up/Take Down:* Jeannie Martinez, Bonnie Hannah  
*Nursery Set-up/Take Down:* Dan Whyte, Zach & Leah Ellis  
*Nursery Greeter:* Georgianna Hildebrand  
*Itty Bitty Babies:* Cara McVicar; *Crawlers:* Charlie & Jennifer Hargis  
*Cruisers & Climbers:* Ross & Stacy Van Klaveren  
*Younger Toddlers:* Jeremy & Angel Whitley; *Older Toddlers:* Ben & Rebekah Cairns  
*Training in the Pews:* Jeff & Margaret Judson, Edward & Cristina Fransen  
*Cookies:* Terry George, Redeemer Bakers

## Serving Next Week

*Worship Set-up/Take Down:* Henry Sauer, Sam Hairston, Kent Harbaugh, Aaron Harding, Ben Bingham  
*Greeters:* Jason Higey, Rob & Kristen Eller, Chris & April Duvall, Jake & Sharla Gray  
*Communion Set-up/Take Down:* Elizabeth & Wes Bright  
*Nursery Set-up/Take Down:* Dan Whyte, Jason Higey, Joe Liller  
*Nursery Greeter:* Elizabeth Berenguer  
*Itty Bitty Babies:* Abby & Brian Fishero; *Crawlers:* Kevin & Jane Wallace  
*Cruisers & Climbers:* David & Amy Flores  
*Younger Toddlers:* Zach & Leah Ellis; *Older Toddlers:* Stephanie Woodward, Nell Glazener-Cooney  
*Training in the Pews:* Diane Deng, Bo & Bonnie Hannah  
*Cookies:* Brandi Rickels, Laura Sanders

## 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 Rudd, Assistant Administrator

## Session

Josh Alley, RE  
Brandon Eggar, TE, Clerk  
John Fitch, RE  
Tom Gibbs, TE, Moderator  
Jeff Judson, RE  
Jason Register, RE  
Bowman Williams, RE

## Diaconate

Wes Bright, Chairman  
Bob George, Treasurer  
Jake Gray  
Ken Harrison  
Henry Sauer  
Jeremy Whitley

## Stewardship Corner

Actual Giving (YTD)	\$ 86,713
Budgeted Expenses (YTD)	\$107,058
Actual Expenses (YTD)	\$ 87,785
Actual Ahead (Behind)	(\$ 1,072)

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

## **“Racing to Win”**

<sup>23</sup> I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. <sup>24</sup> Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup> Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup> So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. <sup>27</sup> But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. **1 Corinthians 9:23-27**

**Main Idea:** We often read this passage as though its primary concern is our personal piety. Yet, recognizing the missional priority of chapters 8, 9 and 10 requires that we connect personal piety to the missional goal of the Gospel. Therefore, the race we are each called to run is the one that matters most, not only for ourselves but especially for the world.

### **1) Understanding what’s at stake**

**a) Imperishable crown (23-25)**

**b) Disqualification (27)**

### **2) Making every “punch” count (26)**

### **3) Restraining every wayward impulse (25, 27)**