

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER MARCH 29, 2020

Worship at Church of the Redeemer

- Sunday's Worship service will be live-streamed at:
- www.redeemernorthshore.org/live
- Wednesday, Evening Prayer at 8pm on Zoom

Sundays in Lent

The season of Lent is, more or less, forty days given to prayer, contemplation, fasting and generosity in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. But it's important to know that the Sundays during Lent remain days of celebration and joyful worship, and are not technically part of Lent, although liturgically they are. Since we celebrate the Lord's resurrection on Sundays, they are not days for fasting or abstinence. So even in this challenging time of isolation, let's do what we can to celebrate the Lord's victory over sin, death and disease on the Lord's Day.

Church of the Redeemer

A Welcoming Congregation Celebrating Worship, Community, Healing and Global Relationships

Our Mission is to bring people on the north side of greater Chicago into a meaningful relationship with Christ A Rwanda Ministry Partners Church

107 Highwood Avenue, Highwood

Worship: Morning Prayer

Celebrant:	Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.	
People:	His mercy endures forever.	
Celebrant:	Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.	
People:	Amen. Lord have mercy.	
You shall not make for yourself any idol. Amen. Lord have mercy.		

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother. Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder. Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery. Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal. Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness. Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)

Confession of Sin

Deacon:	Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him.
	Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.
(Silence)	
Deacon and	People:
	Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. <i>Amen</i> .
Celebrant:	Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. <i>Amen</i> .

A Mighty Fortress

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing. You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same; and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us. The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to them abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever!

Do It Again

Walking around these walls I thought by now they'd fall But you have never failed me yet Waiting for change to come Knowing the battle's won For you have never failed me yet

> Your promise still stands Great is your faithfulness, faithfulness I'm still in your hands This is my confidence You've never failed me yet

I know the night won't last Your word will come to pass My heart will sing your praise again Jesus, you're still enough Keep me within your love My heart will sing your praise again

I've seen you move, you move the mountains And I believe I'll see you do it again You made a way where there was no way And I believe I'll see you do it again

You've never failed me yet I never will forget

Celebrant:	The Lord be with you.
People:	And also with you.
Celebrant:	Let us pray.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.""

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them,

⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. ¹¹Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord."

Reader:The Word of the Lord.People:Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

- ¹ Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; * let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- ² If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, * O LORD, who could stand?
- ³ For there is forgiveness with you; * therefore you shall be feared.
- ⁴ I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; * in his word is my hope.
- ⁵ My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, * more than watchmen for the morning.
- ⁶ O Israel, wait for the LORD, * for with the LORD there is mercy;
- ⁷ With him there is plenteous redemption, * and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

⁶The mind governed by the flesh does not have the Spirit of Christ, is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone

they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

The Word of the Lord. Reader: People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand and sing.

Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom.

Deacon: People:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John. Glory to You, Lord Christ.

John 11:1-45

¹Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²(This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he staved where he was two more days, ⁷and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Iudea."

⁸"But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light." ¹¹After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹²His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if vou had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do vou believe this?"

²⁷"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe not he who opened the eyes of the that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

²⁸After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

³²When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴"Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied. ³⁵Jesus wept.

³⁶Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷But some of them said, "Could

The Gospel of the Lord. Deacon: People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

blind man have kept this man from dving?"

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹"Take away the stone." he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that vou sent me."

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

lesus said to them. "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Proclamation

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- Leader:With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, let us
pray to the Father... (prayers)
Lord of compassion, in your mercy hear us.
- Leader: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Father... Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us**.
- Leader:For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and
reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples,
let us pray to the Father...
Lord of compassion, in your mercy hear us.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, let us pray to the Father... Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us**.

For those whom we have injured or offended, let us pray to the Father... Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us**.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, let us pray to the Father... Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us**.

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness, let us pray to the Father... Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us**.

For those who are lost—we mourn For all that is broken—we cry out With those who weep—we weep Suffering Servant, hear our prayer.

For all who are alone—we invite your presence For we who are trapped inside—we ask your freedom For those without a safe place—we beg your protection **Help of the helpless, shelter your people.**

For those who labor on our behalf healing, tending, delivering—we give thanks For those whose work has been taken—we ask provision For those to whom the world looks for guidance—we entreat your wisdom Shepherd, guide us through this shadow of death.

For all that is obscured—we ask for light. From all our selfishness—we repent From all our anxiety—we turn **God of Love, cast out our fear.**

*Other prayers are offered

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Officiant and People:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Blessing

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Celebrant:	May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart.
People:	Amen.
Celebrant:	May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.
People:	Amen.
Celebrant:	May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.
People:	Amen.
Celebrant:	And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us now and forever more.
Deacon:	May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Redeemer Staff & Vestry

Ministers

The Congregation

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Canon Jay L. Greener (Senior Pastor) The Rev. Amanda Holm Rosengren, Deacon & Curate (Assistant Pastor) Stephanie Booth, Children's Pastor Wade & Chelsea Weeldreyer, Youth Heather Cordero, Administrator Dan & Kari Hanlon, Missioners in Rwanda Ethan & Natasha Carlson, Missioners in Rwanda

Vestry

Laurie Nelson (Warden) Gil Smith (Warden) Nancy DeWeese Paul Gleason Canon Jay L. Greener Jenni McCarthy Anthony Wang Deb Webber (Treasurer) Chelsea Weeldreyer (Clerk)

The Vestry is a resourcing team of leaders for Church of the Redeemer. They are called to lead in prayer and fasting, resourcing of ministry, oversight of temporal and financial matters of the church, and encouragement, counsel and prayer for the Rector.

Ministry Opportunities and Leaders Contact

Altar/Communion Ministry: Paula Sershon (847-521-0010) Coffee: Jake Slaughter (jakeslaughter@gmail.com or 224-217-2142) Communion/Acolvtes: Charles Herman (CMKHerman@att.net or 847-657-8899) Communion Bread: Lana Gentile (cute elby@hotmail.com or 847-951-1583) **Community Groups:** Anthony Wang (Anthonyw.wang@gmail.com or 847-951-3146) Hospitality: Laurie Nelson (laurie-nelson@juno.com or 224-612-1938) Meals of Mercy: Bethany Roy (bethanyaroy@gmail.com or 224-805-0195) Nursery and Children's Worship: Stephanie Booth (stephdianne@gmail.com or 765-212-1019) Prayer Ministry: Otto Zimmermann (ottofromgermany@yahoo.com or 224-938-5006) Readers: Lizzy Yoder (eahyoder@gmail.com or 215-858-3641) Facilities: Michele Becker (michele04becker@gmail.com or 847-804-2642) Welcome Team: Mary Lederleitner & Cheryl Campos (mary.lederleitner@wheaton.edu or 630-667-7690; cdonditcamp@gmail.com or 224-234-0159)

Credits and Acknowledgements

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A MIGHTY FORTRESS (Words & Music: Martin Luther, 1529; trans. Frederic H. Hedge, 1853)

DO IT AGAIN (Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick; ©Said And Done Music; sixsteps Music, Thankyou

Music, worshiptogether.com songs, Music by Elevation Worship Publishing)

THE KINGDOM OF GOD (Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 2007)

LAMENT FOR THE PANDEMIC (Emily Cool Greener)

This Week at Redeemer

SUNDAY (March 29)

10:00 a.m. Worship (Live Stream)

TUESDAY (March 31)

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY (April 1)

8:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Coming Up...

April 5

Palm Sunday (Live Stream)

Moving Forward...

Staying Connected

We're in a highly unusual time, and we're not sure how long it will last. As we are scattered and separated physically, we want to do all we can to remain connected spiritually and in our common life and mission as a church.

It's important that we have everyone's current email address, so if you know of someone who is not receiving these regular updates, please let us know, or encourage them to send us an email with their information.

Our Sunday worship services will continue to be <u>live-streamed</u>, even as the format for each service may vary in coming weeks (with Holy Week beginning in just a few days)

Wednesday evenings at 8 we'll continue to gather together for prayer on Zoom.

And our staff and other leaders are communicating various resources online (e.g. for Children's Ministry, Youth, Community Groups, etc).

Thank you for joining in as you are able, for connecting with others in the church remotely, and checking on your neighbors. We'll be sending regular updates as we become aware of changes, and the various needs around us.

Please visit our Redeemer <u>COVID-19 webpage</u> for the latest information and details.

Reaching Out

Please continue to bring food for the food need in Highwood, coordinated through St. James Food Pantry. You can drop off items on our front porch if no one is at the office. One way to do this is to pick up a few items whenever you get to the store, or when you have food delivered.

Ideal donations include the following: dry goods such as cereals, pastas, beans (black or pinto are best; please no canned beans); canned tuna; juices; or baking mixes. Canned vegetables are typically not in high demand, except corn. Please also avoid larger household items (e.g., large packages of paper towels), as the food pantry is limited on space.

Also, please contribute to the Discretionary Fund at Redeemer. There are many financial needs emerging, and a strong fund will enable us to meet those needs at the discretion of our clergy and leadership.

If you are experiencing need—financial, food, connection, etc., please reach out to us at Redeemer and give us an opportunity to respond in Jesus' name. We are together in this, and our mutual sacrifice will be key to weathering things faithfully.

Supporting our Mission

Your faithful and consistent stewardship of financial resources is vital during this time and will allow Church of the Redeemer to serve well now and be strengthened for ministry when this crisis has passed. We're grateful for the strong response shown since this health crisis began. Here's how you can continue to participate:

Sign up with Realm and give online (even by text). You can draw directly from your bank account to the church, and set up a one-time or recurring donation.

Most banks have the option of making payments through Zelle. You can send your tithes and offerings in this way, as well. Just use our office email, chredeemer@gmail.com.

Checks still work. Just mail to Church of the Redeemer, 107 Highwood Ave, Highwood, IL 60040. Thank you!

Offerings last week: \$9449

Received for our Discretionary Fund: \$3200

Average amount needed each week: \$7758

Resources in this Time

Celtic Night Prayer (Compline)

We Wonder, a contemplative Lenten devotional for Children

Podcasts from the Transforming Center

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER