

WELCOME TO REDEEMER!

VISITING OR CHECKING US OUT TODAY? THINKING OF JOINING?

Redeemer may be the place for you. Here's how to connect:

JOIN US for coffee and hospitality after the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services.

ASK QUESTIONS and fill out a welcome card at our Welcome Table, found in the Narthex (Lobby). If you like, sign-up for a name tag. Greeters, ushers, clergy, and friendly people would love to talk to you!

CHILD CARE is available in the Playroom each Sunday beginning at 8:45 am through 12:15 pm. During 10:00 am worship services, children (**grades 1-4**) are invited to the Chapel for Children's Liturgy during the Liturgy of the Word and Godly Play (**age 3-6**) begins in the St. Joseph room at **9:45 am**. Both groups will return to services at The Peace. Also during the 10:00 am services, toddlers are in the St. Francis room (pick up in the Playroom) and infant care is in the Playroom. Questions about kid's programming? Text Minister for Families, Brad Gough @ 859-322-6468.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED? Contact Anny Stevens-Gleason, Minister for Incorporation and Worship: anny@redeemer-cincy.org or 513.321.6700

RECTOR'S BLOG: I'M GLAD YOU EXIST - "When we have this proper understanding of comfort, I believe we experience an outflowing of great joy.

But just like comfort is not about convenience or material ease, joy is not simply about having a good time or 'being happy'. What, then, is joy?

So, there's this theologian named Stanley Hauerwas. And he's famous in church nerd circles for being tough minded. (Tough minded is a euphemism for brilliant and difficult.) [...] He is one of the more challenging Christian thinkers of our time. And when asked what the purpose of the church is, he responds that we exist to embody the joy of being made part of the Body of Christ. We exist to embody joy. When pressed to define that joy, he lets up on big words and hard ideas:

Joy, Hauerwas says, is, 'I'm glad you exist - that you exist means life is good. Joy names the sheer presence of God. Joy is when I discover the other exists in such a wonderful way that I almost lose my sense of self-fascination.'"

Read Phil's blog in it's entirety at redeemer-cincy.org/rectors-blog-im-glad-you-exist.

WEEKDAY SERVICE

Wednesday: 6:00 pm Eucharist

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

DOWNTOWN BIBLE STUDY: Wednesdays, 12:00 pm, Diocesan Offices.

Thoughtful reflection on the upcoming Sunday scripture readings. To learn more, please email philip@redeemer-cincy.org.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 10:00 am, Parlor.

Thoughtful reflection on the book of Genesis. To learn more, please email philip@redeemer-cincy.org. Childcare is provided.

We strive to share our mission of radical welcome and hospitality with the world through photos and video. From time to time we document church events for use in publications, website, and social media. By your presence, you grant Redeemer unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast images, and or likenesses that may be taken of you for use in communications related to the church. Please contact Nancy Schwartz, Minister of Communications, with any questions at 513.321.6700 or nancyschwartz@redeemer-cincy.org.

PASTORAL CARE: Redeemer Clergy are here to support you pastorally. If you are, or will be, in the hospital or are confined to home, please be in touch with us. We will be glad to arrange a visit, bring communion to you, and/or speak by phone with you. Call the church office at 513.321.6700 during business hours. If your need is urgent after business hours, call the office and follow the prompts for emergency circumstances.

PASTORAL SERVICES

Baptisms are scheduled throughout the year on specific Sundays (dates available at redeemer-cincy.org). Contact Minister for Worship and Incorporation, Anny Stevens-Gleason.

Blessings of Commitments and Marriage require consultation with clergy (see contact info, below). For arrangements and set-up requirements, contact one of our Wedding Coordinators, Sheila Maxwell, max04@fuse.net, Kathe Kissel, kckissel23@gmail.com.

Funeral and Memorial Service planning may be done in advance or when a death is reported to the church. Contact the Rev. Joyce Keeshin.

Communion for the sick or home-bound (or pastoral visits to the hospital) are arranged through the Rev. Joyce Keeshin.

To add a name to the prayer list, you may fill out one of the prayer request cards found in the narthex (lobby) and drop it in the plate, or contact the Rev. Joyce Keeshin.

THE CLERGY AND STAFF OF REDEEMER ARE HERE FOR YOU

The Rev. Philip DeVaul, Rector, philip@redeemer-cincy.org

The Rev. Melanie W. J. Slane, Associate for Mission & Liturgy, melanie@redeemer-cincy.org

The Rev. Joyce Keeshin, Associate for Pastoral Care, joyce@redeemer-cincy.org

The Rev. Mitchell Bojarski, Associate for Youth & Young Adults, mitchell@redeemer-cincy.org

The Rev. Gary R. Lubin, Deacon, garyrlubin@gmail.com

Dr. L. Brett Scott, Director of Music Ministries, brett@redeemer-cincy.org

Matthew Swanson, Assisting Choirmaster, mjswanson2@gmail.com

Liz Clemons, Assisting Minister of Music, liz@redeemer-cincy.org

Thomas Heidenreich, Organist, heidenc@mail.uc.edu

Caleb Neely, Assisting Music Minister for Contemporary Worship, caleb.neely42@gmail.com

Maria Felice Rivers, Director of Jubilate Deo Choir, mfelicerivers@gmail.com

Shelley Dumoulin, Assistant Director of Jubilate Deo Choir, shelleyd57@gmail.com

Brad Gough, Minister for Families, brad@redeemer-cincy.org

Tommy Kirk, Children's Formation Leader, tommy@redeemer-cincy.org

Denise Hoefling, Preschool Director, denise@redeemer-cincy.org

Anny Stevens-Gleason, Minister for Worship & Incorporation, anny@redeemer-cincy.org

Becca Morehaus, Health & Wellness Minister, becca@redeemer-cincy.org

Mary Jo Schottelkotte, Director of Building & Facilities Operations, maryjo@redeemer-cincy.org

Nancy Schwartz, Communications Minister, nancyschwartz@redeemer-cincy.org

Debbi Alsfelder, Finance Officer, debbi@redeemer-cincy.org

Missy Darling, Receptionist, missy@redeemer-cincy.org

Kris Woolf, Head Sexton, kristopher@redeemer-cincy.org

Robert Votapek, Sexton, robert@redeemer-cincy.org

Jerred Conley, Sexton, jerred@redeemer-cincy.org

VESTRY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Charles Fellows, Senior Warden; Emily von Allmen, Junior Warden

Rob Kranz, Treasurer; Audrey Sesler, Asst. Treasurer; Pattie Kovach, Clerk of Vestry

Ryan Andrews, Michael Firesheets, Brett Flodder, Chuck Hardy, Kate Haralson,

Alan Henning, Megan Johnson, Kyle Roberts, Andrea Rogers,

Betsy Schram, Jim Votaw, Kelli Wisecup

REDEEMER EMAIL: COMMUNICATIONS@REDEEMER-CINCY.ORG OR CALL 513.321.6700



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019

WEEK THREE: JOY



Ignite Joy

Light three candles.

Read

Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces. What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.
+ Matthew 11:8-9

Reflect

The 'holiday cheer' this time of year can be materialistic and shallow, blaring from ads and social media. In this week's reading, Jesus suggests we must go to the margins, to the wilderness, in order to seek both truth and authentic joy. How are the distractions of the commercial holiday season wearing on you? What are some ways you can escape the noise to find more authentic forms of joy?

Practice

Commit to going 'into the wilderness' this week, literally and/or figuratively:

- Unplug (or lessen) screen time, especially social media, for the rest of Advent.
- Fast from comparing yourself to others, and start being filled with joy for who you are: Beloved, child of God!
- Take a walk or hike out in God's creation, away from the hustle and bustle.
- Find the joy of Christ in the wilderness of vulnerability - sing carols at your local nursing home, call someone who is lonely, buy less and give more of your time to a local organization fighting homelessness.



Welcome to Redeemer! We have a vision of a worshipping community that **knows Jesus and grows in love**. A community that is **united** in relationships of holy connection and communion. A community **growing** with people of every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, and political persuasion. A community **inspired** by our understanding of why we are Christian, why we are Episcopalian, why Redeemer matters to us. A community **sent** into the world, rooted and grounded in love, to serve all people with humility, compassion, and faithfulness. Come, join us on the journey.

DECEMBER 15: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8 am RITE I EUCHARIST (Sanctuary)

Sermon: The Rev. Gary Lubin

In the traditional language of *The Book of Common Prayer*.

9 am RISE & SHINE (Parlor)

The Rise and Shine discussion group will gather with Brad Gough to discuss the topic: "Going the Second Mile." We will use scripture and the recent news regarding a Federal Judge who visited inmates that he sentenced over the course of his career.

9:00 am Hygge Spaces (Narthex, Office Reception Area)

Look around the church and find the cozy corners we've set up for you to gather together, enjoy a cup of coffee, and share conversation. Places where you can *be you, be seen, and belong*.

10 am RITE II EUCHARIST (Sanctuary)

Sermon: The Rev. Gary Lubin

Redeemer's Adult Choir offers the music of Gaudimel, Mendelssohn, and Jennings. On the organ we will hear pieces from Brahms and J. S. Bach.

10 am THE BANQUET (Great Hall)

Sermon: The Rev. Philip DeVaul

11:15 am Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Kids ages 3 - grade 8 are invited to participate in our Christmas Eve Pageant. Join us after 10 am worship today, parts and costumes will be assigned!

11:15 am Hygge Spaces (Narthex, Parlor, Office Reception Area)

Look around the church and find the cozy corners we've set up for you to gather together, enjoy a cup of coffee, and share conversation. Places where you can *be you, be seen, and belong*.

5 pm CELTIC EUCHARIST (Chapel)

Sermon: The Rev. Philip DeVaul

An intimate, contemplative service, celebrated in our beautiful chapel.

PAGEANT REHEARSAL - Rehearsals for this year's pageant at 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve will be held **TODAY and next Sunday, December 22 at 11:15 am** in the nave/sanctuary.

GIVING TREE - Our Giving Tree (set up in the narthex/lobby) is supporting the mothers and their children at First Step Home again this year. Please return the gifts **unwrapped** no later than **noon TODAY**. For more information visit our website: redeemer-cincy.org/blog/giving-tree/.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - Would you like to contribute to the beautiful flowers that decorate the church at Christmas? You can do so in honor and/or thanksgiving of loved ones. Use our online form at redeemer-cincy.org/blog/christmas-flowers/ or one of the Flower Offering envelopes in the narthex/lobby. Deadline for donations is **TODAY** to ensure they will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins.

PARKING: Parking is on the street. Please pay attention to the signs indicating proper parking zones. Handicapped parking is available in the front on Erie, in the back parking lot, and on the south side of Raymar.

ACCESSIBLE REDEEMER: The front entrance has a ramp and there is an elevator inside the back door and to the left. Accessible restrooms are located in the Lobby inside the front entrance. The nave is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Large print bulletins are available for worship at 10 am in the nave. Please ask an usher for assistance.

DECEMBER 22: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8 am RITE I EUCHARIST (Sanctuary)

Sermon: The Rev. Philip DeVaul

In the traditional language of *The Book of Common Prayer*.

9 am RISE & SHINE (Parlor)

Join us for discussions that are relevant to our lives through the lens of a current topic and scriptural references. Interested in weekly Rise & Shine email updates? Contact Brad Gough, brad@redeemer-cincy.org.

9:00 am Hygge Spaces (Narthex, Office Reception Area)

Look around the church and find the cozy corners we've set up for you to gather together, enjoy a cup of coffee, and share conversation. Places where you can *be you, be seen, and belong*.

10 am RITE II EUCHARIST (Sanctuary)

Sermon: The Rev. Philip DeVaul

Redeemer's Adult Choir will offer the music of Holst, Poston, and Archer. On the organ we will hear pieces from L. H. Bristol, Jr. and A. Carter.

10 am THE BANQUET (Great Hall)

Sermon: The Rev. Mitchel Bojarski

11:15 am Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Kids ages 3 - grade 8 are invited to participate in our Christmas Eve Pageant. Join us after 10 am worship for a full run-through of the pageant.

11:15 am Hygge Spaces (Narthex, Parlor, Office Reception Area)

Look around the church and find the cozy corners we've set up for you to gather together, enjoy a cup of coffee, and share conversation. Places where you can *be you, be seen, and belong*.

5 pm CELTIC EUCHARIST (Chapel)

Sermon: The Rev. Philip DeVaul

An intimate, contemplative service, celebrated in our beautiful chapel.

PRAYER DURING ADVENT - This Advent we offer the following practices at Church of the Redeemer to guide our community to grow more centered in Jesus and share his loving, liberating, life-giving way in the world:

Morning Prayer: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:30 am, Chapel.

Noonday Prayer: Mondays & Fridays, 12:00 pm, Chapel.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - Join Church of the Redeemer on **Tuesday, December 17** for an evening of caroling and spreading good cheer. We will gather at the church (in the reception area on the office level) at **5:45 pm**. Learn more at redeemer-cincy.org/blog/christmas-caroling/.

BLUE CHRISTMAS: Comfort on the Longest Night - All are welcome to this gentle, contemplative service on **Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm** in the nave/sanctuary. This worship service will include opportunities for the lighting of candles amidst prayers and conclude with Holy Eucharist. Learn more at redeemer-cincy.org/blog/blue-christmas/.

END OF YEAR GIVING - Please note: all 2019 donations to Redeemer must be received by **noon on December 27** to be included in the 2019 giving year. Questions about giving? Contact Finance Officer, Debbi Alsfelder, debbi@redeemer-cincy.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

Look for more details on these events on our website: redeemer-cincy.org.

December 29, Sunday: Cocoa & Carols. 5:00 pm. Chancel.

January 11, Saturday: Carnival and Chili Cook-Off. 5:00 pm. Great Hall.

January 15, Wednesday: Dementia Inclusive Dinner and Training. 6:30 pm.

January 16, Thursday: Dementia Inclusive Lunch and Training. 11:30 am.

January 18, Saturday: Feast Day: The Confession of Peter. 6:00 pm. Chapel.

January 25, Saturday: Second Half Potluck & Trivia. 6:00 pm. Great Hall.

February 3, Monday: Stephen Ministry Open House & Potluck. 5:30 pm. Parlor.

February 7-8: Women's Retreat Weekend. Transfiguration Retreat Center.

February 16, Sunday: Annual Parish Meeting. Following Combined Worship at 9:00 am. Great Hall.

February 16-22: Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) Hosting Week.

February 25, Tuesday: Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.

February 26, Wednesday: Ash Wednesday. 7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm.

February 28-29: Men's Retreat Weekend. Transfiguration Retreat Center.

March 5, Thursday: Lenten Evensong. 7:00 pm. Nave/Sanctuary

March 16, Monday: Refresh Your Soul 2020. 9:00 am - 3:15 pm. Cintas Center.

ONE AND DONE OPPORTUNITY - Help make a neighbor's Christmas accessible. On **Saturday, December 21, from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm**, Church of the Redeemer volunteers will join other People Working Cooperatively (PWC) volunteer crews to build wheel chair access ramps for one of our neighbors. No experience necessary, we learn and train as we build. For more information and to join the crew, contact Keenan Beauchamp, keenan@cinci.rr.com.

HOLD YOUR MEAC DONATIONS - Madisonville Education and Assistance Center (MEAC) thanks you for your donations of food, clothing, and personal care items this year. Please note that MEAC has suspended this program for the rest of the month and will begin accepting donations again in the new year. The collection bins will return to the reception area once donation collection has resumed. Thank you for holding on to your donations until then.

NEW PARISHIONER BUILDING ACCESS CODE: We will again be changing the Parishioner Access Code on **January 1, 2020**. If you are someone who uses this code to access the building, please contact your Ministry Head for more information or Director of Building & Facilities Operations, Mary Jo Schottelkotte, maryjo@redeemer-cincy.org.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

December 24

4:00 pm • Festive Holy Eucharist + Children's Christmas Pageant

6:00 pm • Festive Holy Eucharist

10:30 pm • Carol Singing Musical Prelude

11:00 pm • Festive Holy Eucharist

December 25

11:00 am • Holy Eucharist