



The
**NARROW
DOOR**
is for
YOU

Rev. Ramon Contreras

August 24, 2025 ~ 10:15am

REDEEMER BY THE SEA ~ "A PLACE TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN"

We are honored to recognize our niche in God's Kingdom work. Here we will faithfully worship and teach in alignment with God's Word and we're a small enough fellowship where you can know and be known by most of the people around you if that's your desire. Here you will be missed if you're gone and prayed for when you have needs. You are welcome to contact the office (kay@redeemerbythesea.org) with any questions or to get connected.

UPCOMING EVENTS: www.RedeemerbytheSea.org

Sept. 6 th	9:00am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Sept. 9 th	9:30am	LWM – Meeting & Program
Sept 11 th	9:30am	MomCo – First Meeting
Sept 13 th		Holy Hackers
Sept. 19 th	5:30pm	Women Friday Fellowship
Oct. 19 th	10:15am	One Combined Worship Service
	11:30am	Fall Festival

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONGS

“Firm Foundation (He Won’t)”

“Who You Say I Am”

INVOCATION AND PRAYER TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE/SUNDAY SCHOOL DISMISSAL

GREET ONE ANOTHER AND SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 66:18-23 (ESV)

¹⁸ “For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹ and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰ And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. ²¹ And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the Lord.

²² “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain.

²³ From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to

Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:22-30 (ESV)

²² He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³ And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, ²⁴ "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' ²⁶ Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷ But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' ²⁸ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹ And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

"The Narrow Door is for You" *Rev. Ramon Contreras*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: *(concluding each petition)* Lord, in Your mercy:

People: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

"Hymn of Heaven"

WORSHIP | GROW | SERVE

OFFERINGS: Visitors: please consider yourselves our guests and do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. In faithful obedience and joyful response to God's grace in our lives, we humbly and gratefully bring our tithes (a regular first portion percentage of our income) and offerings (gifts over and above our tithes for other kingdom work). You may deposit your envelope, check, or cash in the box next to the exit; give online with your phone using the QR code, or text "GIVE" to 442-222-2448. All of these options are also available on our **website: www.redeemerbythesea.org/donate/**



PROMOTION DAY – SEPT 7TH: They're moving up!! Sunday School Promotion Day will take place on **Sun. Sept. 7th** with a special celebration during Sunday School for the kids.

MOMCO STARTING SEPTEMBER 11TH AT REDEEMER: The first meeting of MomCo (formerly known as MOPS) will be on **Thurs. Sept. 11th at 9:30am**. Email Chase De Gaine: **chasedegaine@gmail.com** for more information.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: Sat. Sept. 6th from 9:00am-10:45am. Join us for a time of fellowship and men's study. Select your optional breakfast from Panera on our website: **redeemerbythesea.org/announcements**. The order will be placed on Friday morning.

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION: Our fall meetings/programs will begin on **Tues. Sept. 9th**. Following the business meeting at **9:30am**, Marty Acevedo, President of Parkinson's Association of San Diego, will present "Living Your Best Life", a phrase she coined to encourage others living with Parkinson's. Join us in the Fellowship Hall.

HOLY HACKERS: The next outing will be on **Sat. Sept. 13th**. We play scramble so golfers of all skill levels are welcome. Email Rhonda to play and she will secure tee times: **rhonda@redeemerbythesea.org**.

SAVE THE DATE FOR RBTS FALL FESTIVAL: On **Sun. Oct. 19th**. We will have one Combined Worship Service at 10:15am, followed by our annual Fall Festival. Activities this year include Trunk-or-Treat, a petting zoo, pony rides, inflatables, a BBQ, and more!

REDEEMER BY THE SEA PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN: With great excitement, Redeemer by the Sea Preschool and Kindergarten starts its **20th year** of operation on Aug. 26 & 27, 2025. In 2005 teachers welcomed children in the downstairs area of the church; in 2009 the doors opened on the school itself. The teachers and staff will be introduced and installed during the Oct. 19th service. We thank the congregation for their continued support. - Your school board, Dan Bitner, Dave Berrier, Tanya Finnerty, Jerry Meyer, Kathy Seemann (chair)

WELCOME REV. RAMON CONTRERAS: My mom was of Dutch/Italian descent, my dad was Caribbean, and I was born in Southern Mexico in the state of Oaxaca. I went to university to get my BA in Theology and Philosophy in Mexico City, 1992-1996. I hold a Master of Sociology from International Center for Superior Studies, 1996-1999. I hold a Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St Louis, MO, and a Master of Arts and Theology from Concordia University, Irvine, 2000-2004. I worked from 1997 to 1999 for the Lutheran Hour Ministries as a media and public relationships coordinator, Mexico office. From 2004 to 2009 I planted two congregations in the LA area, one in Messiah, Downey, and another bilingual, English/Spanish, Word of God (Palabra de Dios) in Maywood, CA. Since 2010 I'm the Coordinator for LBCM (Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry) where we help people in the southern of the border with both, material and spiritual, needs. Since 2015 I'm the founder and director for Bible Institute Sola Gracia Sola Fe in the border region of CA/Baja/Arizona/Sonora states. I was the district pastoral counselor for LWML (Lutheran Women Missionary League) in the Pacific Southwest District, 2017-2023. In 2021 I was awarded by Concordia University, Irvine, CA (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) with the Christus Mundo Award.