



# Faithful Stewards

Rev. Ramon Contreras

September 21, 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](mailto:kay@redeemerbythesea.org)) with any questions or to get connected.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS: [www.RedeemerbytheSea.org](http://www.RedeemerbytheSea.org)**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>~11:30am</b>	<b>Voter's Meeting</b>
<b>Sept. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>The Rush Coffee Truck</b>
	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>MomCo</b>
<b>Oct. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Men's Fellowship Breakfast</b>
<b>Oct. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>LWM Meeting</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>"Strengthening Our Military Families"</b>
<b>Oct. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>One Combined Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Fall Festival</b>

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING SONG**

**"10,000 Reasons"**

### **INVOCATION**

### **PRAYER TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

**"Whom Shall I Fear"**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

### **GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

### **KIDZONE & RISE DISMISSAL**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Amos 8:4-7 (ESV)**

Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, <sup>5</sup> saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, <sup>6</sup> that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" <sup>7</sup> The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

---

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE READING**

**1 Timothy 2:1-15 (ESV)**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

<sup>8</sup> I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; <sup>9</sup> likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, <sup>10</sup> but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. <sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. <sup>12</sup> I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. <sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve; <sup>14</sup> and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and

became a transgressor.<sup>15</sup> Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

---

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE READING**

## **1 Timothy 2:1–15 (ESV)**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,<sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.<sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,<sup>4</sup> who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.<sup>5</sup> For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.<sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

<sup>8</sup>I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;<sup>9</sup> likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire,<sup>10</sup> but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.<sup>11</sup> Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness.<sup>12</sup> I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.<sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve;<sup>14</sup> and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.<sup>15</sup> Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

---

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL READING

**Luke 16:1–15 (ESV)**

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' <sup>3</sup> And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' <sup>8</sup> The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

<sup>10</sup> "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? <sup>13</sup> No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

<sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

---

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

**"Faithful Stewards"**

*Rev. Ramon Contreras*

## PRAYERS

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

**People: hear our prayer.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

## BLESSING

## CLOSING SONG

**"Grave Robber"**

The flowers on the altar today were donated by BJ Campbell-Lahr to three of the most favorite and wonderful people in my life – Paul, Diana Jeanne and Susan.

## 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 at right or text "GIVE" to 442-222-2448. All of these options are on our website:



[www.redeemerbythesea.org/donate/](http://www.redeemerbythesea.org/donate/).

**VOTER'S MEETING TODAY:** Our next congregational meeting is set for **TODAY Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service (about 11:30am)**, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. The agenda will include the 2025/2026 budget.

**CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE:** The Call Committee is pleased to announce that we have selected the leading candidate for our next Pastor. He is currently arranging coverage to allow him to visit Redeemer. During this visit, he will meet with our Leadership Team and participate in worship services, offering members of the congregation an opportunity to meet him.

The candidate is Rev. Eli Johannes Thomas, who serves at 2 Churches in Washington, Grace Lutheran (*Traditional*) in Longview and Christ Community (*Contemporary*) in Ridgefield and has said he loves both traditional and contemporary worship. As a colloquy into the LCMS, he brings a broad perspective on ministry beyond the Lutheran tradition. Ordained on Sept 29, 2013, he has been described by his current District President as contemporary, with a highly evangelical approach to ministry and mission.

**MOMCO and THE RUSH COFFEE TRUCK SEPT. 25<sup>th</sup>:** MOMCO is a great way to tackle motherhood together. The Fall Kickoff is underway. The next session will be on **Thurs. Sept 25<sup>th</sup>**. The Rush Coffee Truck will be here from 9-9:30 and then join us downstairs

in the Fellowship Hall at **9:30am**. Invite a friend to join you. Email Chase De Gaine: **chasedegaine@gmail.com** for more information.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS COMING:** This class is for those who want to become a member at Redeemer by the Sea or want more information on the Lutheran faith. The Elders will be leading. If interested, please email: **office@redeemerbythesea.org** by **Oct. 10th**. The Elders will then work with participants to select a date and time for the class.

**LWM MEETING AND PROGRAM ON OCT. 14<sup>TH</sup>:** The next business meeting for Lutheran Women in Mission (LWM) will be on **Tues. Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**. Following the meeting at **10:15am**, our speaker will be Samantha Holt, Executive Director of The Armed Services YMCA Camp Pendleton. All are welcome to come find out more about "Strengthening Our Military Families."

**BIRTH CHOICE 2025 ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET:** Please join Jerry Meyer at the annual Birth Choice Fundraising Banquet on **Sat. Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>** at The Westin Carlsbad Resort & Spa. Founded in 1987, Birth Choice of San Marcos is a non-profit, Pregnancy Medical Center that offers free support services related to pregnancy and sexual health for men and women in a confidential and compassionate environment. Use this QR code to register and choose Jerry as your table host.



**SIGN-UPS NOW OPEN for FALL FESTIVAL! Please help us to be prepared with food/beverage and volunteers by RSVPing online for this fun event.** On **Sun. Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>**. We will have one Combined Worship Service with Preschool Teacher Installation at 10:15am, followed immediately by the Fall Festival. The fun includes Trunk-or-Treat, a petting zoo, pony rides, inflatables, professional photos, BBQ, & more! Costumes encouraged!

**WELCOME PASTOR RAMON CONTRERAS TODAY:** 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.

**SERMON NOTES**

**Date** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Series/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES:**

**MAIN POINTS:**

**ACTION/REFLECTION/PRAYER:**