



February 22, 2026 ~ 8:30am

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).

UPCOMING EVENTS: www.RedeemerbytheSea.org

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--|
| Feb. 25th | 6:00pm | Lenten Devotional Gathering w/ dinner at 5:30pm |
| Feb. 28th | 4:30pm | Date Night |
| Mar. 4th | 6:00pm | Lenten Devotional Gathering w/ dinner at 5:30pm |
| Mar. 7th | 9:00am | Men's Fellowship Breakfast |
| Mar. 14th | | Holy Hackers |
| Mar. 14th | 10:00am | LWM Zone 21 Rally at Redeemer |

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

LSB 657



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110016216 Tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for further personal reflection and specific confession)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

Pastor: For you who believe and trust that Jesus is God and Savior, through Him and for His sake God has heard our prayer. The Father sent His Son into our world, to die for us and to rise again that we may have new life. As a called and ordained servant of the word, and at the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I announce the grace of God unto all of you, your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 3:1-21 (NIV)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She

also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹ And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹² The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." ¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

²⁰ Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

²¹ The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

¹³To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

¹⁵But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. ¹⁷For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1–11 (NIV)

Pastor: The Gospel reading today comes from Matthew chapter 4.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

MESSAGE HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

MESSAGE

"DISTRACTIONS: Refusing to Settle for Less Than God's Best"

Pastor Eli Thomas

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

People: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

"O Christ, You Walked the Road"

LSB 424



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591 Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110016216 Tune: Public domain

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord with joy.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Toccatà in E Minor"

by Johann Pachelbel

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/

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL GATHERING: Join us for a 5-week study called "Transformation" by Ed Young. This offers practical steps from Romans 12 to help renew your mind, offer true worship and walk in the will of God for your life. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall - Wednesdays starting **Feb. 25th through March 25th at 6pm**. You are also welcome to join us before for dinner at 5:30pm.

DATE NIGHT SAT. FEB. 28TH from 4:30PM-7:30PM. This is a chance for parents to take a break and enjoy a night out knowing your children are in a fun, safe environment with pizza, games, crafts, and more. Cost is \$25/child. Space is limited so sign-up online (ages 1-9 years old).

SERVE TEAM NEEDED: If you are high school-aged and above, willing to give your time to the children attending Date Night, please sign up online. Hours are 3:30-8:30pm to help set up and clean up. Email **Shauna - shauna841505@yahoo.com**.

LWM ZONE 21 RALLY AT REDEEMER ON SAT. MAR. 14TH. The program is a dramatic presentation by Laurel Kelsh Jones honoring Katharina von Bora Luther, the wife of Martin Luther. **9:30am registration** (\$6.00). **10:00am – 1:00pm** for the meeting, program, luncheon, and basket raffle. Please bring Walmart gift cards (\$10-\$20) to support the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund. Email BJ: **bjclahr@cox.net** to RSVP by March 2nd.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES AVAILABLE: In love, God sent His Son to redeem the world. In hatred, He was rejected. In the devotional, *Behold Your King!*, we see the Savior stripped of His dignity, led away, and crucified on our behalf. No one could imagine this Man, this condemned and forsaken Man, was God in the flesh sent to liberate us from our sin by His death and resurrection. Copies of "Behold Your King!" are available in the lobby, OR checkout www.lhm.org/lent/ for digital access.

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Find out more: www.redeemerbythesea.org
Submit a prayer: prayers@redeemerbythesea.org
Contact the church: office@redeemerbythesea.org
Text the church office: 760-283-6567

DISTRACTIONS: Refusing to Settle for Less Than God's Best

Series: Joseph- Dreams & Destiny, part 3

Scripture References

- Genesis 39:1-6
- Deuteronomy 8:6-19
- Proverbs 30:7-9
- Mark 10:21
- Genesis 39:2-3
- 1 Peter 3:15

1. Blessings can become _____ when they feel

_____.

2. Blessings become a distraction when

_____.

3. Blessings become a distraction when

_____.