



Christmas Schedule. Mark your calendars for at least these following events full of familiar carols and festivities to mark our Savior’s birth:

- **Today: Christmas Dinner Third Sunday.** Immediately following service. **Guests encouraged to join!**
- Sunday, December 24th: Ordinary corporate gathering from 4:30-6.
- Sunday, December 31st: Ordinary corporate gathering from 4:30-6.

New Members’ Class. January 14th, 2:30-4:30pm. All people who are interested in joining Redeemer are encouraged to hear about her mission, vision, and have an opportunity to ask questions.

Student Ministry Winter Retreat. January 19-21. Roots Winter Retreat in a weekend camp with fun, relationship building, and hearing from God’s Word. This retreat is for 6th-12th grade. Cost for Redeemer Students is \$75 for the first student and \$40 for each additional sibling. See more, including registration, with QR code.



Redeemer Church exists to share God’s good news and be equipped to love him and neighbor in every area of life in Huntsville and beyond.

We are passionate about whole-life discipleship.



The Christian life in our time is one that can feel divided between worship and work. Humans are created for whole-life submission to Christ and love of neighbor, not part-time worship on Sundays. Redeemer aims to be a church where believers are equipped to live in every area of life unto the gospel.



Order of Worship
December 17, 2023



Welcome to Redeemer!

We are glad that you've joined us today for worship. Know that no question is off limits here. We take the gospel seriously and invite all people everywhere to enjoy the grace of God.

You can read what's coming up on the last page of the bulletin. More information can be found at redeemerhuntsville.org.

Any questions? Feel free to email us at info@redeemerhuntsville.org



Guests

If you are a guest, we would love to meet you and hear your story. Would you join us at the book table following the service? We would like to gift you with one of our resources.



Also, we'd love to know you visited. Go ahead and take out your phone. (It's okay, we promise!). Scan the QR code on the right to answer just three short questions.

Restrooms & Relief

Facilities can be found at the rear of the building through the double doors. Water bottles and coffee are available on the other side of the curtain.

Parents

Baby changing facilities are available in the nursery down the Redeemer Kids' hallway. Nursing mothers are welcome to feed their baby wherever they feel comfortable, but one of our hosts can help you get find a private room or lobby.



Song of Response

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Rowland Prichard

Benediction & Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.



Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship Philippians 2:5-11 (NASB)

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Hymn of Praise *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Hymn of Praise *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Public Reading of Scripture Luke 2:22-38 (ESV)
Tina Knight

Affirmation of the Faith *Athanasian Creed*, part III

Confession & Promise of Grace Luke 19:10 (ESV)

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon “Promise of a Prophet: Waiting on Hannah’s Son”

Lord’s Supper

Song of Response *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Benediction & Doxology



Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

[Chorus]

Gloria - In excelsis Deo¹

Gloria - In excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

See Him in a manger laid
Whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary Joseph lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise

Words and Music: Traditional French Carol. Translated by James Chadwick.

¹ This is Latin, and it is taken directly from Luke 2:14 in the Vulgate. In English, it means "Glory to God in the highest." *In excelsis* is pronounced "in ek-shell-cese" in ecclesiastical Latin.



Sermon

"The Promise of a Prophet: Waiting on Hannah's Son"

Zach Carter

Judges 13-16, *passim*

1. We can find comfort by praying to God.

2. We can find clarity by listening to God.
 - a. Eli's Blindness

 - b. Samuel's Call

3. We can find God Himself in his final Word, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord's Supper

If you are not a baptized believer in good standing with your local church, we ask that you refrain from this meal and use this time instead take this moment to reflect upon your life and seek the grace God freely offers to all who cast themselves upon Jesus.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ with gluten-sensitivities, the center bowl contains gluten-free wafers. Additionally, our hosts can help you receive dedicated elements. They will look for your raised hand.



**not by his divinity being turned into flesh,
but by God's taking humanity to himself.**

He is one,
certainly not by the blending of his essence,
but by the unity of his person.
For just as one human is both rational soul and flesh,
so too the one Christ is both God and human.

He suffered for our salvation;
he descended to hell;
he arose from the dead;
he ascended to heaven;
he is seated at the Father's right hand;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
At his coming all people will arise bodily
and give an accounting of their own deeds.
Those who have done good will enter eternal life,
and those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith:
one cannot be saved without believing it firmly and faithfully.

Confession & Promise of Grace

Luke 19:10 (ESV)

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Pastoral Prayer



Hymn of the Praise

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

[Chorus]
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

True God of true God
Light from Light eternal
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb
Begotten not created

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye citizens
Of heav'n above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest

Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

Words and Music: John Francis Wade; tr. Frederick Oakeley



Public Reading of Scripture

Luke 2:22–38 (ESV)

Jesus Presented at the Temple

²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

- ²⁹ “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
- ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation
- ³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-



four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Affirmation of the Faith

The Athanasian Creed (6th Century), Part III²

But it is necessary for eternal salvation that one also believe in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ faithfully.

Now this is the true faith:

**That we believe and confess
that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son,
is both God and human, equally.**

He is God from the essence of the Father,
begotten before time;
and he is human from the essence of his mother,
born in time;

**completely God, completely human,
with a rational soul and human flesh;**
equal to the Father as regards divinity,
less than the Father as regards humanity.

Although he is God and human,
yet Christ is not two, but one.

He is one, however,

² The Athanasian Creed takes its name for the chief defender of biblical orthodoxy on the incarnation during the 300s, Athanasius of Alexandria, a “mere” deacon. This confession summarizes dense and various explicit and implicit truths of Scripture. A reference guide can be made available to interested parties, but the prooftexts are much later additions from the 21st century.