

We are glad you are worshiping with us.

Please complete and tear off this card to share your contact information, update your contact information, or make a prayer request.

Simply place it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor.

WELCOME TO REDEEMER!

Also Today . . .

Please consider making a special offering to our mercy ministry.

This Week . . .

Youth Fellowship Meeting Wednesday • 5:00-7:00PM

Looking Ahead . . .

Men's Prayer Breakfast.....Saturday, January 16 • 8:00-9:15AM

A Mercy Ministry Opportunity . . .

The Matthew 25 Project—Each month we collect a designated item for the Help Center. The item for January is peanut butter.

Please join us!

Serving You

Chris Vandegrift, *Liturgist* • Ann Galya, Emily Griffin, & Kaci Puckett, *Vocalists*
Pam Spence, *Music Director* • Juli Robertson, Patti Robertson, & Nan Traxler, *Pianists*
Donna Taylor, Children's Ministry Director
Maureen Litchfield, *Women's Ministry President* • Emily Griffin, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
Betty Jacobson, *CD Ministry* • Dick Jacobson, *Finance Clerk*
Robyn McKinney, *Redeemerlink Editor* • Emily Griffin, *Meal-train Coordinator*
Ann Galya • Lily Gray • Clay & Robyn McKinney • Vickie Stevens,
Nan Traxler, *Sound & Recording* • Boyd Taylor, *Treasurer*

Leadership Team

Ken Litchfield • Patrick Rist • Pastor Spence, *Elders on the Session*
Jim Berkey • Ron Robertson, *Emeritus Elders*
Dick Jacobson • Clay McKinney • Boyd Taylor • Rick Traxler, *Deacons*



Redeemer Presbyterian Church

Meeting at 7 Valley West Drive, Dickson, Tennessee 37055

(615) 740-7898 • email@rpcdickson.org • www.rpcdickson.org

Service for the Lord's Day

January 3, 2021

Words of Greeting

PsalterPsalm 1

- 1 That man is blessed who does not walk
As wicked men advise,
Nor stand where sinners meet, nor sit
Where scorners pose as wise.
- 2 Instead he is the one who makes
The LORD's law his delight,
And in that law he meditates
By day and in the night.
- 3 He's like a deeply planted tree
Beside a water stream,
Which in its season bears its fruit,
Whose leaves stay fresh and green.
In all he does he will succeed.
- 4 The wicked are not so,
But they are like the scattered chaff
Swept by the winds that blow.
- 5 The wicked therefore will not stand
When time of judgment comes,
Nor will the sinners stand among
Assembled righteous ones.
- 6 Because the LORD the righteous loves;
The path they walk He knows.
The wicked walk a different path,
That to destruction goes.

The Book of Psalms for Worship © 2009 Crown and Covenant Publications.
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Prayer for the Lord's Assistance and Blessing

Hymn 100 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Scripture Reading.....Ephesians 3:4-12

My Contact Information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

My Prayer Request

Please pray for

who lives at

AREA(S) OF NEED

- Spiritual Life
- Relationships
- Physical Health
- Finances
- Emotional Health
- Vocation

Other information:

Please keep my request confidential and do not add it to the prayer list.

Prayer of Confession

God of grace,
 You have given us Jesus, the light of the world,
 but we often choose darkness
 and cling to sins that hide the brightness of Your Love.
 Baptize us with Your Spirit and grant us the gift of repentance,
 that, forgiven and renewed,
 we may preach Your Word to the nations
 and tell of Your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ,
 our Lord and our Light forever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
 so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear him;

**as far as the east is from the west,
 so far does He remove our transgressions from us.**

As a father shows compassion to his children,
 so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.

**For He knows our frame;
 He remembers that we are dust.**

Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

—based on Psalm 103:11-14 ESV

Scripture Reading..... Matthew 1:1-17

Sermon..... **Where Everything Begins**
 by Pastor Neil Spence

Hymn..... **What Grace Is Mine**

What grace is mine, that He who dwells in endless light
 Called through the night to find my distant soul.
 And from His scars poured mercy that would plead for me
 that I may live and in His Name be known.

*So I will go wherever He is calling me;
 I lose my life to find my life in Him.
 I give my all to gain the hope that never dies;
 I bow my heart, take up my cross, and follow Him.*

What grace is mine, to know His breath alive in me;
 Beneath His wings my wakened soul may soar.
 All fear can flee for death's dark night is overcome;
 My Savior lives and reigns forevermore.

Lyrics © 2008 Gettymusic/Adm. by Music Services, Brentwood, TN.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Morning Prayer and Our 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn.....*Still, My Soul Be Still*

Still, my soul, be still
 And do not fear though winds of change may rage tomorrow.
 God is at your side;
 no longer dread the fires of unexpected sorrow.

*God, You are my God,
 And I will trust in You and not be shaken.
 Lord of peace, renew
 A steadfast spirit within me to rest in You alone.*

Still, my soul, be still;
 Do not be moved by lesser lights and fleeting shadows.
 Hold onto His ways,
 With shield of faith against temptation's flaming arrows.

Still, my soul, be still;
 Do not forsake the truth you learned in the beginning.
 Wait upon the Lord,
 and hope will rise as stars appear when day is dimming.

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristen Getty, and Stuart Townend.
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The Blessing

Mr. Ron Robertson, Ruling Elder *Emeritus*

At his request, Elder Ron Robertson has been released from the active duties of his office and his status on the session changed from "active" to "emeritus." As an elder *emeritus* he is still an elder, but he is no longer required to perform the regular duties of the office such as attendance at session meetings. Ron may, of course, perform any of the duties of his office when requested and may continue to participate fully in higher courts of the church as an elder. (*Book of Church Order*, 24-10)

Ron and Patti are precious members of our congregation and we are deeply grateful to God for their fellowship in the gospel, their friendship, their leadership, and their service to Christ's kingdom. Ron served on our session for fifteen years. We honor them and pray God's richest blessings upon them going forward.

Psalm One

Our service today opens with what has become a tradition for us—the singing of the first Psalm on the first Sunday of a new year. **Psalm 1** serves as an introduction to the psalms as a whole and to the Biblical understanding of life. It directs us to the path of blessing and away from the paths that lead to disaster.

The contrast and the conflict between "the righteous" (verse 5) and "the wicked" (verses 4-5) is jarring to our ears but perfectly understandable. The "righteous" or "upright" are not saved by their own righteousness and do not trust in it. They do, however, live by faith and love the Lord and His Word and seek to glorify Him with their lives—as imperfect as they may be.

The saints are "righteous" as men and women justified by grace alone, through faith alone, because of Christ alone. Christ is the truly righteous man envisioned in the psalter. The saints are "righteous" in that they are God's holy people who belong to Him by covenant and are sanctified by Him. Finally, they are "righteous" in the sense that gratitude to their great Deliverer and His grace working in them cause them to delight in Him and glorifying Him with their lives. Their fruitful lives flow from their union with Christ.

Psalm 1 reminds us that the psalms are the songs of the church in her militancy—while the church worships and wars in the context of an evil world full of enemies, temptations, and snares and in which we are subject to trials. We will need its message as long as life lasts.

How to Become a Member

Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) is fulfilled in Christians who commit themselves to Christ and to one another in covenant relationship. Through **church membership** we acknowledge that Jesus Christ alone is the Head and Lord of the Church and we commit ourselves to do our part to build up the body of Christ for mission. Those who desire to be members are invited to fill out a **Membership Enrollment Form** and discuss membership with the pastor.

What About the Offering?

Giving is still part of our worship, but in order to minimize contact and to social distance during the pandemic, we are not passing the offering plate during the service. An offering plate is positioned at each entrance to the sanctuary.