



They did not bow.
They did not bend.
They did not burn.

April 26, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
1800 W. Maple
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 26, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of Easter
Theme: Hope in the Fiery Furnace

As We Gather

“There is meaning in every journey that is unknown to the traveler.”

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Prayer Before Worship

Heavenly Father, sometimes the way ahead seems so clear but at other times the way seems shrouded with uncertainty and the road ahead seems to be hidden in the questioning shadows. I want to be in Your perfect will Lord and I pray that Your will be done in every area of my life. I long to have Your assurance that this is the way to walk, but at times Your will seems to be hidden by a cloud of uncertainty and swamped by a foggy mist of unknowing. As I step out into the future Lord, I place my trust in You, for I am sure that You read the thoughts of my hearts and know that my desire is to remain in the center of Your perfect will for my life. Lead me Lord on the right path that is best for me, I pray – for I place my trust in You, for You have promised to be with me wherever I go – for You know the steps that I take – keep them safe I pray, for my trust is in YOU and may I do only that which glorifies You. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

Prelude

Rick Helderop, organist

Opening Hymn

Have Thine Own Way Lord

1. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting yielded and still.

2. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Search me and try me, Master today!

Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,

As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

3. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!

Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!

Power, all power, surely is Thine!

Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Order of Service

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C:Amen.

Easter Proclamation

P: Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

C:He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C:Make haste to help me, O Lord.

P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

C:A broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Children's Song Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

Steve SeGraves, vocalist

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 3:1-7

(Nebuchadnezzar's Golden Image)

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up. So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it. Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: as soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace." Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the nations and peoples of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Epistle Reading

1 John 4:7-12

(God is Love)

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.

Response: Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Gospel Announcement

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:25-34

(Do Not Worry)

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you — you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Response: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Confession of Faith

The 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I

believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn Jesus Loves Me This I Know

1. Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so:
Little ones to Him belong: they are weak but He is strong.

Chorus:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! Loves me still, Tho' I'm very weak and ill;
That I might from sin be free, bled and died upon the tree. (Chorus)
3. Jesus loves me! He who died, Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, let His little child come in. (Chorus)

Sermon

Text: Daniel 3:1-7

“They did not bow! They did not bend! They did not burn!”

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

The Blessing of the Gifts

Voluntary The Fourth Man in the Fire - Southern Gospel

Steve SeGraves, vocalist

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

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 and Response: Amen! Amen! Amen!

Easter Proclamation

P: Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

C: He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

Closing Hymn

The Old Rugged Cross

(Favorite hymn of Ron Beyer, Al and Cathy Hansen, Sherry Higgins,
Jeanne Hollis, Donna Hollis, Judy Mammel, Myrna Orava)

1. On a hill faraway stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, 'till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

2. O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me:
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. (Refrain)

3. In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me. (Refrain)

Silent Prayer

Postlude

Rick Helderop, organist



Family of God Soup Kitchen sponsors for this month are Barbara and David Peterson in honor of Leslie's, Isabella's, Alexandra's and Natalie's birthdays and the Swanson family. Family of God Soup Kitchen - Positive Parenting sponsors for this month are Dee Aebersold and Susan and Steve Priest in memory of "Timmie."

Praise and thanksgiving from: Sue Zimmerman & Marilyn Ripson in memory of our parents Michael & Kathryn Ripson; Bill and Nancy Baldner in memory of my mother, Betty Chuslo, on what would have been her 98th birthday. We're sure she will be celebrating in heaven. Also, in honor of our wonderful grandson, Blake Baldner's birthday; John Steigenga in celebration of Sue Tyler's birthday; and the Stuart family in loving memory of Walter Stuart's 100th birthday.

Audio and Video Operators

Neil Martin and David Hardoin

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER – Your Community Church
HOST CONGREGATION FOR
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E-Mail: redeemer@redeemberirmingham.org

Announcements for the week of April 26, 2020

Visit us at: www.redeemberirmingham.org for more detailed information

Welcome to Redeemer! We are pleased to have you worship with us. We pray you will return and share God's Word with us again. For information on membership, contact Laura McDonald at (248) 644-4010.

Mission: Bringing the love of Christ to a searching world.

Worship Schedule

Sunday

10:30am – Livestream

NEXT SUNDAY

May 3, 2020

**Trusting in God above all Odds:
the Entrance to the Promised Land**

Comforting Scripture

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. ***Isaiah 41:10 (NIV2011)***

Verse of the month

He is not here; HE HAS RISEN, just as he said.

Come and see the place where he lay.

- Matthew 28:6

What's Going on at Redeemer during the Coronavirus?

Redeemer has a lot to offer during our "Stay Home, Stay Safe" time! Go to our website: www.redeemberirmingham.org and on the home page scroll down and click on the coronavirus picture - here you will find:

- A note from the Pastor and Elders
- A place to click and print/view our weekly bulletin & announcements
- Bible Study – click the image to see what Bible Studies we are offering on Zoom –
 - *contact the group leader to be included in the virtual Bible Study
- How I can help the Community/Redeemer Families – see what you can do to be involved
 - *ie: Operation Make Someone Smile, FOG, Donate to support Detroit Fire & EMS!!
- Staff Daily Devotion – click on and find a daily devotion from all our staff members by week – there are lots of them out there for everyone!
- Livestream – Since there is **no public worship service at this time**, you can watch our worship services on Livestream at livestream.com/RedeemerBirmingham – watch them anytime, you can even go back and watch one of your favorites from way back when!

Don't let staying home keep you away from church activities – stay involved!

Send Us Pictures for our Slideshows!

Everyone has really enjoyed the slideshows, so we are planning to create more!

Sunday, May 3

"Virtual Coffee Hour Slideshow"

Send us a picture or video of you or you and your family in your favorite place at home, drinking your favorite drink...coffee! If you don't drink coffee, select another drink of your choice. **Please email these to Rose at**

rkiehle@redeemerbirmingham.org NO LATER than Thursday, April 30th at midnight to be included in Sunday's slideshow.

**Sunday, May 10th
"Mother's Day Slideshow"**

Send us pictures of your mother OR a picture of you with your mother and we will be able to put together a very special video to enjoy on Mother's Day!

Pictures should be emailed to Rose at rkiehle@redeemerbirmingham.org NO LATER than Thursday, May 7th at midnight to be included in Sunday's slideshow.

Please include with your photo:

-Your name

-Your mother's name

-If they have gone to be with their Lord or if they are still alive

Ways to Serve the Community

SUPPORT DETROIT FIRE AND EMS

Redeemer wants to help our community – and we are asking our congregation to help! There are a lot of good things happening right now with regards to people stepping up and helping feed our frontline workers in the local hospitals. **Debi Hollis has been gathering donations to feed the Detroit Fire and EMS guys and Redeemer wants to help. *We will include the Detroit Police Department if enough funds come in!*** We all know that Detroit has been hit HARD, and they have been so very grateful for the help so far. Let's remember the signs at Redeemer's exit doors: YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD. These folks are out there every day in the mission field – let's feed them and keep them going! **Send all donations to the church office payable to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer with "EMS food" in the memo line. Please put "attention EMS FOOD" on the front of the envelope.** Call Debi Hollis with any questions at 248-568-7764.

COUNSELING

Redeemer counseling staff is still available through phone Skype or zoom. **They have discounted their rates and the initial session is FREE.** Our Redeemer staff counselors Drs. Sandra Pourcho, Travis Knight, and Anna Lewis are available to help you through this difficult time and beyond. To receive counseling please call 248-568-6040. God be with you!

Special Music Needed for Summer Services!

Whether you sing or play an instrument, if you would be willing to use your talent to provide special music for the 9:00am service on a Sunday in the summer, please contact Steve SeGraves (stevensegraves@gmail.com / 734-748-0849). **Beginning on Sunday, June 7th, and all the way through Labor Day weekend**, individuals will be needed to help provide this important ministry at Redeemer.

Celebration, Summer Praise Choir!

If you sing or play, and enjoy contemporary Christian music and praise songs, join us in helping to lead the music in worship at the 10:30am summer services, **beginning the Sunday after Memorial weekend, and running up to Labor Day.** For more information, contact Steve SeGraves (stevensegraves@gmail.com (734) 748-0849)

WAYS TO SERVE REDEEMER

Give Online



For your convenience, use a QR code reader on your smart phone to give. You can also go to the website – www.redeemberirmingham.org and under the menu option click on Giving – Ways to Give – and scroll down to Give Online and click on **Redeemer's donation** page. Click on the Login/Create Profile button. Once your profile is set-up, you may make a one-time donation, or set-up a recurring donation and not worry about mailing in your offering envelope!

FAITH WORKS 2020!

This year Redeemer is supporting Samaritas, a social services organization, by helping the foster children celebrate their birthday. **We will still be helping Samaritas with their Birthday Bags but it will be delayed until a later date.** If you have donated items already thank you so much! If you have items collected at your house please hold on to them. If you are willing to help, there are still tags available. You can contact me at nolds@redeemberirmingham.org with any questions.

Mark Your Calendar!

Two additional services will be livestreamed in May:

✝ **May 7 for National Day of Prayer at 11:15am**

✝ **May 20 for Lunch and worship at 1pm**

Men's Ministry Virtual Bible Study: Your men's ministry is leaping into the 21st century with a virtual bible study on **Wednesday mornings at 6:45 am.** This week we had 32 men join us! It's a perfect time to join in as **we are starting a new study on 1st Corinthians** which will be led by Gary Priskorn. So grab a cup of Joe, sit down in your favorite easy chair and join us for what should prove to be a very interesting study. Contact Gary at gpriskorn@redeemberirmingham.org / 248.561.2641 for the instructions on how to join them on Zoom.

REDEEMER SUMMER KAMP

It's never too early to start thinking about KAMP!!!!!!!

Kamp 2020 dates are August 1st - August 7th!

Registration is now open to all! There is "Early Bird Pricing" available for registering before May 15th! To register and find more information please visit the Kamp section of the church website. **We have reached capacity the past few summers...so register early!** All questions can be directed to the Kamp Director, Tim Springer Jr. at redemerkamp@gmail.com / 248-930-2215.

Portals of Prayer: There is a stack of the new Portals of Prayer on a small table outside the door of the Town Square (west entrance) for anyone who wishes to pick one up. You can also go on www.cph.org and read the portals of prayer devotion each day during the covid-19 shutdown.

Favorite Hymns: We want to sing your favorite hymn! Almost every Sunday our worship service will contain a favorite hymn chosen by members of our church family. We would love to know what your favorite hymns are! You can let us know your favorite hymn by going on the website under the "welcome"/ "I'm a member" tab and scroll down to fill out the form. Your name will be listed in the bulletin along with your selection. Later in the year, if you'd like to add any hymns, you are welcome to fill out another card and we will add it to your list of favorite hymns. Thank you for your participation.

MAY LAMP UPDATE

An electronic version of the May Lamp will be posted to the website and emailed to everyone on our Lamp email distribution list. We will not be doing our typical bulk mailing of the Lamp this month so if you would like to be added to the email distribution list please email us at office@redeemberirmingham.org. If you would like a physical copy of the May Lamp, printed copies will be available outside the door of the Town Square (West Entrance) the first week of May.

If you lose a loved one during this time, the elders, in discussion with the pastors, would encourage a memorial service to be planned for a later date. Pastors are available to do a committal during this time, but please be aware that some cemeteries are only allowing 2 witnesses.

Operation Make Someone Smile! We're all staying home, doing our part to slow the spread of COVID-19... but that doesn't mean that we can't make others smile while we're hunkered down! [Nicole Olds](#), [Eric Wisniewski](#), [Gia Scheidt](#), and [Laura McDonald](#) are collaborating to bring you a GERM-FREE way to encourage others. It's called.... "Operation Make Someone

Smile"! We'll assign you 3-5 Redeemer households (or more if you desire!). You will then mail each of your assigned households a letter, note, card, drawing, or anything uplifting! BE CREATIVE... but we can give you ideas if you need them! If you'd like to participate... email Laura (laura@redeemberirmingham.org).

OPERATION MAKE SOMEONE SMILE UPDATE

We have had over 50 volunteers send notes to over 275 Redeemer households! We've gotten AWESOME feedback about how rewarding this has been for those receiving mail AND also for the volunteers! If you would like to participate, please contact Laura McDonald (laura@redeemberirmingham.org) and she will send you a list of 3-5 Redeemer households. You can then mail each household a card, note, letter, drawing, etc. This is an awesome, GERM-FREE way to spread joy! Kids enjoy doing this too – what a GREAT way to help your kids learn to serve others, even while in quarantine!

Family Of God

Family of God is Serving Detroit throughout the Pandemic! Family of God continues to provide dinners to those in need **6 days a week** during the virus outbreak! If you'd like to see a spotlight of FOG's service to Detroit during these trying times, please watch this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUplxDQr2DE&feature=emb_title. As a congregation, Redeemer has also continued to provide meals for FOG. **Redeemer has delivered 4 meals to FOG since the "Stay at Home" order began**, and we've done it in different ways! The families of Redeemer's Positive Parenting group, along with other wonderful volunteers, made casseroles, baked goods, sandwiches, and salads in their own homes. Laura went around town and picked up all of the goodies (no contact, porch pick-up!) and then dropped them off in Detroit. Laura enjoyed seeing the smiling faces of the kids through the windows as she picked up food from their porches! Families worked together to make parts of the meal – while mom

made a casserole, the kids helped make a batch of baked goods! Children even made “notes of encouragement” that FOG will pass out to those receiving meals! All food delivered is immediately packed into “to go” containers and handed out with blankets, fabric masks, coffee - whatever is needed. RYG has brought down and served three hot meals. About 80-100 trays are served every night! If you’d like to help out with Family of God in the future (donating money, helping with the meal, etc.) please contact the church office.

Prayers for our Front-Line Workers

Every week we would like to lift up to the Lord in prayer a loved one of our Redeemer family who is working on the front lines during this pandemic. Please email the office at office@redeemberirmingham.org with **their name, position, and where they work** so we can add them to a list of individuals to pray for.

Prayer and Praise List

For those grieving the loss of loved ones:

- ✦ For the family and friends of Beverly Held, mother of Katie (Held) Priskorn, Erick and Paul Held, who was called to her heavenly home.
- ✦ For the family and friends of Vivian Denniston, mother of Sharon Tylenda, who was called to her heavenly home.

For those facing health concerns:

- ✦ Kerry Neidzwiecki, daughter of Bill & Carol Leahy
- ✦ Ed Ahlquist Sr, Ed Ahlquist Jr’s father
- ✦ Leslie Whitfield
- ✦ Betty Owens
- ✦ Kristen Greener and Tom Lalonde, friends of Dan and Denise McNaughton
- ✦ Tom Eley
- ✦ Peni Colville, Pam Dundas' sister
- ✦ John McKewan
- ✦ Jan Hogan
- ✦ Pat Nehls

- ✘ Izzy Sherman, niece of Jon Duff
- ✘ Sharon Frey
- ✘ Dennis Ainhorn, friend of Jane Bacon
- ✘ Marcia Bergemann, friend of Carol & Tim Frost
- ✘ Chris Decker, friend of Pat Nehls
- ✘ Kurt Jung
- ✘ Bruce Landino and Joe Cotant, friends of Terry & Jean Roberts

For those in hospice care:

- ✦ Margot Gray
- ✦ Fred Rohrbach

Special Petitions:

- ✠ For Alice Fleming, Redeemer member who is homebound: pray for strength and encouragement.
- ✠ For all those suffering from the coronavirus and all healthcare workers devoting themselves to helping everyone who is sick. This week, we hold up before the Lord Tony Kurnat, Physician's Assistant at Beaumont Hospital.
- ✠ President Trump and all world leaders, that God surround them with wise counsel.
- ✠ All those who are serving in the military, police & fire-fighters
- ✠ For all caregivers of those facing health concerns.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries
- For Sandy Craig's successful surgery

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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Associate Pastor

The Rev. Tyler Walworth, (ext. 117)
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MINISTRIES:

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Pastor Emeritus Rev. Milton R. Schemm