



# Redeemer Presbyterian Church West Side

July 19, 2020

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## Reflection

A moment of conscious triumph makes one feel that after this nothing will really matter; a moment of realized disaster makes one feel that this is the end of everything. But neither feeling is realistic, for neither event is really what it is felt to be. The circumstances of triumph will not last, and the moment of triumph will sooner or later give way to moments of disappointment, strain, frustration, and grief, while the circumstances of disaster will prove to have in them seeds of recovery and new hope. Life in this world under God's providence is like that; it always has been, and always will be; it is so in the Bible, and it remains so.

— J.I. Packer, *A Passion for Faithfulness*

Nothing is more likely to destroy a species or a nation than a determination to survive at all costs. Those who care for something else more than civilization are the only people by whom civilization is at all likely to be preserved. Those who want Heaven most have served Earth best. Those who love Man less than God do most for Man.

— C. S. Lewis, in *Present Concerns: Essays*

**Welcome** — Rev. Andrew Field

## Call to Worship and Prayer — from Psalm 86

**Leader:** We will praise you, O Lord our God, with our whole hearts; we will glorify your name forever, for you have delivered us from the power of death. Bring joy to your servants, O Lord, for to you we lift up our souls.

**All:** **There is none like you; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you. They will bring glory to your name, for you alone are God.**

**Leader:** Teach us now your way, O Lord, and we will live in your truth.

## Hymn – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes

Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might

Thy justice like mountains high soaring above

Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight

All praise we would render, O help us to see, 'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

## Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

**Almighty and merciful Father, you have called us to be your people and have made us one body. Yet we have not lived like we are one body. We have not loved one another as we ought. Selfish ambition has gripped us, and we have failed to look out for others' interests above our own. Conceit has gripped us, and we have failed to associate with and care for those who are different from ourselves. We have not treated one another as those in whom Christ dwells. Forgive us for our offenses against you, and go on to subdue everything in us that is contrary to your purposes. By the power of your Spirit make us a community that shows forth your acceptance, kindness and love. Amen.**

## Silent Confession

## **Words of Encouragement** – Matthew 12:20-21

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he leads justice to victory. In his name the nations will put their hope.

## **Prayers of the People** (*concluded by the Lord's Prayer*) — Milla Niemenen

**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 and ever. Amen.**

## **Scripture Reading** – Isaiah 43:1-7

<sup>1</sup> But now, this is what the Lord says — he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. <sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. <sup>4</sup> Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup> Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth — <sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

## **Homily** – *Walk Through the Fire* – Rev. Andrew Field

### **Closing Hymn** – How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word  
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, o be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

### **Pastoral updates** — Rev. Andrew Field

- Disaster Relief Fund | [westside.redeemer.com/covid19help](https://westside.redeemer.com/covid19help)
- Neighborhood Prayer Walk | [westside.redeemer.com/prayerwalk](https://westside.redeemer.com/prayerwalk)
- Share how you are loving your neighbors | [westside.redeemer.com/loveyourneighbor](https://westside.redeemer.com/loveyourneighbor)
- Stay up to date with what's going on at [westside.redeemer.com/calendar](https://westside.redeemer.com/calendar)

## **Benediction**

### **Dismissal**

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God!**