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# Life at Redeemer

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
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**Pastor Sandy Kessinger - [psk@redeemermclean.org](mailto:psk@redeemermclean.org)**  
**Pastor Josh Wullenweber - [josh@redeemermclean.org](mailto:josh@redeemermclean.org)**

## March 19, 2023

### Welcome to Redeemer

We welcome you to our worship service this morning! Please sign the guest book that is found in our entry area or the red attendance book found in the pews. If you include your email address, we will keep you informed of any upcoming events. You can also email us at [church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org). Pastor Kessinger and Pastor Wullenweber are open and available for one-on-one conversations with you.

### Worship Schedule

**8:30 am, 9:45 am, 11:00 am**

For those unable to attend in-person:

**[Livestream link](#)** for the 8:30 am Service

**[Livestream link](#)** for the 9:45 am Service

### Hymns today at 8:30 am & 11 am Services

(Hymns are found in the Cranberry hymnal in pew rack)

**# 843 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

**# 665 Rise, Shine, You People!**

**# 592 Just As I Am, without One Plea**

**# 618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer**

### Coming Forward for Holy Communion

**8:30 am and 11 am**

For Holy Communion you are invited to come forward (as you are comfortable) and kneel or stand by the altar rail. One of the pastors will offer you the host that will be dipped into the wine or grape juice based on your preference. Please receive it in your hands. For those who want to take Holy Communion that is preset, the acolyte will stand in the middle of the altar rails with a tray that has been prepared for you. The acolyte will also hold a basket for you to place the empty cup. If nobody signs up to be the acolyte one of the pastors will help you receive Holy Communion from the tray.

### First Communion Class | Sunday, April 23

The next First Communion class will be held on Sunday, April 23, from 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm. If your child(ren) has shown an interest in receiving Holy Communion then please contact Pastor Kessinger. Those who attend the class will then receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 28, which is also Pentecost Sunday. If none of these dates fit your Schedules, then Pastor Kessinger will work with you to find an agreeable time for the class and/or First Communion.

### Wednesday Evening Worship – March 22 6:30 pm (Dinner) and 7:30 pm (Worship)

During Lent the Wednesday worship experience will center on the “Five Gifts of Discipleship: How Do We Live Out Our Baptism?” Martin Luther taught that we are to daily renew our baptism. It is connected to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and starts our spiritual journey. Through baptism we repent and receive forgiveness, love our neighbors, suffer for the sake of the gospel, and witness to Christ.

On March 22, we will explore the fourth of five spiritual gifts - “serve all people” following the example of Jesus. Luther Markwart will offer the reflection. We are using Holden Evening Prayer for our liturgy. Holy Communion will be offered each week. Please come for dinner that starts at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall and/or the service that starts at 7:30 pm in our worship space.

All are welcome!

### Faithful Departed (Three Notices)

On Thursday, March 16, Drew Stieg passed away. He was 20 years old. Our prayers are with his parents, Karen and Forrest Stieg, and his siblings, Forrest, Alexa, and Griffin. We are also keeping his grandfather, Forrest Stieg, and the extended family in our prayers. Pastor Kessinger will share with the congregation the date and time of the funeral once she has those details.

On Friday, March 24, we will hold the funeral service for Orville Schumacher. He was 94 years old. His wife, Geraldine, and son, Eric, and daughter, Victoria, will gather in our Crossroads at 10 am for visitation. The Service of Resurrection will be at 10:30 am. For those who wish to send a sympathy card you can send it to Gerry at 7317 Yates Court, McLean, VA 22101.

This week we also learned that Madeline Harshbarger passed away. She was 103 years old. Her husband, Harold Harshbarger, died in 2005 and his service was held at Redeemer. For those who wish to send a sympathy card, you can send it to their daughter, Sharon Harshbarger Botts at 1500 Westbrook Court, Unit 1134, Richmond, Virginia 23227. You can also email her at [sharonbotts@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbotts@gmail.com).

OUR MISSION: SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE

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## The 2023 Lent collection will benefit Homestretch

Redeemer has been working with [Homestretch](#) for several years, providing food and meeting other needs for their clients who are transitioning out of homelessness. Please see below for a list of items that are especially needed in case you are able to help. Items may be left on the table in the Crossroads now through April 9. **If you choose to provide a gift card, please put it into the offering plate or mail or deliver it to the church office instead of leaving it on the table.**

- Baby wipes, scent free
- Diapers, size 5
- New bath towels, washcloths and hand towels
- Grocery Gift Cards to Aldi in any amount
- Gift cards to Target and Walmart in any amount
- New plastic coat hangers



### Prayer Shawl Sharing Sundays

Today and March 26, a selection of prayer shawls will be available in the Crossroads. If you or someone you know needs some extra prayers and comfort, please take one.

### Tax Advantaged Giving

Remember there is a tax advantage of giving appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares to the church as part of your planned giving. This method allows you to minimize capital gains taxes and yet provide the full current value and financial benefits to the programs and ministries at Redeemer. You can visit Redeemer's website and at the top of the page there is a tab labeled "More" and then "Giving" and under the "Other Options" there is additional information and forms available for your use.

### Ring the Redeemer Group Dinner Bell

For those at Redeemer with appetite for fun social gathering while dining, we look to re-start congregational "Dinner Group" events that had been on the menu, so to speak, before the pandemic came along. The plan is to form groups of about eight, with each group arranging to meet up sporadically (roughly once every two months) for a breakfast, lunch or dinner, either in potluck style at a group member's home, or at a local eatery where everyone in the group pays their own tab. Initial "sign up" to participate in a "Dinner Group" will be through SignUpGenius, where one can indicate whether able to host a dinner for eight, as well as about preferences they might have on meal type and venue. As sign-up numbers (hopefully) grow, the participants will be assigned to a group of about eight members with similar dining format preferences (as best as possible), with one person in each group selected as "coordinator."

Any questions about this can be directed via email to Mark Cronin ([mlm.cronin@gmail.com](mailto:mlm.cronin@gmail.com)) and Lee Cronin ([lee.sold@kw.com](mailto:lee.sold@kw.com)).

## LENTEN STUDIES WITH THE PASTORS

### Women's Lenten Study Group

Tuesdays at 9:30 am

Now through March 28

Contact [Pastor Kessinger](#) if you are interested.

### Men's Lenten Study Group

Thursdays at 8 am

Now through March 30

Contact [Pastor Wullenweber](#) if you are interested.

### Wednesday AM Bible Study – New Series Luther and Scripture

It took four years but those who attended the Wednesday AM Bible Study completed a thematic study of the Old and New Testaments. On Wednesday, April 19, at 8 am we will start a new series on "Luther and Scripture." We will start with Genesis and read some of the major Biblical stories through the lens of Martin Luther. Along the way we will also learn what Luther had to say about different topics that came to define who we are as Lutherans. We will start with the Creation story and Original Sin based on the opening chapters of Genesis. If you are interested in joining us then please contact Pastor Kessinger. We meet in-person and also via Zoom.



Youth enjoying this past Sunday evening, led by Pastor Josh in a "Chopped Challenge" dinner!

# Redeemer's Lenten and Easter Services

<p><b>All Wednesday evenings in March 7:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday Lenten Service and Dinner</b> Worship with Redeemer for Holden Evening Prayer held every Wednesday at 7:30 pm until Holy Week. A supper will be offered at 6:30 pm.</p>
<p><b>April 6 Thursday   7:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Maundy Thursday</b> Join us as we remember Jesus' final hours with his disciples. We will reflect on the Last Supper and the gift of Jesus washing the disciple's feet. Since some are not comfortable with the washing of feet, we will offer the washing and blessing of hands – anointing them for service to God and all God's people. At the conclusion of this service we will strip the altar and pulpit as we prepare to remember the darkest days of Jesus' journey on this earth.</p>
<p><b>April 7 Friday   Noon</b></p>	<p><b>Good Friday Noon Worship</b> At this most somber of services we recall Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion. On this day we will offer two opportunities to worship. At noon we will celebrate a more traditional service where we reflect on the readings and hymns of the day and conclude with communion from pre consecrated elements.</p>
<p><b>April 7 Friday   7:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Good Friday Tenebrae Service</b> In this most moving of services that elicits one's senses we will walk with Jesus on his final steps to the cross and watch as our surrounding grow ever darker with each step. Then as the tomb is slammed shut, we depart with our hearts heavy but still hopeful for the days to come.</p>
<p><b>April 8 Saturday   7:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Easter Vigil</b> Join us as we go from the darkness of the tomb to the eternal light of Christ's resurrection. In this most sacred of services, we gather in the dark of night and experience the promise of the resurrection. From darkness we walk with the first disciples as the tombstone is rolled away and the light of Christ is forever known by all God's people. We will watch and experience the change of our surroundings as we gather outside and slowly make our way to the sanctuary where in one triumphant moment we will sing Alleluia and celebrate Christ's eternal reign. Join us for this most ancient of liturgies.</p>
<p><b>April 9, Sunday 8:30, 9:45 and 11</b></p>	<p><b>Easter Morning Services</b> Christ is Risen – He has Risen Indeed! Join us Easter morning as we celebrate our Risen Lord and proclaim Alleluia forevermore. On this most special of mornings our worship will be enhanced by the beauty of flowers, the singing of our choir, and the accompaniment of a brass quartet.</p>

## *Please Remember to Pray....*

### **For Healing:**

Chris  
Finn  
Frank  
Leon  
Nick  
Steve  
Tom M.  
Rachel and Avelyn  
Anderson, Bjarnie  
Augustenborg Epstein, Erica  
Bates, Barbara  
Blakey, Patrick  
Bornmann, Keith  
Cavallo, Michael  
Culhane, Ed  
Devine, Daniel  
Falk, Susan  
Garman, Susan  
Gates, Kelly  
Heuer, Mark  
Kunec, Ingrid  
Leong, Helen  
Mathias, Joanne  
McCloud, Laura  
Megorden, Paula Kessinger  
Miller, Coletta

Moe, Cheryl "Cheri" and Mike  
Mullins, Jolene and Jim  
Ross, Inessa  
Ryding, Karin  
Scheinblum, Terry  
Sorflaten, Sherry  
Steuble, Johnna  
Stolar, Bob  
Strok, Josh and family  
Surgener, Marilyn  
Thompson, Magda  
Thompson, Rachel  
Tooren, Juergen  
Vanna, Jack and Marge  
Whaley, Margaret

### **For Comfort and Strength:**

Anne  
Dave  
Anna & Stephen  
Sarah & Jenny  
Detweiler, Mark  
Dittmar, Patsy Kutscher  
Granholm, Rick  
Hahne, Bob  
Stauffer, Tom & family  
Weber, Amy, Emerson and Fynn  
Yam, Kevin & family  
For those who suffer from depression  
For those who suffer from mental illness

### **For Comfort and Peace:**

Mark D.  
Peggy  
Smith, Trish Layton

### **For Comfort in Death:**

The family and friends of Chris Hagerty  
The family and friends of Carl Martin  
The family and friends of Christine Banfield  
The family and friends of Madeline Harshbarger  
The family and friends of Orville Schumacher  
The family and friends of Drew Stieg  
The family and friends of Hugh Weber

### **For all healthcare workers and first responders:**

Dominic, Elizabeth, and Ian  
Sharon  
Tara and family  
Kuhagen, Leslie  
Kutscher, Karin  
Laredo, Sandra

#### **Prayer List Note:**

*To add names to this list you may email or telephone the church office. We want all our prayers to be current —so **please keep us up to date on those whom you have added to our prayer list.** With the exception of safety prayers for our military, we will remove names after one month unless we hear from you. We are prepared to pray indefinitely.*

### **Prayers for the World, our Nation and our Community**

We pray for safety for all refugees, for all military and diplomatic people throughout the world, and all those who serve to protect our country.

We pray for the people in countries around the world where there is violence and for people in areas where there have been natural disasters.

We pray for improved relationships among all nations.

We pray for our nation as we address the causes and effects of violence and the courage to act in faithful ways.

We pray for the unemployed and the underemployed.

We pray for all those facing persecution and oppression because of their faith and/or ethnicity.

We pray for those currently suffering from COVID, RSV, and the flu.

**Each month we will offer prayers for one of our congregations in the Virginia Conference.  
We are part of the Virginia Conference of the ELCA Metro DC Synod.**

Prayers for our siblings at Christ the King, Great Falls and their Pastor Rev. Hank Langknecht