



Reflections

VOLUME 27

February 13, 2023

ISSUE 7

Results of RLC's Worship Survey

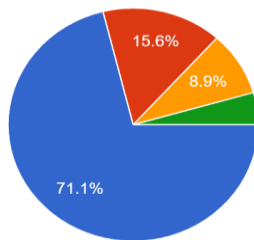
Last fall, the Worship Team at Redeemer distributed a survey with questions about worship preferences and personal safety. The worship team thanks all who took the time to respond and a special thanks to **Katie Jacobs** for formatting it. Below is what was shared. Not all of the written responses have been reprinted but the team hopes they have captured a representative sampling. All the responses are available for those wishing to see them. At the end of the results, worship team will share their conclusions.

The results of the safety portion of the survey will appear in *Reflections* in a couple of weeks.

The first set of data was filled out by people who were primarily attending worship in-person.

1. How happy are you with having one 10 am service?

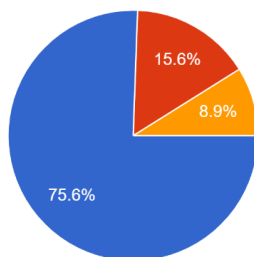
45 responses



- Very happy
- Moderately happy
- Not happy, but I'm making it work.
- Not happy, and I doubt I'll keep coming if we stay at 10 am.

2. What is your preference in terms of a worship schedule?

45 responses

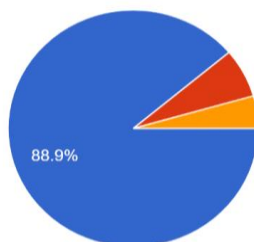


- One 10 am Sunday service
- 8:30 and 11 am Sunday services
- Some other schedule (Please describe below).

There were six responses to “some other schedule,” including someone saying, “One 11 a.m. schedule” and “One 10:30 a.m. schedule if 11 a.m. doesn’t work.” Another said, “My one frustration is having choir practice at the same time as Adult Forum. I want to be able to do both fully.”

3. How likely are you to continue worshipping in-person if we keep our current worship schedule?

45 responses



- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Unlikely

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus

Pastor - Rev. David Shull

LIC Student - Marit Johnson

Office Manager - Becky Trover

Office Staff - Diane Brobeck

Custodian - Marshall Edgington

Organist/Senior Choir Director -

Kathy Rapp

Pianist/Chime Choir Director -

Karen Kent

Reflections Editor - Judith Bird

2023

CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Michele Disbro

Vice President - Krista Skipper

Finance Officer - Nathan Ott

Secretary - Sue Watson

Worship - Jennifer Young

Education - Katie Jacobs

Outreach - Diane Brobeck

Member Support - Elyce Herring

Property - Sue Yehling

Stewardship - Laura Warren

APPOINTMENTS

Treasurer - Julianne Johnson

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

Margie Farnham Marques Highland

Emlyn Ott

SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM

Dave Engel, Chair

Julie Boreman

Nathan Ott

Wendy Stoica

Terry Warren

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent - Emily Ott

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Columbus 43227

info@RedeemerLuth.com

614-237-1263

www.redeemerluth.com



Cont'd on p. 5

The Redeemer Community

An Invitation to Offer Five-Minute Reflection for Lenten Sung Evening Prayers

The final blessing of Redeemer's new Service of Lenten Evening Prayer is a traditional prayer of Palestinian Christians:

Let your peace rain upon us, O living God of peace.

Let your peace rain upon us, Lord, fill our hearts with your peace.

Pastor Dave asks, "When you hear the word *peace*, what comes up for you? Do you go toward international conflicts? Or toward the need for peace among people divided by race, religion, gender and identity politics? Do you think of tensions among families, or even ways we struggle to be at-peace within ourselves and our hearts?"

"If you would like to prepare a five-minute reflection on some aspect of peace and what this sung blessing brings up for you, I know your words would be a blessing to all of us. Please sign up for the March Wednesday evening that works best for you on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Library." Those dates are March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Contact **Dave Shull** with any questions.

Two Ash Wednesday Services Set for Feb. 22

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22, with Ash Wednesday worship services at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Redeemer will have Wednesday sung evening prayer services the next five Wednesdays, from Wednesday, March 1 through Wednesday, March 29. Additional information on those service will be published in *Reflections*.

RLC Collecting Items for LWR Personal Care Kits

As the death toll from the earthquake and aftershocks in Turkey and Northern Syria continues to climb, Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has sent quilts, personal care kits, baby care kits, heating stoves, tents, and other critically needed supplies to trusted local partners in the affected areas, **Julianne Johnson** reports. This is possible because of ongoing efforts to prepare quilts and kits by Lutheran churches on a regular basis so that a supply is on hand when disaster strikes.

Redeemer has in the past sent personal care kits, and in response to the earthquake the congregation will do so again. "I am setting a goal of 75 personal care kits, and a challenge goal of 100 personal care kits," she added. The followings items are needed:

1. Light weight bath size towels – maximum size 52" x 20" (light or medium weight towels are easier to hang dry!)
2. Bars of soap equaling 8-9 ounces in original packaging.
3. Adult toothbrushes.
4. **Sturdy** combs.
5. Metal nail clippers.

Please avoid items with religious symbols or messages or the camouflage, military symbols or American flag. No additional items will be included. For those who prefer to give money, it will be used to complete kits. Any balance will be sent to LWR for shipping costs. "We will collect these items throughout Lent. Thank you!"

Ads Win Again in RLC's 'Souper Bowl'

Thanks to all who contributed to Redeemer's Souper Bowl offering to benefit Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry! There were 38 cans of soup along with some cans of beans and jars of peanut butter which will be delivered to the pantry.

Kathy Zwanziger reports that the Kansas City Chiefs "collected" \$53 and the Philadelphia Eagles, \$148, in addition to all that soup. The winner, however, was "Mr. Peanut" and all the other commercials with a total of \$626. That means Redeemer will be contributing \$827 to the Food Pantry!

Narthex Art to Change Theme for Lent

The changing of the church season means it's time to change the gallery of member art in the Narthex. The theme for Lent is "Respite." Any kind of art, from photographs to quilts and everything in between, from members' home to be loaned to church for the season is welcome! Please bring the items in in the next week or two. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on **February 22**.

Group to Discuss February Book Feb. 15

"Who would think that finding a bag of books would change your life? Well, Juanita didn't. As a matter of fact, she tried to toss that bag, but it fell on her as if it was trying to tell her something. What did she discover?"

"This is a humorous, light story written by a local author, and starts its whimsical journey right here in Columbus Ohio," writes **Sheryl Owens** about the next book for Redeemer's Book Group.

Join them as they read *Dancing On The Edge Of The Roof* by **Sheila Williams** for the February book of the month.

There are copies available via the public library. (When searching Columbus Metropolitan Library by title, click the "search other resources" link, then click the "search in search Ohio" link for additional copies.

The group meets on **Wednesday, February 15** from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the church or on Zoom to discuss the book. To join the Zoom meet, go to the Zoom app and enter the following information: Meeting ID 865 8150 4887; Passcode 274918. To participate via phone, call 312-626-6799.

For those who don't have the Zoom app, join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02zoom.us/j/86581504887?pwd=ZkFSV2tKM2xEd3dyK1RvSURJYlFuZz09>

Folks are also asked to bring suggestions for the next books the group will read.

Adult Ed Class to Look at 'Everything, Everywhere, All at Once'

Continuing on **Sunday, February 19**, retired Trinity Lutheran Seminary Professor **Brad Binau** explores the theme "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once: God and the Cosmic Story." During the Sunday education hour beginning at 11:15 a.m., he will discuss the following topics:

Sunday, February 19: Is Now: Time and God after Einstein

Sunday, February 26: And Evermore Shall Be: The Future and a Big-Enough God.

The class is both in-person and on Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 869 2869 1370; Passcode: 603299. To participate via phone, call 312-626-6799.

For those who don't have the Zoom app, they can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in the browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86928691370?pwd=VkrHYXRiTIIOaG9tcjFDRGJFQTJldz09>

Reminder: Redeemer Takes Ongoing Safety Measures

The ushers are locking the front doors soon after worship starts. During worship, an usher will check the Narthex from time to time to make sure no one who wants to attend the service is locked out and to check the parking lot. (Members are reminded to lock their cars while at worship)

Ushers will unlock the front door after worship ends. When the Narthex empties after worship, the front doors will be locked again.

According to **Pastor Dave**, "As Council members review what we learned at the active shooter training, they will offer more information, guidance, and opportunities for conversation."

Tuesday Bible Study Looks at Judges on Feb. 14

The Tuesday Bible study continues exploring the book of Judges when it meets this week on **Tuesday, February 14**. According to **Pastor Dave**, this is the chance to learn everything there is to know about **Samson** and **Delilah!** ... as well as a host of others!

To join the Zoom meeting, go to the Zoom app and then enter the following information: Meeting ID: 898 1666 2484; Passcode: 072258. To participate via phone, call 646 876 9923.

For those who don't have the Zoom app, they can join the meeting by copying and pasting the following web address in your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89816662484?pwd=UnpVZHV3M2ZTSW14K1R1VnRySXliQT09>

Spotlight on BREAD Network Member Al Rider

Kristi Hildebrand reports that BREAD Network Members were asked to answer a handful of questions. The last of their answers are being shared in Reflections. Here is the latest installment featuring **Al Rider**.

1. **What is your name?** “‘Alan’ is what my mother named me because she liked it. But I’ve gone by ‘Al’ since middle school when **Al Kaline**, the Detroit Tigers all-star, was my baseball hero. Crazy thing ... His son later married my cousin in Detroit, so in a way, I became family with the guy I admired as a kid. How about that?”

2. **What issues keep you up at night?** “Lots of them. The degrading of our environment is one. Flagrant dishonesty in public life is another. The brutal bullying by social groups in power over others who are not is a third, and that spreads out in all directions: gender suppression, wealth vs. poverty, racism, intellectual class, etc. etc. We are all One in Christ Jesus. Why can't we act like it?”

3. **Why did you join the Justice team at Redeemer?** “I’ve always felt called by the Gospel to stand up and be counted in the Church’s prophetic mission on behalf of people and the planet, which are under attack by forces of greed and self-justification that we usually label as ‘sin.’ It’s a life-long struggle to wrestle with the ‘sin’ in myself and in our culture.”

4. **What is your favorite kind of bread?** “Since living in Germany years ago, I’m tied between German ‘Brötchen’ breakfast rolls and the honey-wheat communion bread recipe from the monks at the Trappist monastery in Virginia.”

5. **Why did you decide to become a Network Member of BREAD?** “Number one, **Pastor Dave** asked me to. But number two, I’m strongly motivated to make a difference for my kids and grandkids by championing the environment of God’s creation, and that’s really what did it.”

6. **What is your Justice prayer for 2023?** “*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*”

Upcoming BREAD Date:

- Redeemer Network Meeting: **Monday, March 13, 2023**, at 7 p.m. in Room 2 and on Zoom.

- Rally: **Monday, March 27, 2023** at 7 p.m.

- Nehemiah Action: **Tuesday, April 25, 2023** at the Celeste Center (Ohio State Fairgrounds).

2023 Flower Chart Available

Have an event to celebrate or remember? Somebody’s birthday to recognize? The chart to sign up for flowers for Sunday services in 2023 is now on the bulletin board next to the library.

Flowers run \$20 and can be paid ahead of the date by using the envelopes that are also available on the bulletin board. The envelope provides additional space for spelling out the designation – information that is shared in *Reflections* and the Sunday bulletin.

Folks can also call **Office Manager Becky Trover** to sign up. Flowers can be taken home after the Sunday service or picked up later in the week.

Sign Up Now to Read at Worship Services

Readers for Sunday morning services can now sign up for dates over the summer. Readers, including youth and children, are encouraged to sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, next to the Library.

Readings are sent out the week before to give folks a chance to go through the lessons ahead of Sunday mornings. **Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate.**

Results of RLC's Worship Survey *cont'd from p. 1*

What else would you like to tell us about worship?

I think people are working hard to make things work

It's really nice to be all together at worship!! Also much easier to schedule the interpreters when we're only working with one service.

I prefer a worship time earlier than 10 a.m. but understand one worship makes sense for now and that is a good compromise time. Perhaps we can revisit this issue in the future.

I'm ready for adding back in the Healing Service.

The fewer people in attendance sometimes feels like a bummer. Wish there were a way to get more to come.

I'd love occasional contemporary Christian music.

Webcasting is hopefully here to stay! When I can't attend on Sunday, I can catch up later.

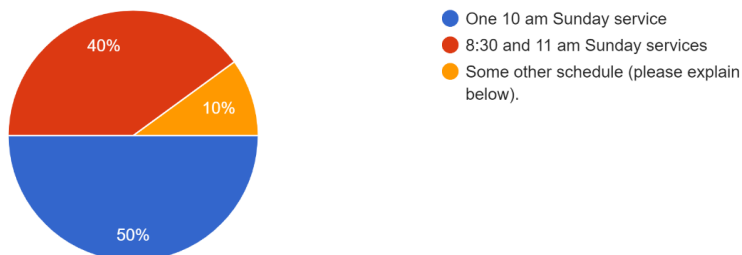
Not sure if here is the place, but adult class right after service is detrimental to fellowship.

I do appreciate having a single service so I can see everyone - but the timing is inconvenient for me.

Responses from people who usually attend worship virtually:

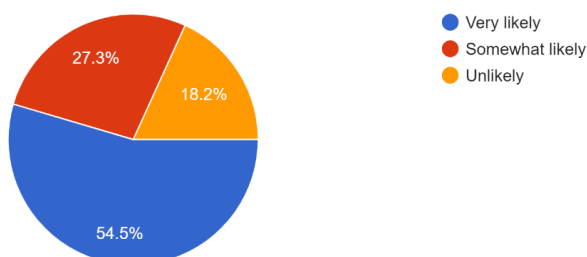
1. What is your preference in terms of a worship schedule?

10 responses



2. If we were to adopt the worship schedule you prefer, how likely is it that you would return to in-person worship?

11 responses



Written responses

I like the 8:30 service.

I prefer this time

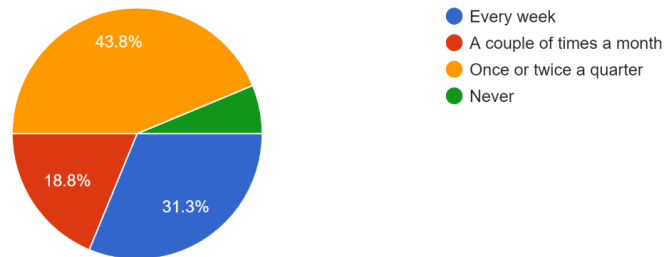
Takes too long to get going in the morning. We are old.

A service at 11 would give me more time to get there.

I increasingly feel the focus of the worship service is not helping me in struggling with the gospel.

3. How often do you worship with us online, either live-streaming or viewing the service later?

16 responses



4. How do you enjoy online worship? What would improve this experience for you?

I like it, but prefer 8:30 in person.

If the mics were louder in the sanctuary so the in-person attendees can be heard.

I enjoy online worship and participate as much as possible. When people speak always have a microphone.

Show the music for the songs on screen during the service.

Other comments

It seems to me that worship at Redeemer has been evolving to be more about us (our actions and feelings) and less about the good news of the in-breaking of God's commonwealth. (Oddly enough, the aspects of worship that I find least helpful - the creed and the Psalm - are about the only parts of the service that haven't been changed.) The content and style of worship is part of why I'm less motivated to attend, though the schedule doesn't help.

Worship Team discussed the responses at its meeting in January. "We had 45 online responses and three hard-copy responses from people who worship mostly in-person. Of those, almost 90 percent said they were 'very likely' to continue coming if we keep the single 10 a.m. schedule. Of the 10 respondents who usually attend virtually, five prefer the current schedule and four prefer an 8:30 and 11 a.m. schedule. A number of you mentioned how much you like it worshipping together at the same time with a good number of people in the sanctuary. We also understand that for some of you, the current schedule isn't your preference. Some of you have found ways to make it work. For others, it simply doesn't.

"As we talked about your responses, we have decided to keep our one 10 a.m. worship schedule. The vast majority of you have said you're very likely to continue attending if we keep our current schedule. The number of worship leaders, ushers, and communion preparers it takes to offer two different services, and how that changes the feel of worship from a vital size to two small services, leads us to decide to keep our current single 10 a.m. service. We wish we could meet everyone's preferences, but we know that isn't possible.

"On Easter, we will worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m., with an Easter brunch between services. If enough people offer to help, we plan to bring the monthly Healing Prayer service back in Lent. Please continue to share your experiences with us. We are grateful for your openness, patience, and flexibility as we asked you to worship in a variety of ways. Thank you!"

Redeemer Worship Team

*(Michelle Clemence, Jennifer Collins, Karen Kent, Julie Larson,
Don Luck, Kathy Rapp, Dave Shull, Wendy Stoica)*

Important Emails

Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with **Pastor Dave**.

Info@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com – use for stewardship campaigns.

Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website.

Property@RedeemerLuth.com – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

Communications@redeemerluth.com – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for *Reflections*, Sunday Bulletins

For *Reflections*

- **PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.**
- Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put *Reflections* in subject line.
- Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

Welcome Diane Brobeck to Church Office Staff!

Welcome to **Diane Brobeck** who has joined the team that, along with **Becky Trover**, staff the church office! She will be working on Thursdays and the office will be closed on Fridays.

An Update from Kathy Z

Kathy Zwanziger periodically provides an update of her journey with dialysis. Here is the latest: "Being able to eat a wider range of foods now is great – except I take about two bites and really don't want to eat any more. Having 2,000 ml of extra fluid in me stifles the appetite. However, since I lose several grams of protein with each exchange, I need to eat to replace that protein.

"There are various types of dialysis: hemodialysis (a machine filters waste out of the blood) and peritoneal dialysis, which I chose. Four times daily I drain the fluid from my peritoneum (which has been "dwelling" there for at least two hours) and exchange it for a new bag of a special sugar solution. Somehow this fluid attracts waste products that the kidneys are unable to remove. The process is based on gravity, so nothing highly unusual.

"Theoretically, I can plan the four daily exchanges to fit my life but frequently it seems I am planning my life to fit the exchange schedule. Is it tedious going through 25 steps four times a day? Yes, but it is helping my body continue to function. However, I am looking forward to the next step -- part of the equipment necessary for that has already been delivered. Stay tuned!"

Worshippers Asked to Wear Nametags

Worshippers are asked to wear their nametags for the next several weeks – not only for the sake of newer folks but also for the sake of those among the congregation whose memories aren't what they used to be!

Nametags can be found on the rack near the entrance to the Sanctuary. Can't find yours ... or never had one ... write your name on the pad provided and one will be made.

2023 RLC Member Directory Available

The 2023 **Redeemer Member Directory** is now available. It can be picked up in the Narthex. Or contact the church office at 614-237-1263 or info@RedeemerLuth.com to be put on the list for quarterly electronic updates.

February Birthdays

14-Kurt Goshen 15-Nancy Ehrich
16-Heidi Carman 24-Linda Williams
24-Sue Yehling 26-Diane Brobeck
26-Wally Jacobs 28-Colton Day

The Wider Church

EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY

• 7.8 magnitude quake struck early February 6

• Hundreds of lives lost and buildings destroyed

• Urgent needs include food, shelter and water

YOU CAN HELP NOW!

lwr.org/quake

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

See the separate article, this issue, about Redeemer’s efforts to collect items for personal care kits to send to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Or donate to LWR’s efforts at the above online address.

Nominations Open for ELCA Commission on Church Governance

At the 2022 Churchwide Assembly, voting members adopted a memorial concerning restructuring the ELCA’s governance. The assembly adopted 738-72 the following action:

• “To direct the Church Council to establish a Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church comprised of leaders of diverse representation from all three expressions that, working in consultation with the Conference of Bishops and the Church Council, shall reconsider the statements of purpose for each of the expressions of this church, the principles of its organizational structure, and all matters pertaining thereunto, being particularly attentive to our shared commitment to dismantle racism, and will present its findings and recommendations to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly in preparation for a possible reconstituting convention to be called under the rules for a special meeting of the Churchwide Assembly.”

The Church Council discussed this churchwide assembly action at its November 2022 meeting and authorized establishing the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church (CRLC) to consist of no more than 35 voting members and directed the Executive Committee of the Church Council to initiate the process of forming the commission.

The nomination process is open until **Thursday, March 9, 2023**. More information about the commitment and expectation of serving on the CRLC can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/y2mk5m6p>. Interested individuals who wish to be nominated or to nominate another person should complete and submit the nomination form. The Executive Committee of the ELCA Church Council will serve as the nominating committee and will present a slate of nominees to the Church Council at its April 20, 2023 meeting for appointment to the CRLC.

The Community Beyond

Columbus Symphony Sponsors 'Winter Pride Night'

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is sponsoring "Masterworks Pride Night" on **Saturday, February 18** beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Ohio Theatre. This concert features CSO principal clarinetist **David Thomas** performing the Brahms Clarinet Sonata.

Folks are invited to join a special post-concert "meet and greet" with **Music Director Rossen Milanov, Thomas** and other LGBTQ+ musicians of the orchestra. This event takes place in the Patron Lounge on the second floor. There will be a cash bar.

Getting Ready for Worship

Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19, 2023

Lessons

Readings: 2 Peter 1:16-21; Psalm 99; Matthew 16:28 - 17:9

Prayer of the Day

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Ukraine

For those who are fleeing: sanctuary

For those who are staying: safety

For those who are fighting: peace.

For those whose hearts are breaking: comfort

For those who see no future: hope.

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of All Saints Lutheran Church – A Lutheran Episcopal Community in Washington Court House.

+ For Redeemer community members Renee Glover and Ansel Oakleaf and Lily Jasper Serenity and Oliver Glover-Oakleaf.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns: Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Laura Warren's brother Walt Hudson, Julie Larson and husband Eli who is receiving cancer treatment in Houston.

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Marit Johnson
Reader	Georgene Slagle
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal/Kiarra Santiago
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Helen Brunston
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Hospitality	Sara Auman and Julianne Johnson
Communion Prep	Eileen Day, Nancy Magargal, Michelle Clemence
Producers	Scott Steiner, Michele Disbro

*Flowers are given by members of Redeemer.
Noisy Offering will go to CHOICES.*

Upcoming Week at Redeemer February 14 – February 20, 2023

Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study IN-PERSON and ZOOM
	6:30 p.m.	A Brewing Faith ZOOM
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
	7:00 p.m.	Book Group
Next Sunday	8:45 a.m.	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Ed IN-PERSON and ZOOM
	1:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class at Pastor Dave's home

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community