red mountain church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

GATHERING EVERY SUNDAY AT 5 PM AVON THEATER

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2010

GATHERING

REFLECTION

Lent is a forty-day season when we camp out around repentance. It is a time of reflection and preparation for Holy Week and Easter — a season of fasting, rather than feasting. Lent invites us to risk a journey through death to life, to enter a wilderness filled with danger, to enter the desert where both God and the evil one dwell ... each year at Lent we are invited to enter the desert, to embrace solitude and silence, to fast, to open ourselves to suffering, to listen for the voice of God in our restless spirits.

— John Westerhoff III, from *A Pilgrim People Learning Through the Church Year*

CALL TO WORSHIP

PREPARATION IN SILENCE

INVOCATION

BASED ON ISAIAH 55 & JOHN 4

Come, let us worship God, for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long. Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

We have come to hear the Word God has sent. God's Word will not return empty but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth!

Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands!

HYMN OF ADORATION

O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS

Words: Samuel Trevor Francis, 1875

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
Rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward,
to my glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
spread His praise from shore to shore;
How He loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, never more;
How He watches
o'er His loved ones,
Died to call them all His own;
how for them He intercedeth,
Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean full of blessing,
'tis a haven giving rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
'tis a heaven of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to Thee!

We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with his Word, his invitation to gather in his name.

Nursery
Ages: 8 weeks – 3 years

Children's Lessons
"Beulah Land"
Age: 3
Structured nursery time including free play, Bible story, "work" time (artwork), and snack.

"Godly Play"
Ages: 4 – 9
Children are welcome to accompany their parents in church until dismissed for their lesson. Contact Bobby Bardin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR CONTACT INFORMATION, SEE BACK PAGE.

CHURCH BUSINESS

RMC Women's Bible Study: Fridays, 10 a.m. – noon. A 13-week study on Galatians using Redeemer Church's (NYC) study guides. Childcare provided. If you are interested in attending, contact Nan Merrow (NANNERBEAN75@YAHOO.COM) or Stephanie Laughlin.

Nursery Workers: RMC is looking for 3 additional workers for the nursery. Contact Bobby Bardin.

MISSIONS & MERCY

Mission update from Kenya: read updates from Michael & Lesley Stevens at STEVENSINKENYA.WORDPRESS.COM.

Service Opportunity: in conjunction with Mission Birmingham, RMC will be involved with UAB's Into the Streets project on March 6. This project is open to anyone that would like to get out and serve our community. Please contact Bobby Bardin for more details.

Southtown Afterschool Program needs tutors for grades K–8 from 3 – 4:30 p.m., Mon – Thurs every week. Contact Marshall Pollard (MSPOLLAR@SAMFORD.EDU).

Snacks for Southtown: If you or your community group would consider planning and buying snacks for a week (or even just a day) for the Southtown afterschool program during the spring semester, please email LISAMOORE8@GMAIL.COM.

OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome Baby Koonce! Mardie Elizabeth was born February 11, weighing 7 lbs 12 oz. To provide a meal for Jeff and Brandi, please contact Karen Sullivan at TOKARENS@GMAIL.COM.

Tonight's Nursery
Gignilliat/Wear CG
Denton CG

March 7 Nursery
Greer/Jones/Little CG
Pless/Torsch CG

Each community group is asked to recruit 4 volunteers to serve in the nursery. Volunteers should arrive at 4:45 p.m. If your group can't participate on the assigned date, swap with another group at least a week in advance. Contact Bobby Bardin.

Announcements
To have an announcement added to the bulletin, email Stephanie Laughlin.

Lost & found
located in kitchen.

REMEMBERING THE GOSPEL

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins together ...

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven. Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives. Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you, Lord. Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, we confess to you, Lord. Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, we confess to you, Lord. Our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us; favorably hear us, for your mercy is great. Accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Amen.

HYMN OF CONFESSION

JESUS I LONG FOR THEE

Taken from the Gadsby Hymnal
Words: John Berridge, 1716-1793
Music: Brian T. Murphy & Jeff Koonce

Jesus, I long for thee,
And sigh for Canaan's shore,
Thy lovely face to see,
And all my warfare o'er;
Here billows break upon my breast
And brooding sorrows steal my rest.

I pant, I groan, I grieve
For my untoward heart;
How full of doubts I live,
Though full of grace thou art!
What poor returns, I make to thee
For all the mercy shown to me!

And must I ever smart,
A child of sorrows here?
Yet, Lord be near my heart,
To soothe each rising tear;
Then at thy bleeding cross I'll stay,
And sweetly weep my life away.

WORDS OF GRACE

Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Be at peace. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

SKYLER THOMAS ZINN

BAPTISM HYMN

Words: Henriette L. Von Hayn, 1778

I am Jesus' little lamb
Ever glad at heart I am
For my Shepherd gently guides me
Knows my need and well provides me
Loves me every day the same
Even calls me by my name

HYMN OF GRACE

COME HEAVY LADEN

Words: William Williams, 1717-1791
Music: Brian T. Murphy & Benj Pocta, 2007

Come heavy laden, come and rest,
Your souls from fear and pain;
Jesus the God was crucified,
And died and rose again.

Sweet are His words, sweet is His voice
His smiles are heaven below;
Of all the pleasures in this world,
Tis Jesus I would know.

His holy yoke's easy and smooth,
His burdens all are light;
In His commandments, though severe,
Is infinite delight.

O! would He raise my feeble soul,
To a celestial flame;
I would, for Jesus, either do,
Or suffer all the same.

CORPORATE PRAYER FOR NEW LIFE

Please begin by praying in silence ...

Let us pray together, saying ...

> **Lord Jesus Christ, our sin is ever before us. Grant that we may never cease grieving because of it, never be content with ourselves, never think that we can reach a point of perfection. Kill our envy; command our tongues; trample down our pride. Give us grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, peaceable; to live for you and not for self; to copy your words, acts, spirit; to be transformed into your likeness; to be consecrated wholly to you; to live entirely for your glory.**

We come to you with deep contrition and cast ourselves upon you. Deliver us, O God. Help us to know that all things are shadows, but you are substance. If we sin willfully, grievously, tormentedly, in grace take away our mourning and give us music; remove our sackcloth and clothe us with beauty; still our sighs and fill our mouths with song, for we are your people, the sheep of your pasture. Amen.

CHILDREN DISMISSED

TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH (GODLY PLAY)

DEVOTED TO THE SCRIPTURES

HEARING GOD'S WORD

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31

12For just as the body is one and has many members, and
all the members of the body, though many, are one body,
so it is with Christ. 13For in one Spirit we were all baptized
into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all
were made to drink of one Spirit.
14For the body does not consist of one member but of
many. 15If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I
do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less
a part of the body. 16And if the ear should say, "Because
I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would
not make it any less a part of the body. 17If the whole
body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing?
If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense
of smell? 18But as it is, God arranged the members in the
body, each one of them, as he chose. 19If all were a single
member, where would the body be? 20As it is, there are
many parts, yet one body.
21The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you,"
nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."
22On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be
weaker are indispensable, 23and on those parts of the
body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater
honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with
greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do
not require. But God has so composed the body, giving
greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may
be no division in the body, but that the members may have
the same care for one another. 26If one member suffers,
all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice
together.
27Now you are the body of Christ and individually members
of it. 28And God has appointed in the church first apostles,
second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts
of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds
of tongues. 29Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all
teachers? Do all work miracles? 30Do all possess gifts of
healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31But
earnestly desire the higher gifts.
And I will show you a still more excellent way.

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

PROJECTING OUR GIFTS & REDUCING THE BODY

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!
Amen!

WORSHIP THROUGH OFFERING

HYMN OF OFFERING

** Please remain seated for offering hymn (congregation sings in unison).*

JESUS WHAT A FRIEND

Words: J. Wilbur Chapman, 1910

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my victory wins.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my comfort, helps my soul.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a guide and keeper!
While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'ertakes me,
He, my pilot, hears my cry.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! I do now receive Him,
More than all in Him I find;
He has granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine.
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.

CELEBRATING THE HOLY FEAST

The peace of the Lord be always with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to our Lord God!

It is good and right to do so!

Truly it is good and right that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting King. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven and all the Church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosannah!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosannah in the highest!

We break bread in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and proclaim the mystery of the faith.

Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

Therefore let us keep the feast.

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIANS

I know, O Lord, that you have risen. I feel the weakness and frailty of my flesh and my will. But I hope in the power of the gospel, the power of the resurrection. As I feast at your table, eating the bread and drinking the cup, fill me with life again. Sustain me by your grace that I might run in the path of your commands.

PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH UNBELIEF

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

We welcome all followers of Jesus Christ to partake in this sacrament of communion: those who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live in deeper communion with Jesus. If you are not a Christian, or you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope this time is of benefit to you as you reflect on your relationship with Christ and with his people, the church.

We celebrate by coming forward to feast at the Lord's table. Please approach the table, break off a piece of the bread, and drink the wine from the common cup as it is offered to you. If you don't feel comfortable drinking the wine or are concerned for health reasons, there are smaller cups of juice available.

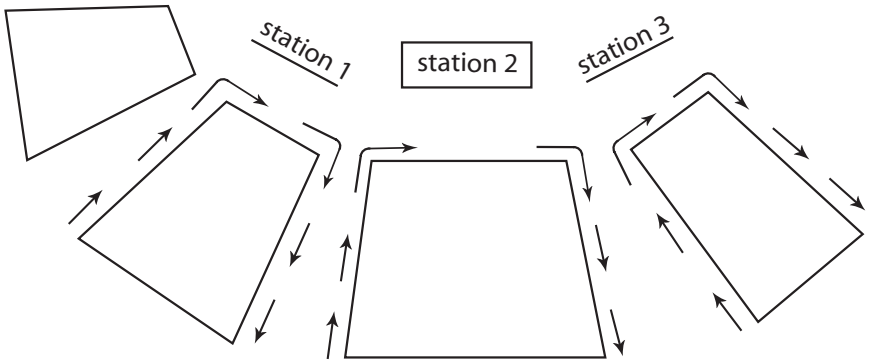
PRAYER FOR THOSE BEGINNING TO BELIEVE

God, I am beginning to see that I am more sinful and lost than I dared to believe, and yet in Jesus, I can be more loved and accepted than I ever dared to dream. I thank you for the work of Christ, his atoning death and his perfect life, which are credited to me when I turn from my sin and believe. Help me to embrace Christ as he is offered to me in the gospel, and in believing, help me live a new life.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIANS STRUGGLING WITH SIN

O Lord, my transgression is ever before me! It clings to me! Help me believe that the Gospel is bigger than my sin. Help me see that Jesus' work not only frees me from the penalty of sin, but also breaks sin's power. As I feast on the bread and wine, convince me that I am no longer struggling to be free from sin, but that in Christ I am now free to struggle with my sin.

FLOW OF COMMUNION LINES



Please note: *There will always be an elder distributing the elements at station 2 (communion table in front of middle section).*

BENEDICTION

The Last Word

God always has the last word in our worship. Our tradition at Red Mountain Church is to extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.

RED MOUNTAIN CHURCH

POST OFFICE BOX 55825 BIRMINGHAM AL 35255

(205) 321-2510 / REDMOUNTAINCHURCH.ORG

Tom Cannon *Pastor*
201-1810 tcannon@redmountainchurch.org

Scott Kesler *Assistant Pastor & Community Groups Coordinator*
329-4492 scott@redmountainchurch.org

Brian T. Murphy *Chief Musician*
briantmurphy@mac.com

Bobby Bardin *Children's Coordinator*
453-4361 bobby@redmountainchurch.org

Sarah Allen *Financial Administrator*
994-4234 sarah@redmountainchurch.org

Stephanie Laughlin *Administrative Assistant*
529-0479 stephanie@redmountainchurch.org

ELDERS

Andrew Cordell	222-9335	acordell@southernco.com
Mark Gignilliat	726-4123	msgignil@samford.edu
Miles Gresham	492-0318	milesgresham@mac.com
Cal Morris	542-6923	

DEACONS

Bobby Bardin	453-4361	bobby@redmountainchurch.org
Rodney Green	368-5286	lawn-mowwer@hotmail.com
Brooks Lumpkin	903-2352	brooksl@gmail.com
John Williams	602-1100	jwilliams@mawins.com

To receive weekly email announcements, Go to:
redmountainchurch.org/news/newsletter.html
Or you can click on "News," then "Signup for Newsletter."

Sermons available for download: redmountainchurch.org.
Hymn lyrics reprinted with permission: CCLI 2321334

New to Red Mountain Church? You'll get a chance to meet some folks during our worship services, but real relationships take time. Community groups are the best way to find your stride at RMC and to join in the life of the church. Groups meet in members' homes in neighborhoods across the city, and meeting formats vary. For more information about community groups or church membership, contact Stephanie Laughlin.

OUR PLACE

Within a few miles of Red Mountain lives all the diversity of Birmingham, Alabama. Throughout Southside, UAB, Highlands, Downtown, Lakeview, Avondale, Woodlawn, Crestwood and Homewood, the glory and the poverty of the city are mixed together. Red Mountain Church hopes to be deeply rooted in these few square miles. Stand in downtown Birmingham anytime day or night, and you will see "the friendless, the sorrowing, the rich, and the poor." This is our place!

OUR PURPOSE

To embrace and embody the gospel in the church and among all the people of Birmingham with the hope of seeing the joy and peace of Christ's kingdom come to our city.

OUR HOPES FOR BIRMINGHAM

That Christ will create, out of the diverse communities of our city, a new worshipping community, which will experience the grace, joy and freedom of the gospel. "Praise awaits you O God in Zion ... blessed are those you have chosen. We are filled with the good things of your house!" (Psalm 65)

That we will become a welcoming community, open to the skeptic, the seeker, the new convert and the struggling Christian. That we will meet needs (spiritual, physical, social), and share together in the life of Christ. "They broke bread in each other's homes with glad and sincere hearts, enjoying the favor of all the people. And God added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2)

That we will become a serving community that loves our city and which gives to, challenges and changes Birmingham through gospel ministries of word, justice and mercy. "They will be called Oaks of Righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor." (Isaiah 61)

That we will become a growing community that helps establish other churches around Birmingham, the nation and the world. "All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing." (Colossians 1)

WE BELIEVE...

WE BELIEVE that the gospel — as taught in Scripture and lived out through the church — changes everything