red mountain church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

GATHERING EVERY SUNDAY AT 5 PM AVON THEATER

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

THE ORDINARY YEAR

AUGUST 15, 2010

GATHERING

REFLECTION

After a while, though the grief did not go away from us, it grew quiet. What had seemed a storm wailing through the entire darkness seemed to come in at last and lie down.

— Wendell Berry, from *Jayber Crow*

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

— 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the Lord say,

His steadfast love endures forever.

Let those he has redeemed from trouble say,

His steadfast love endures forever.

Let those he has gathered in from all lands say,

His steadfast love endures forever.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things.

We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

HYMN OF ADORATION

COME HOLY GHOST

Words: Attributed to Rhabanus Maurus, circa 800

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest
And in our hearts take up thy rest,
Come with thy grace and heav'nly aid
To fill our hearts which thou hast made
To fill our hearts which thou has made

Be Not afraid, Where you go,
There I am with you.

O Comforter, to thee we cry,
Thou heavenly gift of God most high
Thou fount of life, and fire of love
And sweet anointing from above
And sweet anointing from above

O Holy Ghost through thee alone
Know we the Father and the Son
Be this our firm unchanging creed
That thou dost from them both proceed
That thou dost from them both proceed

Praise we the Lord, Father and Son,
And Holy Spirit with them one
And may the Son on us bestow
All gifts that from the Spirit flow
All gifts that from the Spirit flow

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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tonight's Nursery
Helms-Laughlin CG

August 22 Nursery
Cole-Lumpkin 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.

FOR CONTACT INFORMATION, SEE BACK PAGE.

CHURCH BUSINESS

RMC Church Party: NEXT SUNDAY, August 22, following the worship service, to welcome the Youngs to RMC. The church will be providing pizza, so please stay and visit! Community Group leaders will let you know whether to bring drinks or dessert.

Service of Installation: Adam Young will be installed as our new Assistant Pastor on Sunday, August 29.

RMC Bible Studies: If you are interested in starting a bible study please contact Stephanie Laughlin for a copy of the policy & application. If you are interested in helping coordinate a Women's Bible study in the evening or in the daytime, please email Meredith Grimm (MEREDITH.GRIMM@GMAIL.COM).

Communion Set-up Volunteers Needed: We need 7 volunteers to help set up the communion table and find servers. If you are interested in serving the church in this way, please contact Sarah Margaret Wade (SARAHMARGARET.WADE@GMAIL.COM).

Community Groups start back THIS WEEK. If you are interested in joining a group, please email Stephanie Laughlin.

Children's Church Volunteers Needed: Children's Church is in need of 5 new teachers and/or doorkeepers for upcoming school year. Beulah Land is in need of 3 new teachers. Contact Bobby Bardin.

MISSIONS & MERCY

RMC is planning a trip to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 12 – 21. Space is limited; the main need is for medical providers, a counselor, and anyone willing to work with children/youth ministry. If interested contact Michael Treadwell (THETREADWELLS@MAC.COM) or Miles Gresham (MILESGRESHAM@MAC.COM).

OUR COMMUNITY

A free screening of *The Lottery* will be held at the McWane Science Center on Thursday, August 26 at 7 p.m. *The Lottery* follows four families from Harlem and the Bronx who have entered their children in a charter school lottery. Limited seating is available, so please email SIDEWALK@SIDEWALKFEST.COM to reserve your seat.

HYMN OF HOPE

NARROW LITTLE ROAD

Words: Mo Leverett

I believe in the love of God;
It is an orphan's wildest dream.
It is a narrow little road;
it is an ever widening desert stream.

Oh I, and I will leave this road, for the narrow.
Oh I, and I will leave this road, for the narrow.

It is portrayed in the bread and wine;
Let it fortify my bones.
It is more than just a sign;
it is the fountain from that desert stone.

It is the path where the humble go;
it is the narrow not the broad.
It is the pathway down the hill
to the graveyard of the living God.

The love of God is the hymn of hope;
Let the needy join the throng.
Let the widow hear and cope;
Let the crippled rise to sing this song.

REMEMBERING THE GOSPEL

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

God opposes the proud,

But he gives grace to the humble.

Let us confess our sins together:

O King and Father, your Son died and was raised up in power. Now enable us to die to our sin in repentance so we may rise to new life in Him. We confess to you: Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves; though you should rule us, we control ourselves; though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love, heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son, who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

FROM 1 JOHN 1

And these things we write, so that our joy may be made complete. And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF GRACE

JESUS PRECIOUS BLOOD

Taken from the Gadsby Hymnal
Words: William J. Irons, 1812-1833
Music: Clint Wells, 2004

What sacred fountain yonder springs
Up from the throne of God,
And all new covenant blessings brings?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What mighty sum paid all my debt,
When I a bondman stood,
And has my soul at freedom set?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What stream can sweep away
My sins just like a flood,
Nor lets one guilty blemish stay?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What voice is that which speaks for me
In heaven's court for good,
And from the curse has set me free?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

What theme, my soul shall best employ
Thy harp before thy God,
And make all heaven to ring with joy?
'Tis Jesus' precious blood.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray together:

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

(Here the leader intercedes for the congregation, community, and world at large.)

The risen Christ is in our midst, so with Christ we pray,

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CHILDREN DISMISSED

TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH (GODLY PLAY — PRE-K THRU 3RD)

DEVOTED TO THE SCRIPTURES

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PSALM 97 (NIV)

Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm. A song.
[1]He has set his foundation on the holy mountain;
[2]the LORD loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
[3]Glorious things are said of you,
O city of God:
Selah
[4]"I will record Rahab and Babylon
among those who acknowledge me —
Philistia too, and Tyre, along with Cush —
and will say, 'This one was born in Zion.'"
[5]Indeed, of Zion it will be said,
"This one and that one were born in her,
and the Most High himself will establish her."
[6]The LORD will write in the register of the peoples:
"This one was born in Zion."
Selah
[7]As they make music they will sing,
"All my fountains are in you."

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

GOD'S FAMILY, GOD'S HOUSE

Grace, peace, and mercy to you from God our Father and our lord Jesus Christ.
Amen!

WORSHIP THROUGH OFFERING

HYMN OF OFFERING

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

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Greet one another with a sign of friendship such as: "The peace of Christ be with you" & "And also with you.")

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

FROM THE BELGIC CONFESSION

We confess that God has fulfilled the promise which He made to the fathers by the mouth of His holy prophets, when He sent into the world, at the time appointed by Him, His own only-begotten and eternal Son, who took upon Him the form of a servant and became like unto man, really assuming the true human nature with all its infirmities, sin excepted; being conceived in the womb of the blessed virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit without the means of man; and did not only assume human nature as to the body, but also a true human soul, that He might be a real man. For since the soul was lost as well as the body, it was necessary that He should take both upon Him, to save both.

(continued on next page)

Therefore we confess that Christ partook of the flesh and blood of the children; that He is a fruit of the loins of David after the flesh; born of the seed of David according to the flesh; a fruit of the womb of Mary; born of a woman; a branch of David; a shoot of the root of Jesse; sprung from the tribe of Judah; descended from the Jews according to the flesh; of the seed of Abraham, since he took on him the seed of Abraham, and was made like unto his brethren in all things, sin excepted; so that in truth He is our IMMANUEL, that is to say, God with us.

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.

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 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.

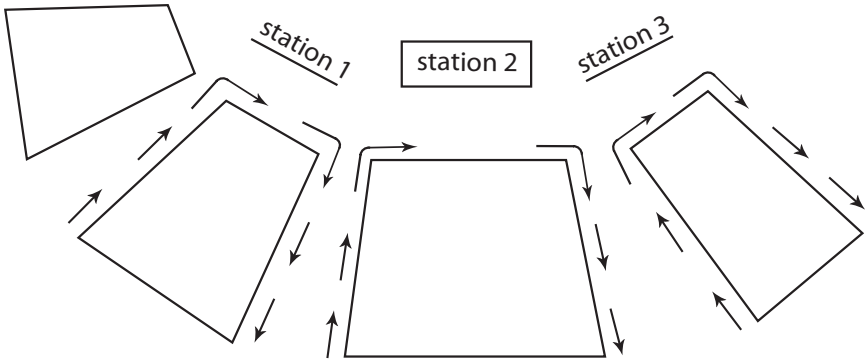
PRAYER FOR THOSE BEGINNING TO BELIEVE

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

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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