THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER Shelby, NC

Music and Readings February 23, 2025 – Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Praise, my soul, the King of heaven (Lauda anima) (H 410)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 (on next page)

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

³⁵Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

Remain seated. ¹Do not fret yourself because of ¹ evildoers; * do not be jealous of those who do ¹ wrong. ²For they shall soon wither like the ¹ grass, * | and like the green grass fade a^{-1} way. || ³Put your trust in the LORD and do ¹ good; * dwell in the land and feed on its ¹ riches. ⁴Take delight in the ¹LORD, * | and he shall give you your heart's de- ¹ sire. || ⁵Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in ¹ him, * | and he will bring it to **pass**. ⁶He will make your righteousness as clear as the ¹ light * | and your just dealing as the **noonday**. ⁷Be still before the ¹LORD * | and wait patiently for ¹ him. | ⁸Do not fret yourself over the one who ¹ **prospers**, * | the one who succeeds in evil ¹ schemes. ⁹Refrain from anger, leave rage a-¹ lone; * | do not fret yourself; it leads only to ¹ evil. | ¹⁰For evildoers shall be cut [|] **off**, * | but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the **| land**. ¹¹In a little while the wicked shall be no ¹ **more**; * | you shall search out their place, but they will not be ' there. | ¹²But the lowly shall possess the ¹ land; * | they will delight in abundance of **peace**. ⁴¹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the ¹LORD; * | he is their stronghold in time of **trouble**. ⁴²The LORD will help them and ¹ rescue them; * | he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in **him**.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

All stand.

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] ²⁷"I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Pam Bright

OFFERTORY HYMN For the bread which you have broken (Omni die) (H 341)

PRESENTATION HYMN Praise God from whom all blessings flow (H 380 v 3)

RECESSIONAL HYMN Alleluia! sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol) (H 460)

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Worship Leaders

Priest	The Rev. Anita Ware
Deacons	The Rev. Pam Bright, The Rev. Michele Wiltfong
Organist	Dr. Catherine Hicks

Worship Assistants

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Usher Team	Team 4
Crucifer	Donna Logan
Lectors	John Rankin, Jay Whisnant
Chalice Bearers	Donna Logan, John Rankin, Jay Whisnant
Altar Guild	Anne Short, Cheryl Richard, Martha Richard

This Week's Events

Sunday 2/23

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist – Epiphany 7 Coffee hour immediately following Eucharist **11:00 a.m.** Adult Formation (Admin Parish Hall)

Tuesday 2/25

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel) **10:30 a.m.** Food Pantry box assembly

Wednesday 2/26

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Shepherd's Table food distribution
12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist w/ Pam (Chapel)
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Food Pantry Boxes distribution

Thursday 2/27

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing Service with Anita (Chapel) **8:00 p.m.** Compline on Zoom (See Donna Logan for details)

Saturday 3/1

9:30 a.m. Sacred Craft Anglican Prayer Bead Workshop (Parish Hall)



Journey Through Lent into Easter

Come to Redeemer and journey through Lent into Easter with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. Please join us for worship, formation and fellowship during this season. Together, we will walk through the depths of salvation history into the fullness of redemption. In addition to our regular weekly opportunities the following will be available:

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 6:00 p.m. on March 4th in Parish Hall
- Ash Wednesday Service with the Imposition of Ashes in Chapel at 12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. on March 5th
- *Mindful Monday Walks with Anita* on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. We will explore the themes from the book *A Different Kind of Fast: Feeding Our True Hungers in Lent* by Christine Valters Paintner on March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 and 14. It is not necessary to purchase this book!
- *Exploring Celtic Christianity* Adult Formation Series following our 9:30 a.m. worship on March 9, 16, 23, 30 in the small administrative parish hall.
- **Tuesday Redeemer Book Club Discussion** on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. with Anita on March 11, 18, 25 & April 1 & 8. Our book selection is *Curveball* by Peter Enns.
- Hike Church on Saturday, March 29th at 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Restrooms at Broad River Greenway



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