

# SUNDAY RECAP | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look ahead. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week long. Enjoy!

*RECAP FOR: Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018*

## Take me directly to:

1. [PREPARE for this Sunday](#)
2. [REFLECT on last Sunday](#)
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4. [Resources for Kids \(and Parents\)](#)
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## PREPARE FOR THIS SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

### // Prayer of Preparation //

Dear God

We come to worship you today.

We come to sing, pray, and listen.

You always hear us. Help us to hear you. Amen.

### // Call to Worship //

Leader: Eternal God,

We praise you, we worship you, we adore you.

You hold the heavens in your hand;

all stars rejoice in your glory.

You come in the sunrise and the song of morning

and bless the splendor of the noonday.

Congregation: We praise you, we worship you, we adore you.

Leader: The stars in their courses magnify you;

day and night tell of your glory.

Your peace blows over the earth.

Congregation: We praise you, we worship you, we adore you.

Leader: Your voice comes in the thunder of the storm;

the song of the wind whispers of your majesty.

You satisfy all things living with your abundance,

and our hearts bow at your presence.

Congregation: We praise you, we worship you, we adore you.

Leader: Accept us, your children, eternal Father,

and hear our prayer, we ask, in the name of the name above all names, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## [How Great Thou Art](#)

### [Desert Song](#)

#### **// Prayer of Confession //**

Leader: Heavenly Father, most loving Jesus, ever-present Holy Spirit, as we recognize your presence with us today, we do so with joyful hearts and deep gratitude, for we are no longer under the law but are standing in grace. We are no longer condemned for our sins but are righteous in Christ. We are no longer leaves who fear but are children who trust.

Congregation: Because this gospel is true, we own our brokenness and our weakness before you.

For the ways we loved poorly this week, forgive and cleanse us.

For being more offended by the sins of other than our own, forgive and cleanse us.

For acting as though Jesus isn't enough, grace isn't sufficient, and you aren't really faithful, forgive and cleanse us.

Congregation: In Jesus' name and for his glory, we make our prayer, Amen.

#### **// Assurance of Pardon //**

*New City Catechism Question 25*

Q: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

A: Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

### [My Rock and My Redeemer](#)

#### **// Passing of the Peace //**

As God has greeted us with his peace, so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other. Take a moment to greet those around you.

*Pastoral Prayer and Offering*

*Sermon: Blessed in Christ pt.3 (Ephesians 1:11-14)*

### [Hallelujah What A Savior](#)

#### **// Benediction //**

Leader: God has blessed you in Christ. Nothing can take that from you. Go enjoy all of it!  
Peace be with you!

Congregation: And also with you!

## REFLECT ON LAST SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

### **// Prayer of Preparation //**

Good Morning Lord. We come to you this morning with a lot on our minds (as always). As we think about all that concerns us and all we experienced in the past week, help us to see you present in all those things. Remind us that you are in control of all things and reign as King of kings every moment of every day.

As we come to worship you this morning we ask that you quiet our hearts and give us ears to hear you. Remind us of the good news of your faithfulness to us in Christ. For those among us that don't yet know of redemption in Christ, give them faith today, we pray. Nourish our faith this morning as we sing together and listen to you. Thank you for your grace and love for us. Amen.

### **// Call to Worship //**

Leader: Loving God, we have gathered to meet you.

Congregation: We have come to listen to you, to seek you, to worship you.

Leader: You are the beginning of all things, the life of all things;  
you knew us before we were born.

In you we become; in you we live.

Loving God, you are here and everywhere, around us and within us; you know our inmost thoughts.

Congregation: In you we hope; in you we live.

Leader: You are the source of serenity, giving peace that is beyond our understanding.

Congregation: In you we are still; in you we live.

Leader: Loving God, we live in you; we worship you.

Loving God, you live in us; we worship you. Amen.

### [Your Promises](#)

### [Rock of Ages](#)

### **// Prayer of Confession //**

Leader: Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you; you call, but we do not follow;  
you command, but we do not obey,  
you bless us, but we do not thank you.

Congregation: Please forgive and help us.

Leader: Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others;  
you forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us; you love us, but we do not love our neighbors.

Congregation: Please forgive and help us.

Leader: Lord, you showed us how to carry out your mission,  
but we still insist on our own;  
you identified yourself with outcasts, the needy, and the poor,  
but we do not bother to find out what is happening to them;  
you suffered and died for the sake of all,

but we do not give up our comfortable lives.

Congregation: Please forgive and help us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**// Assurance of Pardon //**

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us*

*-Ephesians 1:7-8*

[Your Glory, Nothing but the Blood](#)

**// Passing of the Peace //**

As those who all find our hope in the same place- In Jesus Christ, let's take a moment to remind ourselves that we are united in him by greeting one another here this morning.

*Pastoral Prayer and Offering*

*Sermon: Blessed in Christ pt.2 (Ephesians 1:7-14)*

[In Christ Alone](#)

**// Benediction //**

Leader: All that you desire is yours in Jesus Christ.

May the Holy Spirit guide you this week and give opportunities to love others with the very love of Christ.

Go in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you!

Congregation: And also with you!

## FURTHER REFLECTION & STUDY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

**Scripture to Meditate On:**

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace

**Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 40**

Q. Why did Christ have to suffer death?

A. Because God's justice and truth require it: nothing else could pay for our sins except the death of the Son of God. (1 Gen. 2:17; 2 Rom. 8:3-4 ; Phil. 2:8; Heb. 2:9)

**This Weeks Theological Word and Definition:**

REDEMPTION means to free someone from bondage. It often involves the paying of a ransom, a price that ensures redemption. The Israelites were redeemed from Egypt. We were redeemed from the power of sin and the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13) through Jesus (Rom. 3:24; Col. 1:14). We were bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:20; 7:23). *[taken from [theopedia.com/redemption](http://theopedia.com/redemption)]*

### Reflection Questions:

- In our Prayer of Confession we asked for forgiveness because Jesus showed us how to carry out his mission, but we still insist on our own.” What is Jesus’ mission? How is that evident in your life? What do you need to repent of given the mission of Jesus?
- Pastor Ryan said that everyone is trying to answer the question “How can I be redeemed?” Can you see how people are seeking to “redeem” themselves? How are they trying to go about it? Why do you think all people seek that?
- Pastor Ryan made the statement - “The ability to boldly and regularly confess your sin does not come from a laissez-faire attitude about sin, but rather from a confidence in the sufficiency of the blood of Jesus to achieve forgiveness for all your sin.” Why do you shy from confessing sin? What does that say about your trust in the blood of Christ?
- How and why do you reject the all out forgiveness of God through Christ?

### Suggested Resources

Articles: [Satan’s Two Favorite Lies](#) by Chad Bird  
[Freaked-Out By Ordinary Sin](#) by Barbara Duguid  
[Gospel-Driven Sanctification](#) by Jerry Bridges

Ephesians Series Resources:

[Ephesians Scripture Journal](#) (available on Sundays for \$2)  
[Alive in Him](#) by Gloria Furman (available on Sundays for \$5) and accompanying [Study Guide](#) and

## RESOURCES FOR KIDS (and Parents) [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

*2-minute Video* (because we know that's all the time you have) ;)  
[Gospel Principle: Authority](#) with Paul Tripp

Article: [Parenting the Older Brother](#) by Rooted Ministry

### Read Ephesians 1:7

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace

### Questions for Children and Parents to discuss:

- What do you think “we have redemption” means? Why do we need “redeemed”?
- How are we redeemed? Is there anything we can do to help redeem ourselves?
- What is a “trespass”? What trespasses do you need forgiveness for?
- Why is God so gracious to us?

### Prayer

Awesome God- we praise you for Jesus today. We can't believe that He would come and die for us! We can't believe you would love us so much that you would send him to die for us. But we are really thankful for your grace. We are thankful that even though we are sinners you forgive us because Jesus received all the punishment for our sins on the cross. Now we can love you and you love us. No one could love us better than Jesus. Give us opportunities today to tell others about forgiveness in Jesus! We love you God. Amen.

## Sermon Review ([back to table of contents](#))

**Title:** Blessed in Christ, pt.2

**Text:** Ephesians 1:7-11

**Watch:** <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/blessed-in-christ-part-2/>

**Podcast:** <https://cccplainfield.org/subscribe-to-podcast>

Sermon Summary: Look not to yourself, nor anything you can do, but to the blood of Christ for your redemption.

As Paul continues his song of praise for all the God has done for us in Christ, he turns to describe our *redemption*. When you hear the word *redemption* think of the idea of “ransoming someone from captivity”. If you want a picture of that consider the Israelites status in Egypt and how God ransomed or redeemed them by rescuing them from the bondage of the Egyptians. This is the picture of our status from birth. As Paul will say in the next chapter we were “by nature children of wrath like the rest of mankind.”

There are three questions Paul addresses concerning our redemption: a) How are we redeemed? b) What does our redemption mean? and 3) Why would God do such a thing?

### *How Are We Redeemed?*

Paul makes it clear in v.7 that the way by which we are redeemed is “through his blood”. In order for us to be ransomed from the captivity of sin, our sins must receive the due punishment they deserve. The full wrath of God for sin is poured out upon Jesus Christ as he hangs on the cross dying the most brutal death ever conceived. The price for our sin is death. That death was received by Jesus which cancelled the debt of our sin and brought us redemption.

### *What Does Redemption Mean?*

There is a lot wrapped up in the term redemption but Paul tells us in verse 7 that redemption means the “forgiveness of our trespasses”. Can you believe it- all of your trespasses forgiven. Not some, not the minor trespasses, *all* of them. Let me ask you- why do you cringe in fear when you see that you are a sinner? Why do you keep yourself from God's redeeming love and allow condemnation to own you? Have confidence: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses! The ability to confess sin regularly and boldly does not come from a laissez-faire attitude about sin, but from a confidence in the blood of Christ to forgive ALL sin.

### *Why Would He Do Such a Thing?*

God displays to us the fullness of his character as he redeems us through the blood of Christ. How else would we know of his grace and mercy and the fullness of his love? Were it not for sin entering and our condemnation we would not know the God who chases down sinners, dies for the unworthy, and adopts them as his sons. Paul says God is “lavish” with his grace. Think of the term “lavish”, maybe someone who lives a “lavish” lifestyle. It denotes a bit of irresponsibility or of wasting. And in one sense that is exactly a description of God's grace. For he redeems those who don't deserve it, can't be worthy of it, and will often live gratitude-less lives for all that he's done for them.

But that's just it. This whole thing, this redeeming love of God, it's got nothing to do with the worthiness of the subjects, but only the promise and faithfulness of the giver. Can you believe he would redeem a person like you? Me neither! What an amazing God!