



Redeemer Lutheran Church



Voice of Redeemer

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Lord, Have Mercy: The History and Meaning of the Kyrie

One of the most ancient and beautiful prayers in Christian worship is the **Kyrie**, a short liturgical petition that many of us know by heart:

“Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.”

Though brief, these words are packed with meaning and history, reaching back to the earliest centuries of the Church.

What Does “Kyrie” Mean?

The word **Kyrie** comes from the Greek phrase **Kyrie eleison**, which means **“Lord, have mercy.”** This prayer was originally spoken in Greek, the common language of the Eastern Roman Empire and the early Christian Church. Even after Latin became the primary language of the Western Church, the Kyrie remained in Greek—making it one of the few Greek phrases preserved in the Latin worship service.

Where Did It Come From?

The Kyrie likely developed from the prayers of the early church and from scriptural cries for mercy, such as those of the blind beggars in the Gospels:

“Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” (Luke 18:38).

By the 4th century, the Kyrie was a regular part of the liturgy in the East, often used in litanies where the congregation responded repeatedly, “Kyrie eleison.” From there, it moved into the Western Church and became part of the Holy Communion worship and other services.

Why Do We Still Use It?

The Kyrie is more than a historical artifact. It is a living prayer of faith, humility, and trust. In saying, “Lord, have mercy,” we are acknowledging two things:

1. **Our Need:** We are sinners who cannot save ourselves.
2. **God’s Grace:** We trust that Christ is merciful and will come to our aid.

This is why the Kyrie often comes early in the service, following the Confession. It centers us on God’s mercy before we hear His Word and receive His gifts.

Different Settings and Music

Throughout history, composers have written stunning musical settings of the Kyrie—from simple plain-song chants to the majestic movements in Mozart’s *Mass in C Minor*. Even today, congregations sing the Kyrie in many styles—traditional chant, hymns, or contemporary music—yet the heart of the prayer remains the same.

Praying the Kyrie in Daily Life

You don’t need to be in church to pray the Kyrie. These three short phrases can become a powerful breath prayer throughout the day:

“Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.”

When you face a difficult decision, feel overwhelmed, or intercede for others, let these words be on your lips and in your heart.

“Lord, have mercy.” A simple prayer. A timeless truth. And a song the Church will never stop singing.

Pastor Jon Christenson

FROM THE TREASURER

[REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH](#)

2025 Financial Report

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
Receipts	31,956.00	15,890.50	19,084.00	9,335.80	18,360.50	17,167.00	15,757.00	127,550.80
Budget	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	112,484.19
Difference	15,886.83	(178.67)	3,014.83	(6,733.37)	2,291.33	1,097.83	(312.17)	15,066.61
Expenses	22,802.93	18,314.52	13,447.73	13,494.11	12,976.48	15,559.09	16,480.98	113,075.84
Budget	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	16,069.17	112,484.19
Difference	(6,733.76)	(2,245.35)	2,621.44	2,575.06	3,092.69	510.08	(411.81)	(591.65)
Total	9,153.07	(2,424.02)	5,636.27	(4,158.31)	5,384.02	1,607.91	(723.98)	14,474.96
Compared to Budget								
Loan Receipts	1,550.00	1,575.00	1,575.00	1,725.00	1,500.00	1,450.00	1,400.00	10,775.00
Loan Payments	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	7,595.00
Difference	465.00	490.00	490.00	640.00	415.00	365.00	315.00	3,180.00
Total All	9,618.07	(1,934.02)	6,126.27	(3,518.31)	5,799.02	1,972.91	(408.98)	17,654.96

Discover the Big Picture of God's Story



Have you ever wished you could see the whole story of the Bible in a way that makes sense from beginning to end? ***The Divine Drama***

by Harry Wendt is an exciting journey through Scripture that helps you connect the dots—from Genesis to Revelation—and discover how God's story shapes your story.

This course uses clear visuals and practical teaching to show the flow of God's plan: creation, fall, redemption, and restoration. Whether you're new to the Bible or have studied it for years, *The Divine Drama* offers fresh insights that deepen your understanding of God's grace and His work

throughout history.

Join us as we explore the greatest drama ever told—the drama of God's love for the world and for you. You'll come away with a clearer picture of the Bible, a stronger faith, and tools to live out your calling as part of God's ongoing story. Don't miss this opportunity to grow in God's Word! We will begin the second week of September. Watch the bulletin for further details.





Applying Bible Principles

"If God gives a man wealth and property and lets him enjoy them, he should be grateful and enjoy what he has worked for. It is a gift from God" (Eccl.5:19).

Don't you just love gifts? There is great satisfaction both in getting gifts and in giving them. Since we are created in the image of God, it stands to reason that God also must take great delight in giving and receiving gifts.

All that we have comes from God's hand, but in particular, Solomon indicated that money and riches and the ability to enjoy them are gifts from God. In other words, God gives us that which is rightfully his, and then he allows us the enjoyment of wealth and money. As we enjoy what he has entrusted to us, no doubt he takes great pleasure in our enjoyment if our actions are in conformity to his Word and his will.

How can we be sure that our enjoyment of money and wealth is according to God's plan? The Bible contains a great deal of specific instruction as to how we are to use money, but this guiding principle is to motivate our entire lives, including the use and enjoyment of wealth: " . . . Whatever you do, whether you eat or drink, do it all for God's glory" (1 Cor. 10:31).

There's nothing wrong with money. There's nothing wrong with enjoying the things that money can buy. Solomon was correct when he said that both are gifts from God. The key is to use money in such a way that our enjoyment will bring glory to God. One of the primary ways to do that is to give to the Lord and his work here at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

During the past few months, have you kept God's glory, especially giving to him, as the number one priority in your use of money? Or have other things taken the place of your giving to God?

JAMISON CHILDREN'S CENTER

On Sunday, August 24, Jorge, from the Jamison Center, shared with us a brief summary of the services they provide for Kern County. He also discussed their current needs. Even though they are always happy to receive donations, currently their greatest need is activity funds used for special trips to areas never before visited by these children. They also can always use games, crafts supplies (kits) and unused underwear—both boys and girls, ages infants to 18.

Checks can be made out to Redeemer with Jamison Center noted.
Your contributions are always appreciated. Thank You and Blessings to all!



July 26, 2025

August 25, 2025

Following is a list of our friends who have been lifted up
in prayer by our faithful Prayer Warriors.

James & Eve Braggs	Dianne	Dolly
Judi	Linda	Mark
Tami	Karen	
Ann	Brent	Charles Trent family
Paula	Ron	

Please know that your prayers are so very much appreciated. Thanks and Blessings to all!

**"and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and
to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"**

IN HIS SERVICE

AREA OF SERVICE	SEPTEMBER 7	SEPTEMBER 14	September 21	SEPTEMBER 28
ALTAR GUILD	Lyda			→
LECTOR	Nate	Louise	Karen	Judy
ASSISTANT	Louise			→
ACOLYTE	Max			→
FLOWERS	Sue	Phyllis	Judy	Lemley's
GREETER	Karen			→
COFFEE HOUR	Potluck Rally Day	Nate	Judy Olson-Peterson	Jan
COUNTERS	LAURA	LINDA		LAURA/LINDA

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

2525 BELLE TERRACE, P O BOX 13132-93389, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304

Pastor: Rev. Jon Christenson 832-7881Secretary: Phyllis Elrod

E-mail address: rlcbakersfield@gmail.com Web site address: www.bakersfieldlutheran.org



SEPTEMBER

save these dates



LUNCH BUNCH will meet at El Sombrero, 2731 M Street, Wed., 9/3/25 All are welcome, please let Judy know if you plan to attend.



QUILTING GROUP

QUILTING AND PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will meet Wednesday, September 10@ 9 -3 pm. Karen will bring snacks. Please bring your own sack lunch.



We are a relaxed group and will be happy to help you get started knitting, crocheting or quilting. We have knitting machines that Karen teaches how to use - we need interested knitters! Join us to see how easy it is.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE is Wednesday 9-17-25 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss friendship especially Esther & Mordecai from the Bible & Gather magazine. Carlotta Quashnick will provide refreshments. All ladies are invited!

SENIOR GAME DAY is Wednesday, September 24 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch at 12, or come to play at 12:30. Join the fun playing games (mostly dominos) for a couple of hours!



WINE & DINE is Thursday 9/25/25@ 6pm . Please watch the church bulletin for place & host



Worship and Music
Monday, 9/11-10 am



Work day: Sat. September 13
9 am-noon



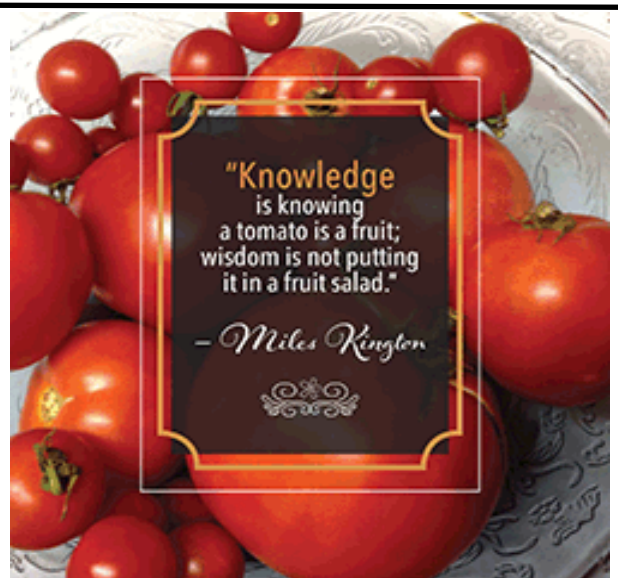
September 21
11 am



Erica Dommer	03
Nate Olson	03
Daphne Griffith	04
Scott Petty	05
Jenny Martinez	20
Rick Schroeder	24
Maiai Johnson	26
John Lemley	27
Rosie Baker	29



Anne & Mark Benson	10
Kathy & Robert Hairfield	13
Sheri & Shawn Hunter	27



RALLY DAY



We will be celebrating the start of a new Sunday School year on September 7th. Teachers will meet and greet students to acquaint them with their rooms. Please plan to join us, bring your kids, grandkids, friends and neighbors.

Food sign up in the Narthex.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

Sunday, 9/7/25
after worship.



VBS HIGHLIGHTS





**SINCERE
THANKS
TO OUR
VBS
STAFF!**





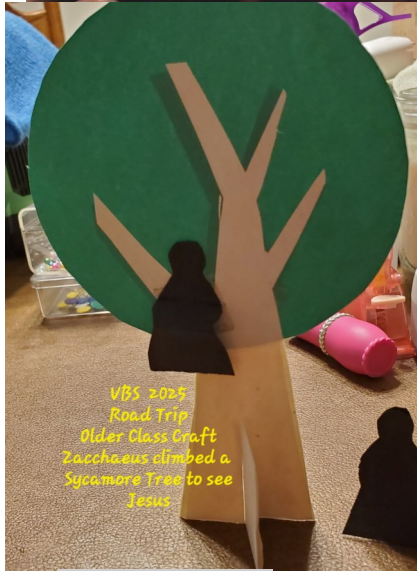


VBS 2025
Road Trip
Science
Experiment



VBS 2025
Road Trip
Opening Day, Lunch

Front to Rear:
Nate, Leo, Jethro,
Wyatt, Penny, Leith,
Remy, Grant



VBS 2025
Road Trip
Older Class Craft
Zacchaeus climbed a
Sycamore Tree to see
Jesus



VBS 2025
Road Trip
Day 1, Snack
Abraham's Altar
and Sacrifice



VBS 2025
Road Trip
Day 5, Snack.
Tents of Paul the missionary
who was a tent maker



VBS 2025
Road Trip
Opening Day
Older Class Craft

Left Rear: Jaxx, Grant,
Penny, Hudson, Leith,
Jethro, Wyatt, Leo

Left Front: Remy,
Ethan, Aria, Maddy,
Drew



VBS - 2025
Road Trip
Scout our Mascot
and Nate the voice of
Scout

Last day fun in the sun!





SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2 Riverstone Terrace sing along 3:30 Al-Anon 6:30	3 Lunch Bunch 11 am Riverstone Terrace 10 am-11 am	4	5	6
7 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Potluck lunch 	8	9 Al-Anon 6:30	10 Quilting & Prayer shawl 9 am—3 pm	11 Worship and Music 10 am 	12	13  9 am—noon Garden Club 9 am-noon
14 Worship 9:30 Coffee time 10:30 S.S. 11 am Grandparents Day	15	16 Riverstone Terrace sing along 3:30 Al-Anon 6:30	17 Afternoon Bible study Riverstone Terrace 10-11	18	19	20
21 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Council 11 am	22 	23 Riverstone Terrace sing along 3:30 Al-Anon 6:30	24 Senior Game Day 12:30	25 Wine & Dine 6 pm	26	27 Glass Club 11 am– 2 pm
28 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 10:30	30	 Sept. 8th				