

# Redeemer Happenings

## August 2021



### Ordinary Time: A Rookie Guide to the Season after Pentecost

By Joshua Steele | June 13th, 2019

The Church year revolves around two cycles:

1. the Christmas cycle (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany)
2. the Easter cycle (Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost)

But what about the rest of the year?

Well, there are two periods of the liturgical year that are called “ordinary time” that stitch together the Christmas and Easter cycles. One is the Season after Epiphany, and the other is the Season after Pentecost.

In this piece, we will focus on the Season after Pentecost.

#### What is “Ordinary Time”?

The Season after Pentecost lasts from the Monday after Pentecost Sunday until the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. The first Sunday of this season is Trinity Sunday, and the last Sunday is Christ the King Sunday.

The Season after Pentecost is also known as “Ordinary Time.” And, if you’re like me, you might hear “ordinary time” as “boring time.” But that’s not the case! The word “ordinary” most likely means “numbered” here (think *ordinal* numbers), because the Sundays of Ordinary Time are numbered.

#### What do we do during Ordinary Time?

The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green. During the Season after Pentecost, we focus on the life of the Church as it grows in the midst of the world.

Here’s how Robert Webber introduces Ordinary Time in *The Services of the Christian Year* (vol. 5 of *The Complete Library of Christian Worship*):

During this season, many worship traditions follow lectionaries that highlight the work of the Spirit in the mission of the church in the world. Other churches organize their worship life around a lectio continua, continuous readings from a given section of Scripture. Some worship traditions have also called this season “kingdomtide,” focusing on the kingdom of God that is present now and the one that will be realized in more profound ways in the future (457).

As Webber notes, one of the reasons why Ordinary Time is different from other liturgical seasons is that the various Sundays are not connected by a particular theme. In Advent we await the coming of



Christ; during Christmas, we celebrate his arrival; and at Epiphany, we proclaim that Christ is manifested to the world as Savior. During Lent, we prepare for the death; in Holy Week, we reenact his death; then in Easter, we celebrate his resurrection and complete the Easter cycle with the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit. But in the nonfestive season of the church year, there is no unified theme that ties the Sundays together (457).

The Season after Pentecost is for the Church to live out her vocation in the midst of the world, recalling that every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I like the way that the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops puts it:

Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

“Ordinary” Time might well refer to living out our “ordinary” lives as Christians. But, since we follow the risen Lord of the Universe, there’s nothing “ordinary” about it!



**From your Leadership Team:**

Phase 3 of Saskatchewan’s COVID plan is in force. There is no longer a restriction in any regard to churches in the Province of Saskatchewan. Even so, it is our intention to move forward with careful attention to the needs of those around us.

**We will continue to:**

- ensure hand sanitizer is available
- ensure additional cleaning of the church
- ensure people who are ill are advised to stay home
- ensure services are available on YouTube for people to continue remote attendance

**The following are changes to our protocols that will take place immediately:**

- ◆ Pre-registration for Sunday Worship is no longer necessary
- ◆ We will not be limiting attendance on Sunday mornings
- ◆ Mask wearing is optional

As we begin to make the transition towards life without restrictions, please be aware of and consider the comfort levels of those around you. We are emerging from a very emotional 16-month journey, and everyone will need their own space to make the necessary adjustments. Be patient and thoughtful of others as we move forward in faith and in hope.

For those that are needing some more time before finding your place in the pew, we will be livestreaming our service via YouTube. Just click the following link, and you will be connected.

[Redeemer Lutheran Saskatoon - YouTube](#)

**This link is also available on the homepage of our website [redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca) at any time.**

You can also go to this same link at any time afterwards to view the service if you are unable to join at 10am. We encourage you to hit ‘subscribe’ on our YouTube page, so that all future worship services will be highlighted for you. If you have any questions or need assistance in connecting to our YouTube site, just give us a call and we will be glad to help you out.

There will be a Memorial Service for Butch Williams on Saturday, August 14, 11:00 am here at Redeemer. All are welcome to at-



## a blessing for when you're forced to rethink your life

God, this is a time of major rethinking of all that my life means.

Help me, guide me.

This is what the LORD says: Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.  
Jer. 6:16 NIV

blessed are you who take the risk  
of standing still right at the point of change,  
though uncertainty and stress want to propel you forward.

blessed are you, standing there at this new crossroads,  
giving yourself permission  
to stay suspended awhile in the questions:  
maybe this isn't...  
maybe i don't want....  
maybe i need....

suspended in the reimagining,  
discerning until you find  
that the thought-threads of 'what-if'  
lead you to a settled 'if-then.'  
and you know it's yours.

blessed are you, gathering what you need  
to move forward in this new awareness,  
this new peace.

with deep truth comes a deep and settled calm.  
you'll know it when you see it.



Kate Bowler

### **Volunteer Opportunity: Regional Psychiatric Centre, Saskatoon**

The Regional Psychiatric Centre has recently re-opened to volunteers. RPC is a multi level psychiatric hospital with patients covering minimum to maximum security. **I am looking specifically for female volunteers to visit with the female patients.** At present our numbers are small. I normally work at RPC on Fridays so that would be the day I could supervise volunteers. We have another site based chaplain who is here the rest of the week.

Volunteers would have to submit a screening form. When a volunteer is at RPC they would be supervised by one of the chaplains. Chaplains would not interfere, but would be there as a backup in case of trouble.

Prison ministry is an exciting opportunity to meet the spiritual needs of those whom society might otherwise marginalize. If you are interested, please contact me using the contact information below.

Michael Diegel +

**Chaplain Michael Diegel + B.A., B.Ed, M.Div.**

**Site Based Chaplain - Women**

**Regional Psychiatric Centre- Saskatoon**

Bridges of Canada

(o) 306-975-5400 Ext: 5446

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## Olympic Dreams & More



The 2020 Olympics started on 2021 JULY 23 with the opening ceremonies in Tokyo, Japan! Yes, you read the sentence correctly, the 2020 Olympics are happening in 2021! Some Canadian athletes have dreams and expectations of winning Olympic Medals. As fans, we wish our athletes a safe trip and all achieving personal bests in whatever they do.

With 24 hours in a day and in a perfect world where we get 8-hours of sleep a night some say we sleep and/or dream away 1/3 of our lives on earth. Sleep with its sometimes accompanied period of dreams, are natural to a healthy life. Our minds continue to work while we sleep; those dreams allow people to work through questions and come up with solutions.

The Book of Daniel in the Bible offers multiple examples of dreams and efforts of interpretation. Many will remember the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den. Daniel experienced dreams and could interpret the dreams of others. When the King became unhappy with Daniel it was off to the Lions' Den as punishment. God protected Daniel just as God protects his people today.

As Canadians work our way out of the pandemic's many versions of lockdowns, we dream of days gone by; even if it was just what we took for granted before the pandemic. In Saskatchewan our health officers have shepherded us through troubled waters. Redeemer's Leadership Team and Staff have done their best to keep our doors open and the ministry ongoing. If you are dreaming for what we had in days gone by the time has come to make those dreams a reality.

Redeemer Lutheran Church has re-started our regular Sunday Services; there is room for you in the pew! We are a community of believers who benefit from regular gatherings. It has been a while since we have seen everyone's mask-less face. If you dreamt that we will not recognize you do not fear. We have the pictures on the wall in the Place of Welcome as a starting point to help us identify you.

Speaking of the pictures on the wall we will be updating some of those pictures starting in September or so. The process will be painless. Before or after Sunday Services you and/or your family will have the opportunity to pose for a cell phone picture. Look for more details as the summer unfolds.

Your family at Redeemer Lutheran thanks you for your ongoing prayers. It is time to safely come out of our isolation status. Connect with your friends and family. Remember, **Life is not Perfect but it can be Awesome; Go Canada.**

God Bless – Stewardship Committee



## Treasurer's Message

For the month of June 2021, we had a surplus of \$2,587.87 before the fund account revenues and expenses. For the year to date, we have a surplus of \$3,841.50. The revenues for the month included just over \$16,000 of government subsidies and the expenses included insurance of almost \$13,000. The envelope giving for June 2021 was slightly higher than the envelope giving for June 2020 and, for the year to date in 2021, it is just slightly higher than it had been to the end of June last year.

The revenue for the house is approximately \$150 more than the expenses for the year to date. The included financial statement shows the income and expense comparisons to the budgeted line items.

Now that in-person church services have resumed, an offering plate will be located at the top of the stairs in the sanctuary for you to drop off your envelope donation as you enter or exit. In addition, the following options are still available for you to make a donation:

### 1. Mail a cheque to the church

You can mail a cheque directly to the church office. Mailing address: 812 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 2V2.

### 2. Drop a cheque off at the church

You can drop off a cheque in the mailbox at the front of the church. It is right next to the door going into the entrance near the kitchen (between the fellowship hall and the fireside lounge).

### 3. Interac E-Transfer using online banking

We are now set up for automatic deposit. If you use online banking, you August make a payment to Redeemer Lutheran Church by:

- i. Logging into your personal banking account, add Redeemer Lutheran Church as a recipient using the email address [redemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net](mailto:redemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net)
- ii. Enter the desired amount and click send. Instructions on how to send and receive an e-transfer are found on Interac's website: <https://www.interac.ca/en/consumers/products/interac-e-transfer/>
- iii. You will need to follow up with an email to Becky at [redemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net](mailto:redemer.luth.stoon@sasktel.net) advising her of your donation.

### 4. Secure Online Credit Card option through the ELCIC National Office for one-time credit card contribution

To use this option at <https://secure.elcic.ca/>

- i. Select the ELCIC General Fund; and
- ii. In the "Personal Message", include our congregation's name (Redeemer Lutheran Church) and our address (812 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 2V2). The ELCIC National Office will assume all processing costs and pass on 100% of the money received for Redeemer Lutheran Church. **The ELCIC National Office will issue a charitable donation tax receipt to you.**

Ron Litzenberger  
Treasurer

Stephen Ministry just reached a significant milestone:

**1,000 Stephen Leaders equipped  
for ministry through the online  
Bridge Leader's Training Course**

Since the Bridge Leader's Training Course (BLTC) was launched last summer, it has led dozens of training cohorts through the course, and the response has been tremendous. Hundreds of congregations have used the training to begin or strengthen their Stephen Ministry, and participants have been welcomed from 48 states and 6 other countries, including Australia, China, and Switzerland.

Here's what BLTC participants have said about their training:



**BRIDGE LEADER'S TRAINING COURSE**

"Bridge Training was a wonderful experience—professional, engaging, and enjoyable. Now that we're trained as Stephen Leaders, our team is bubbling over with excitement to get Stephen Ministry started in our parish!"

**Sharon Coram  
Saint Francis Parish  
Dracut, Massachusetts**

"The time went by so fast! The variety of teaching techniques and small group discussion times, with both our own team and leaders from other churches, kept things interesting and helped me take in everything I needed to know. Thank you for providing Bridge Training."

**Pastor Len Peake  
Bethel Bible Church  
Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada**

To learn more about the Bridge Leader's Training Course and watch a video with more people sharing about their experiences, visit [stephenministries.org/bridge](http://stephenministries.org/bridge).

To register people for an upcoming BLTC or for further information, call us at (314) 428-2600. We still have space in the training cohorts that start in August and September, but they're filling up fast.

May God continue to bless your caring ministry.

In Christ,  
Rev. Justin Schlueter  
Pastoral Staff

**P.S.** Many Stephen Leaders who attended the in-person LTC have used the BLTC to refresh and deepen their training. You can read their thoughts about the training [here](#).

This is an ideal way to get interested potential Stephen Leaders from the congregation and our clergy trained during these challenging times of travel. Let's take advantage of this method!

Many Blessings,  
Fran Seidler  
Stephen Leader  
306-280-0549

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A Community of  
Life & Love,  
Hope & Healing



We're on the web!  
[redeemersaskatoon.ca](http://redeemersaskatoon.ca)