

# REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINISTRY STRATEGY DOCUMENT

## WORSHIP

### TRIUNE WORSHIP WILL FUEL AND FORM THE ENTIRE LIFE OF THE BODY

- **Calling:** Worship is the ultimate calling of the church—where God’s grace transforms all we are and do.
- **Power:** Worship must explicitly empower and embody our mission and vision.

### WORSHIP WILL EXPECT THE SPIRIT’S PRESENCE AND REFLECT GOD’S WORD

- **God:** The object of (and power for) worship is the Trinity - not tradition, experience, or even worship itself.
- **Word:** As the whole counsel of God, we preach the Bible as faithfully as we can.
- **Gospel:** Our testimony remains the life, death, resurrection, and return of Jesus.
- **Redemption:** Our goal is to declare the mighty acts of God to Him, each other, and the world as we prepare for redemptive living in words and deeds marked by service, justice, and love.
- **Sabbath:** We will set the day apart with worship, fellowship, and rest.
- **Sacrament:** With robust confidence and joy, we serve the Supper and apply Baptism to His people.

### WORSHIP WILL CALL US TO FULL PARTICIPATION

- **The Whole Person:** In Spirit and Truth—with our hearts, intellects, creativity, and bodies.
- **The Life of the Body:** Reflecting the needs, celebrations, and calling of our congregational life.
- **The Whole Church:** Together, in all of our diversity, with charity for one another.
- **The Universal Church:** Celebrating the Church that exists throughout the city, the world, and the ages.

### WORSHIP WILL REFLECT CHRIST’S BEAUTY AND COMMUNICATE CLEARLY TO OUR CULTURE

- **Clarity and Mystery:** Intelligible and inviting; but exploring the mystery of faith and life of prayer.
- **Place:** As possible, the space we inhabit will reflect the full-orbed vision of our worship.
- **Music:** Explore creativity as it aids congregational participation and trains the next generation of leaders.
- **Liturgy:** Plan a vibrant, deliberate, beautiful, and accessible order of worship.
- **Style:** We will reflect the people we are and those we want to serve and reach.
- **Leadership:** Called, equipped, and passionate in guiding us toward the Triune God.

# FOLLOW

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST BY BEING TRANSFORMED BY HIS GRACE**

- **Creation:** Walking in the dignity and value of the image we bear.
- **Fall:** Owning the rebellion and corruption of our sin.
- **Redemption:** Trusting our identity as beloved children.
- **Consecration:** Experiencing his power to walk in renewed faith and obedience.

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST BY FULLY AND REGULARLY PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP**

- **Liturgy:** Expecting the Spirit to speak by the Word and transform us in every element of worship.
- **Baptism:** Adults and children are marked as God's own people—remembering our identity and growing in grace.
- **Communion:** Weekly, and by faith, we will partake of the real spiritual presence of Jesus.

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST BY ABSORBING HIS WORD**

- **Formation:** Participating in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and return—being renewed after His image.
- **Equipping Hour:** Opportunity to nourish faith through a core curriculum and meaningful electives.
- **Learning Communities:** Topical opportunities to meet the interests or needs of the congregation.

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST IN HIS MANNER AND TEACHING**

- **Prayer:** Corporately and privately.
- **Conformity:** We pattern ourselves after the life and teaching of Jesus, obeying all He commands.
- **Sacrifice:** As servants: suffering for, submitting to, and giving generously to each other.
- **Unity and Peacemaking:** We will seek, as far as it depends on us, to live in peace with all.

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST BY OFFERING OURSELVES FULLY TO HIS LORDSHIP**

- **As Whole People:** We long to love God and neighbor with our wills, bodies, hearts, and minds.
- **In All Things:** We desire faithfulness in all walks of life: family, neighborhood, and vocation.
- **Stewardship:** We will oversee God's resources with a wise and generous hand.
- **Sabbath:** We keep times of Sabbath rest in the flow of our individual and corporate lives.

## **WE WILL FOLLOW CHRIST BY GROWING AS A WHOLE BODY**

- **Together:** With everyone, our calling to discipleship is an act of, and with, community.
- **Children and Youth:** We vow to assist parents in the nurture and training in the Lord.
- **Diversity:** We learn from, give opportunities for, and share the gifts of each person in our church.

# CONNECT

## WE FORM HABITS THAT FOSTER FELLOWSHIP IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

- **Worship:** Fully and frequently we participate in corporate worship, and rest on the Lord's Day.
- **Prayer:** We will pray, corporately and individually, for Redeemer's needs and mission.
- **Celebration and Lamentation:** In valleys and mountaintops, we throw parties, sit at bedsides, and visit jails.
- **Confession and Confrontation:** We repent of sin before one another and help others do the same.
- **Time:** We intentionally invest in quality and quantity time together—both in labor and rest.

## WE GATHER IN VARIOUS SETTINGS OUTSIDE OF WORSHIP

- **Hospitality:** We will spend time in other's homes and invite people into our own.
- **Small Groups:** We will meet regularly in smaller groups for companionship and discipleship.
- **Particular Ministries:** We connect in gender, age-stage, and geographic groups to bless each other.

## WE PURSUE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS FOR THE GOOD OF THE PERSON AND COMMUNITY

- **Authenticity:** We cultivate close, supportive, relationships with trusted friends who lead us to Christ.
- **Welcome:** We welcome neighbors and visitors in the name and manner of Jesus.
- **Transparency:** We connect with people amid our failures.
- **Hospitality:** We give ourselves to building relationships with those we'd not naturally gravitate.
- **Following:** We look to our officers for guidance and pray for them as we work out our life together.

## WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER IN CRISES

- **Tragedy and Trial:** We share our own burdens and bear each other up in our darkest seasons.
- **Diaconal Mandate:** We intend that no member of Redeemer live without food, clothing, or shelter.
- **Discipline:** We honor our officers as they exercise loving church discipline—both for others and ourselves.

## WE ATTEND TO OUR COMMON LIFE

- **Shepherd Teams:** We equip and encourage shepherds to love in different issues and circumstances.
- **Rites of Passage:** We communicate and celebrate our shared lives—from cradle to grave.
- **Pastoral Care:** We care for our people—guiding toward resources and supplementing financially as needed.

# ENGAGE

## **WE ENGAGE THE WORLD IN LOVE FROM A POSTURE OF CHARITY, SERVICE, AND GENEROSITY**

- We will be servants of all people - especially the marginalized and oppressed.
- We will sacrifice for the good of other in all our resources - especially in our finances.

## **WE ENGAGE THE WORLD WITH CLARITY ABOUT THE GOSPEL**

- Our love will manifest in proclamation of the life, death, resurrection, and second coming of Jesus Christ.
- Our service will be born from understanding Jesus as Lord and His Kingdom as our workshop and playground.
- Our teaching calls the entire congregation, not particular groups, to live in light of the lordship of Jesus.

## **WE ENGAGE THE WORLD BY MULTIPLYING CONGREGATIONS**

- We prepare for the next church plant by preparing for its costs and readying the senders and sent.
- We partner with our presbytery, local churches, and our global partners in the planting of churches.

## **WE ENGAGE THE WORLD WITH THE WELCOME OF GOD**

- We train our congregation and especially our welcome team to proactively demonstrate hospitality.
- We will assimilate newcomers into the life of the church.

## **WE ENGAGE OUR WORLD AS ONES IN THE WORLD—WORKING TOWARD HUMAN THRIVING**

- We help build and challenge our cultural institutions—as lovers of neighbor and seekers of justice.
- We see our vocations as a calling from God and gift to our neighbors.
- We nurture the good, true, and beautiful in the arts, education, creation stewardship, and community.

## **WE WILL ENGAGE THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM IN SERVICE**

- We seek the prosperity and celebration of our city, esp. in arts, business, medicine, and the academy.
- We partner with people and organizations to benefit our city – esp. the marginalized and defenseless.
- Bringing tangible gifts such as art, music, and community to the city of WS.
- Participating in and working toward our unity with other churches and Redeemer School.

## **WE WILL ENGAGE THE WORLD GLOBALLY**

- We will regularly support and send cross-cultural workers—both long and short term.
- We foster meaningful connections between our cross-cultural workers and church.