



Christ
Presbyterian
Church

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Welcome

Whether you're a regular part of our church family or are attending a service for the first time, we're glad that you're with us today.

We kindly ask that you silence your mobile devices as we prepare for worship.

Reflection

I remember vividly the meeting with the editors of *Prada*, formerly the official mouthpiece of the Soviet Union's Communist party "We don't know how to motivate people to show compassion," said the editor-in-chief. "We tried raising money for the children of Chernobyl, but the average Russian citizen would rather spend his money on drink. How do you reform and motivate people? How do you get them to be good?"

Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995) p. 75

Call to Worship – Psalm 102, 103

Leader: In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

All: They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.

Leader: We praise you Lord, who crowns us with love and compassion, who satisfies our desires with good things!

All: From everlasting to everlasting your love is with those who fear you, O Lord, and your righteousness with their children's children.

Prayer of Adoration (Concluded by the Lord's Prayer)

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Ancient Of Days

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall. There is still one King reigning over all.
So I will not fear, For this truth remains: that my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus

None above Him, none before Him, all of time in His hands;
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory; I will trust in His name;
For my God is the Ancient of days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul, He is here with me; I am not alone.
O, His love is sure, and He knows my name; for my God is the Ancient of Days.
(*Chorus*)

Though I may not see what the future brings, I will watch and wait for the Saviour king.
Then, my joy complete, standing face to face; In the presence of the Ancient of Days.
(*Chorus*)

Music and Lyrics: Jesse Reeves | Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson
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O The Deep, Deep Love Of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean, in its fullness over me!
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love
Leading onward, leading homeward, to Thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread His praise from shore to shore!
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;
How for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best!
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'Tis a haven sweet of rest!
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'Tis a heaven of heavens to me;
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee!

Text: Samuel Trevor Francis, ca. 1890, Music: Thomas John Williams, 1890

Confessional Reading – Joel 2:12-13

“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. (NIV)

Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty God, we draw near to you seeking relief from sin’s guilt.

All: Father, you are full of compassion, but in our pride, we are reluctant to extend compassion to others. You have shown us mercy, yet we have failed to be merciful. You are slow to anger, but we are quick to pass judgment. You abound in steadfast love, yet we fail to comprehend its depth and scope.

Leader: Lord Jesus, thank you for having compassion on us.

All: Forgive us for our selfishness, unbelief, and inconsistent living. By your Spirit, empower us to reflect Christ’s character in our lives and to be agents of your compassion, mercy, and love to the world. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement — Psalm 103:11-13

Leader: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

All: As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, 'til life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide; receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head in the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want, more than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart; for all eternity.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740, Music: Greg Thompson, © 2000 Greg Thompson Music.

Congregational Prayer – Jenni Lee

Scripture Reading – Luke 7:11-17

¹¹ Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴ Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵ And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" ¹⁷ And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Children's Recessional

3rd – 5th Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Machiela, Room 135

1st – 2nd Grade: Mrs. Ranaivoarison and Mrs. Klotz, Room 139

PreK- Kindergarten: Mr. and Mrs. Lee, Room 178

Sermon – Jesus' compassion towards individual distress

Outline:

1. Jesus' compassion towards individual distress
2. The call to compassion
3. The source of it

Figure A.

"The emotion which we should naturally expect to find most frequently attributed to that Jesus whose whole life was a mission of mercy, and whose ministry was so marked by deeds of beneficence that it was summed up in the memory of his followers as a going through the land "doing good" (Acts xi. 38), is no doubt "compassion." In point of fact, this is the emotion which is most frequently attributed to him."

B. B. Warfield, "The Emotional Life of our Lord" excerpt from *The Person and Work of Christ* (1912), pp. 93-145.

Figure B.

Numbers 19:11 Whoever touches the dead body of any person shall be unclean seven days.

Figure C.

1 Kings 17:21-23 ²¹ Then Elijah stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again." ²² And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³ And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and gave him to his mother.

Figure D.

It is in our most unguarded moments that we really show and see what we are.

Andrew Murray (1827 - 1917), *Humility: The Beauty of Holiness* (Vancouver, BC: Eremitical Press, 2009) p. 47

Figure E.

Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Figure F.

I have often found it easier to have compassion on the multitude than on the individual, especially a rather tiresome individual.

Amy Carmichael (1867-1951), *The Edges of His Ways*, (Fort Washington, PA: CLC Publications, 1995) p 25

Figure G.

The fruits of my initial encounters were few. The young women listened but never left prostitution. No one changed. The breakthrough came when one person began to change: I changed. As I worked with the women, I gathered more information about the system of which they were a part. I learned that many of them had entered prostitution because it was often the only work they could find in an Asian, male-dominated, culture.

...

I discovered that a person is not only a sinner. He or she is also sinned against. My cultural background in white, North American churches had oriented me almost exclusively to seeing a person as the subject of sin. But not the object of sin. Seeking the various factors that kept women in prostitution opened my eyes to that new dimension.

Harvie M. Conn, *Evangelism: Doing Justice and Preaching Grace* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1982) p. 45

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Christ Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to receive the Holy Communion with us. Baptized children are welcome to receive Communion after they profess faith and are received as communicant members. If you are not able to receive Communion, please speak with Pastor Matt after the service to learn how to receive Jesus Christ.

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul!

Chorus:

What wondrous love is this!
What wondrous love is this!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!
(*Chorus*)

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me;
And through eternity, I'll sing on,
And through eternity, I'll sing on!
(*Chorus*)

American folk hymn, ca. 1835, Public Domain

Benediction

As God in Christ has shown you compassion, may the Spirit strengthen you to show compassion towards others.

Announcements

Deeds of Compassion

We would like to give children an opportunity to participate in deeds of compassion. On Saturday, October 30 at 8:45am we'll meet at Homestead Farm in Poolesville. We'll pick and package apples which will be distributed at the Silver Spring Food Pantry. The food pantry is serving over 600 households a week. So, the more apples we can provide the better. Please invite friends. Please see the 'Pick a Peck' flyer.

On Monday, November 1, the Youth Group will be serving at the Silver Spring Food Pantry from 6:30 to 9:00pm. We will prepare 600 bags of non-perishables which will be distributed to families in need the following day. Parents are welcome to attend with their students.

Please Mark Your Calendars

Special Missions Emphasis Sunday, November 7

The Global and Community Outreach Committee (GCOM) is organizing a special worship service for Sunday, November 7. Several of the missionaries you support such as Cyril Chavis, Andrew and Megan Narin, and the Hansen household will be present.

Special Missions Prayer Night, Thursday, November 11, 8pm

There will be special online prayer gathering to pray for our missionaries.

Contact Us

Website: www.christ-pca.org

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2U2SRcwGNafd3ffrPEjnUF?si=UdZ5UhX2Qf66SDCwWyah5g>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChristPresPCA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/christprespca/>

Online Giving: <http://www.christ-pca.org/online-giving/>

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