



Christ
Presbyterian
Church

July 31, 2022

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for this Lord's Day service of worship. If you're visiting us for the first time, thank you for taking the risk to come to a new place and meet new people. If you have elementary age children, they will be invited to instructional time tailored to their ages prior to the sermon. At the conclusion of the service, please join us for a time of refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.

Reflection

The sage of Nazareth may satisfy those who have never faced the problem of evil in their own lives; but to talk about an ideal to those who are under the thralldom of sin is a cruel mockery. Yet if Jesus was merely a man like the rest of men, then an ideal is all that we have in Him. Far more is needed by a sinful world. It is small comfort to be told that there was goodness in the world, when what we need is goodness triumphant over sin. But goodness triumphant over sin involves an entrance of the creative power of God, and that creative power of God is manifested by the miracles. Without the miracles, the New Testament might be easier to believe. But the thing that would be believed would be entirely different from that which presents itself to us now. Without the miracles we should have a teacher; with the miracles we have a Savior.

J. Gresham Machen, *Christianity and Liberalism*

Call to Worship – Isaiah 35:3-6

Leader: Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

All: Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not!"

Leader: Behold, your God will come with vengeance.

All: With the recompense of God, he will come and save you."

Leader: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

All: Then shall the lame man leap like a deer and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

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.

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness
And I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus' name

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

*Christ alone, cornerstone, weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all*

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the 'whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay
He then is all my hope and stay (*Chorus*)

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless, stand before the throne (*Chorus*)

Desert Song

This is my prayer in the desert, when all that's within me feels dry
This is my prayer in my hunger and need, my God is the God who provides

And this is my prayer in the fire, in weakness or trial or pain
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold, so refine me Lord through the flame

Chorus

*I will bring praise, I will bring praise, no weapon formed against me shall remain
I will rejoice, I will declare, God is my victory and He is here*

This is my prayer in the battle, when triumph is still on its way
I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ, so firm on His promise I'll stand (*Chorus*)

Bridge

All of my life, in every season, you are still God
I have a reason to sing, I have a reason to worship

Scripture Reading – 2 Samuel 12:1-9

¹ And the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds, ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.” ⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, ⁶ and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

⁷ Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. ⁸ And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. ⁹ Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight?’”

Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty King, too often we come to you only with requests and ways that we want you to help us.

All: We fail to confess that we are sinners in need of your abundant grace and that this is our greatest problem.

Leader: Help us to first confess that we are the chief of all sinners, and that before we need your gifts in this life, we need your salvation.

All: Father, thank you for your goodness. Thank you for providing us Jesus as our Savior. Thank you that along with him, you graciously give us all things. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement – 2 Samuel 12:13

David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.”

Ten Thousand Reasons

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes. *(Chorus)*

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger. Your name is great, and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

(Chorus)

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come; Still my soul will sing Your praise unending, ten thousand years, and then forevermore.

(Chorus)

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading – Mark 2:1-12

¹ And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"— he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Children's Recessional

- 3rd – 5th Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Yoon, Ms. Fraser, Room 135
- 1st – 2nd Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Silva, Room 139
- Preschool – K: Mr. and Mrs. Ruffa, Room 178

Sermon – Jesus heals the paralytic

Outline:

1. Jesus' wisdom and love displayed to the paralytic
2. Jesus' glory and goodness shown to the scribes

Figure A.

Q. How should a man handle success?

A. Be prepared to be disappointed I've been to the top of the hill, and there's nothing up there. Do you know what the average life expectancy for a guy in a rock band is? 48. People think if they're successful and they sell a bunch of records they're going to be happy. But of course, they're not happy, they're not going to fill that void, so they have the luxury and people allow them to do drugs and alcohol freely and they provide it with them. And they die.

John Mellencamp, Interview in Men's Journal, March, 2014

Figure B.

It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that though I should be blind all my life, there is only one darkness that can ruin my life, and that's the spiritual darkness. Nothing else can touch me.

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

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.

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King, would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in; oh, His love for me; oh, His love for me!

Chorus 1

Who the Son sets free, oh, is free indeed; I'm a child of God, yes, I am.

Free at last, he has ransomed me; His grace runs deep.
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me; yes, He died for me!

Chorus 2

*Who the Son sets free, oh, is free indeed; I'm a child of God, yes, I am.
In my Father's house, there's a place for me; I'm a child of God, yes, I am.*

Bridge

I am chosen, not forsaken; I am who You say I am.
You are for me, not against me; I am who You say I am.
I am who You say I am. (*Chorus 2*)

Benediction – Ephesians 3:18

May you comprehend the breadth, length, height and depth of the love of God in Christ,
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Announcements

Afghan Refugee Ministry

CPC is partnering with neighboring congregations to help settle a refugee family consisting in a dad, mom, and two girls, ages 6 and 9. If you would like to donate, here are some opportunities:

- The girls came with no clothing. They wear girls' size 7 and 10/12. Long sleeves and pants are most appreciated.
- The entire family could use socks.

Women's Fellowship Night

The women of the Gaithersburg Community Group are gathering at 5:00pm at the Hillah residence in Clarksburg. Please speak with Odile Hillah or Alicia Klotz if you have questions.

Church Membership

If you are interested in learning more about what it means to be a communicant member of CPC, then please let Pastor Matt know. In the past, Pastor Matt has led group seminars or met with individual households.

Communicant's Class

For teen who are ready to profess faith in Christ, join the church, and partake of communion with the adults, there will be a 17-week Communicant's Class starting in September. This class will take place on Sunday mornings from 11:30 to 12:15; it will be taught by elders Matt Pickens and Danny Hurtado. They will use the booklet *Understanding the Faith* by Stephen Smallman.

Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet next on Sunday, August 21.

Welcome Lunch

Pastor Matt and Katy host lunches on Sunday afternoons for newcomers. Their home is within walking distance to Gibbs. If you would like to come, please chat with Matt or Katy after the service.

Upcoming Events

- The next women's luncheons will be Sept. 11 and Dec. 11.
- The 2023 planning retreat will be November 11-12 at Skycroft Retreat Center.