



November 20, 2022

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for this service of worship. 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

We don't come this morning to a set of propositions but to a Person. We don't come to remind ourselves of ancient truths but to the One who is the Truth. As we see more of Jesus by faith, as He moves deeper into our lives, we can't help but be transformed, renewed, and beautified.

No one who has truly encountered Jesus has ever remained unchanged. Thus, we come to worship with expectation. This is our prayer, "Holy Spirit, please open the eyes of our hearts to behold the beauty and majesty of Jesus Christ." This is a prayer that the Spirit delights to answer.

Call to Worship – Colossians 1:6

The word of truth, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world – just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.

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.

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him, Alleluia!

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on Him cast your care,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Text: Francis of Assisi, ca 1225, Translated: William H. Draper, 1926
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623, Copyright: public domain.*

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry in the dawning of the King;
He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity.
In our longing in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry: He the perfect Son of Man;
In His living in His suff'ring, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man;
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry: Christ the Lord upon the tree;
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father's plan unfold;
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry: slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope;
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

*Music and Lyrics: Matt Boswell, Matt Papa and Michael Bleecker
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Scripture Reading – James 2:14-17

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?
Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily
food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without
giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself,
if it does not have works, is dead.

Confession of Sin

Minister: Lord God, we have given more weight to our successes and our happiness than to your will.

All: We have eaten without a thought for the hungry. We have spoken without an effort to understand others. We have kept silent instead of telling the truth. We have judged others, forgetful that you alone are the Judge.

Minister: We have acted in accordance with our desires rather than according to your commands.

All: Within the church we have been slow to practice love of our neighbors. And in the world we have not been your faithful servants. Father, forgive us and help us to live as followers of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement – 1 Peter 2:24-25

²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

All I Have Is Christ

I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way;
The sin that promised joy and life, had led me to the grave.
I had no hope that You would own, a rebel to Your will;
And if You had not loved me first, I would refuse You still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost,
You looked upon my helpless state, and led me to the cross;
And I beheld God's love displayed: You suffered in my place;
You bore the wrath reserved for me; now all I know is grace.

Chorus

Hallelujah, all I have is Christ; Hallelujah, Jesus is my life!

Now Lord, I would be Yours alone, and live so all might see:
The strength to follow Your commands, could never come from me.
O Father, use my ransomed life, in any way You choose;
And let my song forever be: my only boast is You. (*Chorus*)

Lyrics and Music: Jordan Kauflin © 2008 Sovereign Grace Praise

Congregational Prayer

Scripture Reading – Mark 4:1-9, 14-20

¹ Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. ² And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ³ “Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. ⁵ Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶ And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸ And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” ⁹ And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

¹⁴ The sower sows the word. ¹⁵ And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. ¹⁶ And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸ And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, ¹⁹ but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²⁰ But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

Children’s Recessional

- Communicant’s Class: Mr. Hurtado and Mr. Pickens, Room 174
- 4th – 5th Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Machiela, Ms. Fraser, Room 135
- 2nd – 3rd Grade: Mr. and Mrs. Newens, Room 139
- Preschool – 1st Grade: Mrs. Ranaivoarison and Mrs. Klotz, Room 178

Sermon – Hearing versus Listening

Outline:

1. Hearing without listening
2. Hearing with listening
3. The True Listener

Figure A.

Matthew 13:37 Jesus answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man."

Figure B.

John 12:23-24 ²³ And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

Figure C.

Galatians 2:11-14 ¹¹ But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹² For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. ¹³ And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴ But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

Figure D.

The Greek verb tense of the first three types of hearing implies a quick, superficial hearing, in one ear and out the other . . . In verse 20, the tense is suddenly changed to the present tense of the verb, signifying a continual, ongoing hearing as opposed to a careless or inattentive hearing.

James R. Edwards, *The Gospel According to Mark*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2002)

Figure E.

1 Peter 1:6-8 ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith--more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire--may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

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

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.

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*)

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*)

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Benediction – based on Colossians 1:5-6

May the word of truth, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, work deeper into your heart this week. As it bears fruit and increases in the whole world, may it also bear fruit in you and through you. Amen.

Announcements

Turkey Drive and Coat Drive

GCOM wants would like to thank all who have taken part in our Turkey Drive yesterday in helping families receive a turkey at Neelsville Middle School.

We are having another opportunity to serve Neelsville MS students and family members by providing winter coats. Today at service we will have note cards for people to take if you would like to donate a new winter jacket. We will be collecting them on Sunday's and would like to have all jackets collected by Sunday, Dec. 4th. Please keep the note cards and put it along with your purchase/donation.

If any questions please feel free to contact Jessy Hurtado, Escojida-5@comcast.net OR 301.325.3758

Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet tonight from 5:00 – 7:30. We'll build gingerbread houses and discuss the Bible theme of freedom.

Save the Date: Christmas Party

On Friday, December 16, Katy and Matt will host a Christmas Party in their home. Childcare will be provided at the Gibbs gym from 6:45 to 8:30. Children, please bring a toy or ball to share. Adults, please bring an appetizer if your last name begins with A-M. Please bring a dessert if your last name begins with N-Z. Teens, please consider serving the younger kids by playing with them at the gym.

Upcoming Events

- Angel Tree ministry to provide Christmas gifts to children with an incarcerated parent, details coming soon . . .
- The upcoming dates for the Gaithersburg/Clarksburg CG are November 20 (Hillah), December 4 (Weaver/Klotz), 18 (Ruffa), and January 8 (Routenberg).
- The upcoming dates for the Rockville/Olney CG are TBD.
- The Germantown CG will meet next on Wednesday, January 28.
- The next women's luncheons will be on December 11.