



Christ
Presbyterian
Church

Saturday, November 28, 2020

5:00pm

Sunday, November 29, 2020

11:00am

Welcome

We're glad you're with us today. Whether you're worshiping with us in person or online, for the first time or are a regular part of our family, we hope that this worship service enables you to see the majesty and beauty of Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship – Psalm 90:1-4

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

*All: Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

Leader: You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"

*All: For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.*

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.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, The King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth;
Shelters thee under His wings, yes, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been,
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, Who doth Prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680, Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863

Music: Anonymous, 1665

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Scripture Reading — James 1:12-15

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we know that you are the one eternal constant and you offer us an eternal crown of life.

All: Yet, we confess that we are fickle. We prefer to follow the fleeting pleasures of sin for a short time than to pursue your eternal joy.

Leader: We like to pretend that temptation and sin exists outside of us.

All: But we know that it is truly our own ever-changing desires that entice us.

Leader: Heavenly Father, please forgive our sin for Jesus' sake.

All: Thank you that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever; and gives to us his unchangingly perfect righteousness. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement — James 1:17-18

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Leader: If your faith is in the Lord Jesus Christ, know that God's promises and good gifts never change so you can be certain you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Text: Unknown, 1878

Music: American Folk Melody

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Children's Recessional

Sermon: Our Unchanging God

Scripture Reading: Psalm 102:25-27

Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
²⁶ They will perish, but you will remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.
You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
²⁷ but you are the same, and your years have no end.

Outline:

1. Why is it important that God is immutable and does not change?
2. What do we understand when the Bible describes God changing his mind or our relationship to him changing?
3. What does God's immutability mean to us today?

Figure A.

If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸ and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. ⁹ And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰ and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. (Jer. 18:7-10)

Figure B.

The word of the LORD came to Samuel: "I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments."
(1 Sam. 15:10-11a)

And Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret."
(1 Sam. 15:28-29)

Figure C.

For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.
(Mal. 3:6)

Figure D.

For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴ saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." ¹⁵ And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. ¹⁶ For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷ So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸ so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.
(Heb. 6:13-18)

Figure E.

For my days pass away like smoke,
and my bones burn like a furnace.
⁴ My heart is struck down like grass and has withered;
I forget to eat my bread.
⁵ Because of my loud groaning
my bones cling to my flesh. (Psm. 102:3-5)

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.

Abide with Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempters' power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry Lyte, 1847, alt Justin Smith

Music: Justin Smith

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Benediction

The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of his heart to all generations. (Psm. 33:11)

Announcements

Social Media Updates

In efforts to maintain an outreach ministry during the pandemic, we have formed a new Facebook page and an Instagram account. Follow us @ChristPresPCA on both FB & IG!

Additionally, a private FB group page has been created for members and regular attenders to connect during social isolation. As this is a closed group, there is opportunity to more openly share photos and comments than on our church's public page. We'll kick it off by using it to encourage one another during the Advent reading ministry. Watch your FB account for an invite to the CPC Family group. Contact Rebekah at rebekah.machiela@gmail.com with any questions.

Financial Update

2020 General Fund Giving as of October 31: \$195,554.49

2020 Expenses as of October 31: \$205,422.15

Deficit: \$9,867.66

Contact Us

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