



Christ
Presbyterian
Church

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, August 28, 2021

5:00pm

Sunday, August 29, 2021

11:00am

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

If you think of this world as a place intended simply for our happiness, you find it quite intolerable: think of it as a place of training and correction and it's not so bad. Imagine a set of people all living in the same building. Half of them think it is a hotel, the other half think it is a prison. Those who think it a hotel might regard it as quite intolerable and those who thought it was a prison might decide that it was really surprisingly comfortable. So that what seems the ugly doctrine is one that comforts and strengthens you in the end. The people who try to hold an optimistic view of this world would become pessimists: the people who hold a pretty stern view of it become optimistic.

C.S. Lewis, *God in the Dock*, p. 41

Call to Worship – Psalm 126

Leader: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

All: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

Leader: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the desert!

All: Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

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.

Who Is Like Our God

Where can I run in times of trouble? Where can I turn when hope seems lost?
I find my strength within Your shelter; You will not fail when the night is long.

Chorus

Who is like our God? Mighty in the battle; Your majesty be lifted high.
Who is like our God? He reaches for the broken; Jesus hears me when I cry.

How can it be that You are for me? Though I am weak, Your love is strong.
You are my Light and my Salvation; in Your name alone, I overcome.

Bridge

Who else could help us? Who else could save?
Who else could overcome the power of the grave?
Who else could heal us; break ev'ry chain?
There is no one no one else; there is no one no one else.

CCLI Song # 7003272, Lyrics and Music: Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Jason Ingram, Laura Story, Matt Maher

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)

Lyrics and Music: Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan © 2017 Hillsong Music Publishing

Confessional Reading – Colossians 3:1-4

¹ Since then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Good and gracious Father, you sent your Son Jesus to be our door, our great shepherd who provides for us, protects us, and gives us passage and entrance into your heavenly kingdom.

All: But we confess that we have sought our own way apart from you. In our pride, we have looked to other things to give us salvation, safety, and abundance. Forgive us for our sinful pursuits and self-reliance. May your Spirit remind us that we have all we need in Christ alone. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement — Isaiah 43:25

Thus says the LORD, “I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”

Hark! the Voice of Love and Mercy

Hark, the voice of love and mercy, sounds aloud from Calvary!
See, it rends the rocks asunder, shakes the earth and veils the sky!
“It is finished, It is finished,” Hear the dying Savior cry. (repeat)

“It is finished,” O what pleasure, do these charming words afford.
Heavenly blessings, without measure, flow to us from Christ the Lord.
“It is finished, it is finished,” Saints the dying words record. (repeat)

Finished all the types and shadows, of the ceremonial law;
Finished all that God had promised; death and hell no more shall awe.
“It is finished, it is finished,” Saints from hence your comfort draw. (repeat)

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs; join to sing the pleasing theme;
Saints on earth and all in heaven, join to praise Immanuel’s name.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the bleeding lamb! (repeat)

Congregational Prayer

Children's Recessional

Sermon – The Enduring City

Scripture Reading – Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NIV)

¹⁵ So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. ¹⁶ When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.

Outline:

1. The walls of the city completed
2. The city which is to come
3. The One crucified outside the city walls

Figure A.

Revelation 21:10-11 ¹⁰ And one of the seven angels carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

Figure B.

Hebrews 11:9 ⁹ By faith Abraham went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Hebrews 13:14 ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

Figure C.

Colossians 3:1 1 Since then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Figure D.

Revelation 21:23-26 ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day- and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

Figure E.

The new heavens and the new earth the Lord has promised will be a continuation, purified by fire, of the creation we now know. There is no reason to believe that the cultural dimensions of earthly reality (except insofar as they are involved in sin) will be absent from the new, glorified earth that is promised. In fact, John writes that “the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it... The glory and the honor of the nations will be brought into it” (Rev. 21:24, 26). This very likely refers to the cultural treasures of mankind which will be purified by passing through the fires of judgment, like gold in a crucible.

Albert M. Wolters, *Creation Regained: Biblical Basics for a Reformational Worldview* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2nd edition, 2005), p. 47.

Figure F.

Matthew 6:19-21 ¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Figure G.

Suppose your home is in America, but you're visiting France for three months, living in a hotel. You're told you can't bring anything back on your flight home. But you can earn money in France and send deposits home.

Would you fill your hotel room with expensive furniture and art? Of course not. You would spend only what you needed on the temporary residence, sending your treasures ahead so they'd be waiting for you when you got home.

Randy Alcorn, *The Treasure Principle*, p. 49

Figure H.

I think the Lord must find it difficult to teach us that here we have *no* continuing city. 'This is *not* your rest'; I often think of that. We know it, but we don't find it easy to live as if it were true. More and more I feel that we *are* what the Bible says we are – strangers and pilgrims. And all the things that happen are meant to emphasize that.

Amy Carmichael, *Candles in the Dark*, (London: Triangle, 1981) p. 60

Figure I.

John 19:16-17 ¹⁶ So Pilate delivered Jesus over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and he went out [of the city], bearing his own cross to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.

Figure J.

Hebrews 13:12-14 ¹² So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

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.

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye,
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.

*Chorus: I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the promised land,
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more. *Chorus*

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest? *Chorus*

Words: Samuel Stennett, 1787, Music Christopher Miner, ©1997 Christopher Miner Music

Benediction – Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— to the only God our Savior be glory both now and forevermore.

Announcements

Public Thanks to the Yoon Family

Today is the final Saturday that the Yoons will teach Covenant Kids. We want to honor them for the time and energy that they invested to prepare the lessons, instruct the kids, and to attend the online worship service. We appreciate them teaching such a wide age range and for persevering through the unknowns of COVID. If your child has benefited from their instruction this summer, then we kindly ask that you express to thanks to David and Jinny.

Gratitude to Shady Grove Presbyterian Church

Today marks our final service at Shady Grove. They've been gracious hosts. Our initial agreement was for only three months, but they've allowed us to meet for a full calendar year. If you would, please sign the thank you letter at the front of the worship service before you leave.

Deacon and Elder Prayer Meeting

The church officers will convene for prayer this Wednesday, September 1 at 7:15pm.

New Sermon Series

Next Sunday, September 5th, we'll start a new sermon series titled: Secure and Significant. When we apprehend our security and worth in Christ, we're able to love those around us in profound ways.

Please Mark Your Calendars

Picnic at Black Hill Park on Saturday, September 25

Please mark your calendars for the churchwide picnic organized and led by our Deacons.

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/>

Deacon Ministry: deacons@christ-pca.org

Pastor Roberts: pastor@christ-pca.org