
prelude

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

preparing our hearts

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

– Psalm 146:5-7a ESV

**** call to worship**

Leader: Long ago, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,

All: **But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.**

Leader: His Son is the heir of all things, and the creator of the world.

All: **He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.**

Leader: He upholds the universe by the word of his power.

All: **After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.**

– Based on Hebrews 1:1-3 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed. *

** Chorus:*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin. *

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *

"How Great Thou Art," Words: Stuart K. Hine; Music: Swedish folk melody, adapted by Stuart K. Hine.
© Stuart K. Hine Trust. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #14181.

** prayer of invocation

Leader: O Great God, you are deserving of all our honor and praise. Your way is perfect and your Word is true; you are a shield for all those who take refuge in you. For who is God but you, Lord? And who is a rock, except our God? Therefore we praise you this morning with hearts remade in the image of your Son, through whom we have become new creations. By your Spirit, hide us in the safe refuge of Jesus' Name – a name more excellent than any other. Amen.

** affirmation of faith

Leader: What do you believe when you say: I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

All: **That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them, and who still upholds and governs them by his eternal counsel and providence, is, for the sake of Christ his Son, my God and my Father. In him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that he will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul, and will also turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this life of sorrow. He is able to do so as almighty God, and willing also as a faithful Father.**

– *Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 26*

A DEBTOR TO MERCY ALONE

A debt - or to mer - cy a - lone, of
The work which your good - ness be - gan, the
My name from the palms of your hands, e -

cov - e - nant mer - cy I sing, I come with your right - eous - ness,
arm of your strength will com - plete. Your prom - ise is yes and a -
ter - ni - ty will not e - rise. Im - pressed on your heart it re -

on, my hum - ble of - f'ring to bring, The
men, and nev - er was for - feit - ed yet, The
mains in marks of in - del - i - ble grace, Yes

judgments of your ho - ly law with me can have noth - ing to
fu - ture or things that are now, no pow - er be - low or a -
I, to the end, will en - dure, un - til I bow down at your

do. My Sav - ior's o - be - dience and blood hide all my trans -
above, can make you your pur - pose fore - go, or sev - er my
throne. For - ev - er and al - ways se - cure, a debt - or to

gres - sions from view.
soul from your love.
mer - cy a - lone.

“A Debtor to Mercy Alone,” Words: A. M. Toplady and Bob Kauflin; Music: Bob Kauflin.

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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

– Hebrews 3:12-13_{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **God of all wisdom and power,
You have given us the Spirit of truth, the hope of salvation,
And the riches of an everlasting inheritance.
Yet, we often do not live as if these things are true,
Trading it for lies, to pursue the world’s fleeting pleasures.
We are inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge,
To ambition and pride,
Which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings
Between ourselves and others.
Too often have we both offended and grieved you.
Forgive our sins and permit us to partake of the blessing
You have promised in the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

– Colossians 1:13-14_{ESV}

All: **Thanks be to God!**

HELP MY UNBELIEF

I know the Lord is nigh, and would but cannot pray,
For Satan meets me when I try, and frights my soul away.
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent, though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent till Jesus makes it soft.
Till Jesus makes it soft.

Chorus:

Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
My help must come from thee.

I would but cannot love, though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move a soul as base as mine.
A soul as base as mine.

I would but cannot rest in God's most holy will;
I know what he appoints is best and murmur at it still.
I murmur at it still.

Chorus (2x):

Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
My help must come from thee.

“Help My Unbelief,” Words: John Newton, Public Domain. Chorus: Clint Wells. Music: Clint Wells.
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Leader: Genesis 15:1-6
This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

Candidates for baptism | Emery Hope Slabach
Jude Ryan Slabach
Beau David Matthew Slabach

Matthew 28:18-20 ^{ESV} | And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Romans 6:4-5 ^{ESV} | We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS OF AN INFANT

1. Do you acknowledge your children’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God’s covenant promises in their behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your children to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God’s appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

QUESTION FOR THE CONGREGATION **

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of these children?

Welcome these new covenant children by singing:

JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Words: Anna Bartlett Warner; Music: William B. Bradbury. Public Domain.

** passing the peace

Leader: Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

An elder will lead the passing of the peace. If you are joining us from your home, please unmute yourself so that you can greet one another. If you are gathered here with us today, greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

Series | “Romans: The Foundation of Our Faith”

Sermon | “Faith Alone”

October 15, 2023

Romans 4:1-11 ^{ESV} | 1 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. 5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, 6 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;
8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

9 Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. 10 How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. 11 He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well[.]

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In response to the Gospel of grace, how shall we then live?

All: **My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.**

– 1 John 2:1-3_{ESV}

WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.

NOTE TO PARENTS: *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”

– Mark 14:22-24_{ESV}

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Lord and heavenly Father, when we celebrate and observe this memorial your Son has commended to us, we remember his suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension; and we await his coming again with power and great glory. God of Mercy, hear our prayer and by your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Holy Name. Amen.

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

**All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.**

Minister: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.

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 tempter's 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.

“Abide with Me,” Words: Henry Lyte; Music: Justin Smith.
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**** offering & song of thanksgiving**

The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of his kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so we give freely in return; not in any way to add to Christ's supremely adequate atonement for us, but in joyful response to this work and in thanksgiving for such unmerited grace.

ALL MUST BE WELL

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well
Free and changeless is his favor, all is well
Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, all must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying
Yes, in living or in dying, all must be well

On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying
Yes, in living or in dying, all must be well

"All Must Be Well," Words: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith, Music: Matthew S. Smith.
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announcements

**** benediction**

**** doxology**

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

for first-time visitors

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out the visitor section in the attendance pad when it circulates.

no sunday school

No Sunday school next week, **October 22**, due to the Building Dedication Celebration. Classes will resume October 29.

DIRECTORY PHOTOS | TODAY

Joy Flores will be here immediately following service to take photos for us. Please make sure to take your family to get a new family and individual photo for the directory!

PRAYER MEETING | TUESDAY

Please join us for the monthly prayer meeting **Tuesday, October 17, 12p** in the conference room. There will be a zoom option as well. **Email the prayer team** (prayer@cpcgeorgetown.org) for prayer requests and the meeting link.

advent ensemble

Come join the Advent ensemble! We need singers and musicians (preferably brass instrumentalists) to form an ensemble for Advent. Rehearsals are Wednesday night, 7p for instrumentalists and 8p for the choir. The first rehearsal will be **October 25**. If you are interested, **please contact Van Henry** (hsbd@aol.com).

kids and youth sunday school

We have started our fall semester with so much joy, enthusiasm, and anticipation about what God is doing in our classrooms! Parents, we need your help: To help our kids and teachers remain focused and optimize our time together, we will have a check-in time window. Teachers and volunteers are ready and excited about welcoming children as early as 9a. This window will end at 930a to allow for minimal distractions and to honor our teachers and students as we gather for Bible study, worship, prayer and fellowship together. Thank you all so much and we look forward to seeing your kids each week!

new nursery worker

If you haven't already, please do introduce yourself to CPC's new nursery worker, Terri Dinh. She recently moved to Georgetown from New Braunfels and is looking forward to serving our families and littlest ones in the nursery!