
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

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

– Psalm 100:4_{ESV}

**** call to worship**

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever[.]**

– Psalm 136:1-3_{ESV}

** Please stand if you are able

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; praise him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth;
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er 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 forever adore him!

Words: Joachim Neander; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN. Public Domain.

**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: We give thanks to you, O God, for gathering your eternal church, for guarding the ministry of your Word, for granting your Holy Spirit, and for giving life everlasting. We thank you, O God, because you give us all good things, because you alleviate and take away the chastisement we justly deserve, because you bestow upon us all the blessings of soul and body. To you be all glory, honor, praise, and thanksgiving, forever and ever. Amen.

– Based on a prayer by Philip Melanchthon, 1559

** affirmation of faith

Leader: Why are you called a Christian?

All: Because I am a member of Christ by faith and thus share in his anointing, so that I may as prophet confess his Name, as priest present myself a living sacrifice of thankfulness to him, and as king fight with a free and good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and hereafter reign with him eternally over all creatures.

– *Heidelberg Catechism*, Q&A 32

** hymn of praise

FATHER, LONG BEFORE CREATION

Father, long before creation, thou hadst chosen us in love.
And that love, so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, yet our God is e'er the same.
His compassion and his covenant through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children, must forever praise his name.

God's compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day.
Mercy, free and never failing, moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us, that his only Son he gave.

Loving Father, now before thee, we will ever praise thy love.
And our songs will sound unceasing 'til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory, to our God and to the Lamb.

Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb!

“Father, Long Before Creation,” Words: Chinese hymn, trans. by Francis Johnson, Public Domain.
Music: Andrew Osenga © 2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #4714349.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

– Isaiah 55:6-7 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All: Merciful Father, thank you for your unceasing kindness to us.
For while we waver and wane, your love for us still abounds;
And your grace to us remains even as we lose sight of Christ
And follow the desires of our sinful hearts.
Forgive us, Lord, for our many sins,
Not for the sake of any good in us, nor because we offer any promises to change,
But that we may abandon our lives to your saving work,
And your sanctifying Spirit of grace.
Let us trust no other Name but Jesus,
And let it become sweeter and more beautiful,
Greater and weightier than any other name.
For the sake of Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, forevermore, Amen.**

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

All: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

– 1 Timothy 1:16-17 ESV

HIS MERCY IS MORE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

** Chorus:*

Praise the Lord, his mercy is more,
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

What riches of kindness he lavished on us?
His blood was the payment; his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

“His Mercy is More,” Words & Music: Matt Boswell & Matt Papa.
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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.**

reception of new members

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Mark & Sylvia Lenters

David Lee & Sarah Hulsey with Lily and Luke

VOWS FOR COMMUNING MEMBERS

All those who are joining the church as communing members for the first time, whether through baptism, profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership, must affirm the following vows:

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and the discipline of the church and promise to study its purity and peace?

children's sermon

The Storm That Stopped by Alison Mitchell — read by Ryan Slabach

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.

We normally offer an age appropriate class during the sermon for ages 3-5. However, this week children will be staying in the worship service.

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.

sermon

Sermon | “In Everything, Give Thanks ”

WHIT ANDERSON

November 26, 2023

1 Thessalonians 5:18_{ESV} | 18 [G]ive thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In light of the Word we have heard, how ought we live?

All: As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

– Matthew 13:23_{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.

WITH GRATEFUL HEART MY THANKS I BRING (PSALM 138)

With grateful heart my thanks I bring, before the great your praise I sing;
I worship in your holy place and praise you for your truth and grace;
For truth and grace together shine in your most holy word divine,
In your most holy word divine.

I cried to you, and you did save; your word of grace new courage gave;
The kings of earth shall thank you, Lord, for they have heard your wondrous word;
Yea, they shall come with songs of praise, for great and glorious are your ways,
For great and glorious are your ways.

O Lord, enthroned in glory bright, you reign above in heavenly height;
The proud in vain your favor seek but you have mercy for the meek;
Through trouble though my pathway be, you will revive and strengthen me,
You will revive and strengthen me.

You will stretch forth your mighty arm to save me when my foes alarm;
The work you have for me begun shall by your grace be fully done;
Your mercy shall forever be; O Lord, my Maker, think on me,
O Lord, my Maker, think on me.

Words: Psalm 138, paraphrase. Music: SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury. Public Domain.

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.

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR

“Man of Sorrows” – what a name for the Son of God, who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim, Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood;
Sealed my pardon with his blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we; spotless Lamb of God was he.
Full atonement! Can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die; “It is finished!” was his cry;
Now in heaven, exalted high. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing – Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Words & Music: Philip P. Bliss, GETHSEMANE. Public Domain.

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.

NEWCOMERS' GATHERING - TODAY!

The Newcomers' Gathering is an informal time set apart for those who have visited our church over the past several weeks to get to know us and one another better over some light refreshments. The pastoral staff will be there to introduce ourselves and answer questions, and hopefully the youth and children's directors can make a brief visit as well. Please join us **today** immediately following service as you are able.

INTRO TO CPC CLASS

We will be offering another Intro to CPC Class on **January 21 and February 4**. This class is a great way to learn more about our church and the various ways you can partake and serve. This class in two sessions is also required for membership—even transferring in from other PCA churches. Each class will run around two hours and be a mixture of teaching and discussion. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers as well, and for us to share our backgrounds and testimonies. Childcare will be provided. **Contact Daniel McDowell** to sign up or for more information (daniel@cpcgeorgetown.org).

advent kick-off breakfast

Join us as we kick off Advent with breakfast **Sunday, December 3, 9-10a**. Please see the sign up sheets in the lobby to sign up to bring something to share. **Contact Debi Newcombe** (debnewcombe@gmail.com) with questions or to volunteer to help.

congregational meeting | december 3

The Session of CPC is calling a congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 3** immediately following the worship service for the purpose of electing new deacons. We are pleased to announce that **Larry Brown, Jacob Jennings, Donald Wilcox, and Chris Windsor** were nominated by the congregation, have been trained and examined by the Session, and are eligible for election by the congregation. See page 18 for more information about the candidates..

cpc kids christmas choir practice

CPC Kids in preschool to 5th grade have been diligently practicing and preparing a Christmas song to share with our congregation and the residents at the Delaney on Sunday, December 17. There will be a practice on **Sunday, December 10, 930a** in the Elementary classroom. Please continue to practice the song with your kids at home, you can find the song link in the weekly email. If you would like your child to participate, please sign them up by **emailing Kathy Lorimer and Korina Slabach** at kids@cpcgeorgetown.org.

sunday school on break

Sunday School is on break for the holidays. We can't wait to welcome you back to class on **Sunday, January 7!**

advent and christmas eve services

Join us and invite others for Advent and Christmas Eve at CPC! Advent services are December 3, 10, 17, and 24. Our Christmas Eve service will be **Sunday, December 24, 530p**.

About the Candidates

CPC Officer Election | DECEMBER 2023

The Session of Christ Presbyterian Church (CPC) has approved the following men for election to the office of deacon.

Larry Brown and wife Molly are 36-year residents of Georgetown. They have been members of CPC since 2019, transferring from another local church. They have three daughters and nine grandchildren. Larry is also a business owner with experience serving on various boards, commissions, and committees. Larry has served as an Assistant Deacon for the past year and feels blessed to be nominated for service as a Deacon.



Jacob Jennings and his family became members of CPC in the fall of 2019 after a transfer of membership from another church. Growing up, Jacob was baptized and active in the Southern Baptist church where his father served in the ministry there. After graduating high school, Jacob served in the United States Army Reserves while also attending Texas A&M University where he received a degree in Electrical Engineering.

Jacob and his wife, Abbey, have been married since December 2009. They have been blessed with three children: Reid, Cullen (9), and Georgia (7).

Donald Wilcox and wife, Katie, both honored Army retirees, united in marriage in 2020. Together, they've embarked on a profound spiritual journey, culminating in their Public Profession of Faith at CPC in 2021. As Donald, a devoted stepfather to Thalia (9), contemplates the role of Deacon, his dedication to continuous learning shines through his pursuit of a business degree and human resources advisory services. Their combined legacy of service, Donald's sincere commitment to Christ, and his leadership qualities make him a distinguished candidate for the role of Deacon.



Chris Windsor and his wife, Jan, are founding members of CPC, going back to 2008 when it first started meeting in the RunTex store on the Georgetown square. Prior to that, he and Jan had been members of CrossPointe PCA with Pastor Whit when he was called to plant a PCA church in Georgetown, the church we now call Christ Presbyterian Church (CPC) of Georgetown. Chris has served CPC as a community group leader and has performed numerous logistics duties over the years. He and Jan have three grown children and five grandchildren.