

LENT | *The season of Lent is traditionally the season to prepare for the memorial of Christ's death and the celebration of his resurrection. This preparation involves a special examination of our devotion to Christ. As such, through repentance, we lay aside both our sins and even, for a time, good things that sometimes compete for our love and trust. Instead, we intentionally pursue, even with sacrifice and effort, all things that remind our hearts that we are united to Christ and belong to no other.*

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

Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!
I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

— Psalm 34:3-5 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us

All: **And make his face to shine upon us,**

Leader: That your way may be known on earth,

All: **Your saving power among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

All: **Let all the peoples praise you!**

— Psalm 67:1-3 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

ALL PRAISE TO HIM



All praise to him, the God of light, who formed the
 All praise to him whose love is seen in Christ the
 All praise to him whose pow'r im - parts the love of
 moun - tains by his might. All praise to him who names the
 Son, the ser - vant King, who left be - hind his glo - rious
 God with - in our hearts. The Spir - it of all truth and
 stars that sing his fame in skies a - far. All praise to him who reigns in
 throne to pay the ran - som for his own. All praise to him who hum - bly
 peace, the fount of joy and ho - li - ness. To Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit
 love, who guides the ga - lax - ies a - bove, yet bends to
 came to bear our sor - row, sin, and shame, who lived to
 now our souls we lift, our wills we bow. To you, the
 hear our ev - 'ry prayer with sov'-reign pow'r and ten - der care.
 die, who died to rise, the all suf - fi - cient sac - ri - fice.
 Tri - une God, we raise with lo - ving hearts our song of praise.

“All Praise to Him,” Words and music: Matt Merker and Bob Kauflin.

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****prayer of invocation**

Leader: Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

– From the *Book of Common Prayer*

**** affirmation of faith**

Leader: What do you understand by the providence of God?

All: God's providence is His almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with His hand, He still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things, come not by chance but by His fatherly hand.

– *Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 27*

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Come behold the wondrous mystery, 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 mystery, he the perfect Son of Man.
In his living, in his suffering, 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 mystery, 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 mystery; 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 deliverance; how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when he comes.

"Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery," Words & Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, & Michael Bleecker.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

— Psalm 25:6-7 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: Faithful Father, forgive us, for our sins against you are many.
 In mercy, expose our folly, our false faith, and our weak hearts;
 That the seed of your Word would not be snatched from us
 Because we lack understanding;
 That we not wither when trouble arises;
 That the cares and riches of this world
 Would not choke out what we have heard.
 Instead, soften our hearts that we would receive you,
 And that we would bear the fruit of righteousness in our lives,
 To the glory of your Great Name. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

KYRIE ELEISON[†]

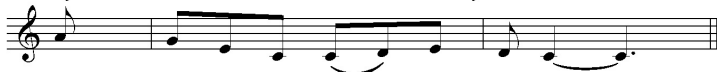
Leader: Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner



All: Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner



Leader: Ky-ri-e E-le-i-son, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner,



All: Have mer-cy on me — a sin-ner. —

[†]*Kyrie Eleison* is transliterated from Greek for “Lord, have mercy.” Public Domain.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: My little children [...] if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous.

– 1 John 2:1 ESV

All: Thanks be to God for his mercy!

**** hymn of gratitude**

HOW BLEST IS HE WHOSE TRESPASS



How blest is he whose tres - pass has free - ly been for - giv'n,
While I kept guil - ty si - lence my strength was spent with grief,
So let the god - ly seek thee in times when thou art near,



whose sin is whol - ly cov - ered be - fore the sight of heav'n.
thy hand was heav - y on me, my soul found no re - lief;
no whelm - ing floods shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear,



Blest he to whom Je - ho - vah will not im - pute his sin,
but when I owned my tres - pass, my sin hid not from thee,
In thee, O Lord, I hide me, thou sav - est me from ill,



who has a guile - less spir - it, whose heart is true with - in.
when I con - fessed trans - gres - sion, then thou for - gav - est me.
and songs of thy sal - va - tion my heart with rap - ture thrill.

Words: From Psalm 32; Music: RUTHERFORD, Chrétien Urhan. Public Domain.

Leader: Genesis 50:15-21
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 MEMBERSHIP

Lucas and Raíssa Holmquist
Erick and Lauren Magallanes with Lucas
Mike Kaster
Patricia Bedikian
Daniel McDowell
Gary and Amy Gonzalez with Luke, Andrew, Ava, Matthew, Aaron, Evan, and Noah
Alex and Isabella Paluch
Richard and Melissa Hinelsey

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?

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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?

**** 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** | “When Love is Hard”**March 17, 2024**

Romans 12:14–21 ^{ESV} | 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” 20 To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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: But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

– James 1:22-25 ^{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.

For Sundays in Lent, please come forward to receive the elements. If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. Once you have been served, please take a few moments to reflect and take your elements. When you are done, place your empty cup in the trays provided and return to your seat. If you are not taking the elements, you may come forward and stand with your arms crossed to receive a prayer of blessing from one of the elders, or simply remain seated. 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

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

– From 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our God.

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

Minister: It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, Creator of heaven and earth. Hear us then, as we pray:

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But it is your right, O God, to give mercy to whom you please. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink of him, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood; that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood shall never lose its power,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.
Be saved, to sin no more, Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

When this poor, lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing thy power to save.
I'll sing thy power to save, I'll sing thy power to save;
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing thy power to save.

Words: William Cowper; Music: FOUNTAIN, Lowell Mason. 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.

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.
© detuned radio music. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #5617634.

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 welcome pad when it comes to you.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE | MARCH 29

Please plan to join us **Friday, March 29, 530p** for Good Friday Service.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP | MARCH 31

Join us **Sunday, March 31, 9 to 10a**, for our Easter Breakfast. We will have good food and fellowship during the Sunday school hour to celebrate our Risen Lord! There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby and in the newsletter for items to bring. **Please contact Debi Newcombe** (debnewcombe@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | APRIL 21

Members, please plan to join us for a congregational meeting **Sunday April 21**, immediately following the service to vote on an amendment to the corporation's by-laws and to dissolve Pastor Whit's call to CPC.

new song for palm sunday

We will sing a new song "All Glory Laud and Honor" on **Sunday, March 24**. Please visit the links in the weekly email to see the lyrics and hear the music.

children's worship volunteers needed

We have an amazing team of volunteers who have been teaching our preschoolers each Sunday service for just over two years. We are so grateful for their service and investment! However, we are in need of teachers and helpers as we look forward to the coming months. If you have a heart for little ones, like to teach Bible lessons and organize activities, or if you'd like to assist teachers by lending a helping hand, **please contact Korina Slabach** (kids@cpcgeorgetown.org).

scripture readers needed

If you are looking for a place to serve and don't mind public speaking, **please contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) to get in the reading rotation. Youth are welcome as well!