
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

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into the grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

– Romans 5: 1-2_{ESV}

**** call to worship**

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

All: **To declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,**

Leader: To the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

All: **For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

– Psalm 92:1-4_{ESV}

REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING

Rejoice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, he rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit,
And bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
And take his servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

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** prayer of invocation

Leader: O God, we trust in your power, even as it is often found in weakness; in your wisdom, even as it is expressed in seeming foolishness; in your wholeness, even as it comes to us amid brokenness. We come simply to worship you. Touch us this day, O Lord, sinners that we are, that we might evermore become your saints, your body, your children, your church. For this temple of your Spirit is built not upon our own abilities, knowledge, or will, but upon you, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

** affirmation of faith

Leader: So God created man in his own image,

All: In the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

– Genesis 1:27_{ESV}

Leader: How and why did God create us?

All: God created us male and female in his own image to know him, love him, live with him, and glorify him. And it is right that we who were created by God should live to his glory.

– *New City Catechism*, Question 4

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: For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

– Psalm 90:7-8 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: We have great reason, O Lord, to be humbled before you,
On account of the coldness and insensibility of our hearts,
The disorder and irregularity of our lives,
And the prevalence of worldly affections within us.
Too often have we indulged the tempers which we ought to have subdued,
And have left our duty unperformed.
O Lord, be merciful to us for your Son Jesus Christ's sake.
Produce in us deep repentance,
And a lively faith in that Savior who has died for our sins,
And risen again for our justification. Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

All: But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

– Isaiah 53:4-5 ESV

THY MERCY, MY GOD

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

“Thy Mercy, My God,” Words: John Stocker, Public Domain. Music: Sandra McCracken.
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Leader: Matthew 13:24-30
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.**

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. Greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

about our guest speaker | [John Weller](#)

Worshiping with us and preaching today is Rev. John Weller. John is a Teaching Elder in the South Texas Presbytery and is currently serving as a hospital chaplain. Previously, John was Assistant Pastor at Christ the King PCA in Austin, and prior to that he was a firefighter for the City of Austin for 23 years. He is married to Natalie Weller, and they have 4 grown children. If you have opportunity, please greet John and Natalie and express our thanks to John for his service to CPC this week.

Sermon | “The Sower, The Seed, and The Soil”

July 21, 2024

Mark 4:1-20 ^{ESV} | 1 Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. 2 And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: 3 “Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. 5 Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. 6 And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. 8 And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” 9 And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

10 And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. 11 And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, 12 so that

“they may indeed see but not perceive,
and may indeed hear but not understand,
lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

13 And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? 14 The sower sows the word. 15 And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. 16 And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. 17 And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. 18 And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, 19 but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 20 But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In response to the good news of God's grace, how shall we then live?

All: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

– Hebrews 4:14-16_{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 he [Jesus] took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

– Luke 22:19-20 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, through these symbols of broken bread and poured out drink we remember the sacrifice of your Son Jesus Christ for us, his resurrection and ascension, and we look for his coming again in power and glory. Since you have ordained this supper to strengthen our faith, we pray that, by your Spirit and through our contemplation of his sacrifice, you would increase our faith and fellowship with both Jesus Christ and each other. And through our proclamation of the Lord’s death for us, as we partake, may we affirm our allegiance and fidelity to him as our Lord and reconfirm our commitment to following him, living in his light and loving our brothers as he loved us. 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: Take these symbols of Christ’s sacrifice in remembrance and proclamation that he died for you, and partake of them in faith and thanksgiving.

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

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. *

** Chorus:*

O, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *

This is all my hope and peace: nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness: nothing but the blood of Jesus. *

Now by this I'll overcome, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Now by this I'll reach my home, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *

Words & Music: Robert Lowry, PLAINFIELD. 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.

ARISE, MY SOUL, ARISE

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice on my behalf appears.
Before the throne my surety stands, before the throne my surety stands;
My name is written on his hands. *

** Chorus:*

Arise (arise), arise (arise), Arise, arise my soul, arise. (x2)
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede;
His all-redeeming love, his precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for every race, his blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. *

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry;
"Let not that ransomed sinner die!" *

My God is reconciled; his pardoning voice I hear.
He owns me for his child; I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba Father," cry. *

"Arise, My Soul, Arise," Words: Charles Wesley, Public Domain; Alterations & Music: Kevin Twit,
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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 welcome pad when it comes to you.

NEWCOMERS' GATHERING | TODAY

Immediately following the worship service, we will be hosting a Newcomers' Gathering in the conference room across the hallway. This is an informal social event for visitors to meet the staff, some of the ordained officers, and each other as well as the chance to ask some questions. Light refreshments will be provided. This event normally goes for about 30 minutes but it is come and go as you please.

COLLEGE AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FELLOWSHIP | JULY 28

Following worship service on **Sunday, July 28**, we will be offering lunch for college students and young professionals from **1230p-230p**. Come to the Mortons' home for a time of food, fellowship, and prayer together. To help us get an accurate headcount for the food, please **email Daniel McDowell** (daniel@cpcgeorgetown.org) if you plan to come.

sunday school

Summer Sunday school is underway and will run through **July 28, 915a**. Available classes include:

CPC Kids and Youth – This summer both children's and youth ministries will be looking at four of the spiritual disciplines: reading/meditating on Scripture, prayer, worship, and fellowship. As lessons are tailored for each age group, the basis for and the basics of the disciplines will be shown from the Bible and select catechism questions. We welcome all children and youth to learn and grow in these essential Christian practices.

Adults – We have been using July to share information about CPC's 2025 budget and finances as well as search committee activities, missions activities, and building fund expenses and giving summary. One informational session remains:

July 28 – Building What Matters sharing and summary on giving/expenses through June
(Lane Joffrion)