

---

**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**

To you I lift up my eyes,  
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

– Psalm 123:1 ESV

---

**\*\* call to worship**

*Leader:* From where does your help come?

**All:** **Our help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

*Leader:* He will not let your foot be moved;

**All:** **He who keeps us will not slumber.**

*Leader:* The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**All:** **The LORD will keep our going out and our coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

– Adapted from Psalm 121 ESV

## 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:* O God, you are our rock and our fortress and the God of our salvation. How abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you. You have set the name of Christ over us all, because you loved us though we were lost. There is no shortage of grace; no lack of mercy in you. Grant us access this morning to your abounding grace and boundless love, through Christ our perfect sacrifice and peace offering, and by your Spirit, who, with you and the Son, reigns forever. Amen.

---

## \*\* affirmation of faith

*Leader:* But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord,  
**All: Because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.**

– 2 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

*Leader:* What is the Church?  
**All: God chooses and preserves for himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God sends out this community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.**

– *New City Catechism*, Q&A 48

## BE THOU MY VISION

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
Thou my best thought by day or by night; waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father and I thy true son; thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart; High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won. May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Dallan Forgaill, translated by Mary Byrne; Music: SLANE, Irish folk melody. Public Domain.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord[.]

– Acts 3:19-20a ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **Loving Father, have mercy on me, a sinner;  
I confess that I am stiff-necked and hard-hearted.  
Even when I know the change you require, I refuse to change,  
I rebel against you, and I blame you for making me the sinner I am.  
Again and again, I ask for blessing, but do not accept your terms;  
I plead for liberty, but will not let go of my chains.  
And yet, though I have been stubborn and slow,  
You turn to me with a soft heart and with tender mercy.  
You see my sin and yet have compassion on me.  
Melt my heart of stone and give me a heart of flesh –  
Let your lovingkindness capture my attention  
And cause me to turn from sin and toward your righteousness;  
All for the sake of your Son, who lived and died for me. Amen.**

*Please reflect and silently confess your sins.*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE \*\*

*Leader:* As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**All:** **Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

– Psalm 103:13-14, 22 ESV

## BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea:  
A great High Priest whose name is Love who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands; my name is written on his heart.  
I know that while in heaven he stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart; no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see him there, who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just, is satisfied  
To look on him and pardon me; to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!  
One with himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by his blood.  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ my Savior and my God; with Christ my Savior and my God.

“Before the Throne of God Above,” Words: Charitie L. Bancroft, Public Domain. Music: Vikki Cook.  
© Sovereign Grace Worship. CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #2306412.

*Leader:* Isaiah 61:1-3, 8-11  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

---

prayer

*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.**

---

\*\* 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 | “God’s Power to Save”

September 10, 2023

**Romans 1:1-17** <sup>ESV</sup> | 1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, 6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

7 To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you 10 always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God’s will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you – 12 that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, both yours and mine. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. 14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. 15 So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

*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:** **Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

– Ephesians 5:1-2<sub>ESV</sub>

---

## 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<sub>ESV</sub>

*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.*

## WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

*\* Chorus:*

We will feast in the house of Zion.

We will sing with our hearts restored.

He has done great things, we will say together;

We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire, he is the Lord our God.

We are not consumed by the flood, upheld, protected, gathered up. \*

In the dark of night, before the dawn, my soul be not afraid,

For the promised morning – O how long – O God of Jacob be my strength. \*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, you are the faithful One.

And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom. \*

“We Will Feast In The House Of Zion,” Words & Music: Joshua Moore & Sandra McCracken.

© 2015 Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing; joshmooreownsthismusic.

CCLI #3022711, #20579701, Song #7041364.

*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.*

## 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. \*

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

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand," Words: Samuel Stennett, Music: Christopher Miner.  
© 1997 Christopher Miner Music. CCLI License #3022711, #20579701, Song #3251573.

---

**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.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school resumed today! Join us this semester **Sundays, 915a**. Please see the class descriptions below.

**Nursery** – We will be starting right where our littlest ones are, at the beginning! We will be using Gospel Light's "Baby Beginnings" where little ones take first steps in learning about God. We desire for our babies and toddlers to develop in a loving, safe environment as they learn the truths about Jesus and the One who created them.

**Preschool** – Isn't it wonderful that God always keeps his promises? In the next 12 weeks the preschool children will follow God's amazing unfolding promises (or covenants) to Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, and David to their fulfillment in Jesus the Savior! Children will be encouraged by God's love and faithfulness to his people in these lessons. We can't wait to see your 3-5 year olds in this class!

**Elementary** – The 1st-5th graders will be embarking on a two year, through the Bible endeavor this fall! God's story is the most beautiful story ever told, full of wonder and grace. There is nothing more important for the younger generation than imparting to them a rich vision of the gospel. Based on the bestselling Biggest Story Bible Storybook by Pastor Kevin DeYoung, teachers will lead kids through key Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation. This Sunday School class will help children understand God's plan to redeem the world through Jesus.

**Youth (Grades 6-12)** – Our fall semester of Sunday school will be in Exodus, focusing on foundational truths that continue to build throughout the rest of Scripture.

Adults: This fall, CPC will offer two adult Sunday school classes. Please join the class of your choice.

**The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit** led by Daniel McDowell. Join us as we explore the Spirit's Being, the Spirit's Coming, the Spirit's Work in the church and the believer, and the Spirit and the Trinity. While theological in nature, this class will also include practical implications for today as well as question and answer time.

**Ephesians and Growing in Christ** led by Ryan Slabach and Jonathan Wells. This class will have two sessions with the first six weeks covering Ephesians led by Ryan Slabach. Ephesians is both an ancient letter from the apostle Paul and the living Word of God to us today. In it we will hear Paul proclaim Christ – the One in whom we are given every spiritual blessing and formed together into a new humanity. The last 5 weeks of the semester will be led by Jonathan Wells and will discuss the meaning and conditions of growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. Over these 5 weeks, the class will focus on being planted in the right place, becoming rooted in the Word of God, growing up to stability in Christ, maturity and vitality through the Holy Spirit, and fruitfulness as the outcome of growth in Christ.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | THIS WEEK**

Women's Fall Bible study will begin **September 13 and 14** with two different meeting options: **Wednesdays, 930a** (childcare by RSVP only) and **Thursdays, 7p** (no childcare available). We will be studying Luke with the study guide by Lydia Brownback. **RSVP for Wednesday childcare or email any questions to [women@cpcgeorgetown.org](mailto:women@cpcgeorgetown.org).**

**cpc kids lending library**

We are starting a children's lending library! It is located in the Children's Worship room (room #2). We would like to fill one small bookcase full of new or gently used books, CDs, and DVDs. If you have Christian children's books, CD's or DVD's that you would like to donate, **please contact Korina Slabach** (kids@cpcgeorgetown.org). Thank you in advance!