
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

But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

– Isaiah 41:8-10 ESV

**** call to worship**

Leader: Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.

All: **Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!**

Leader: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods.

All: **For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.**

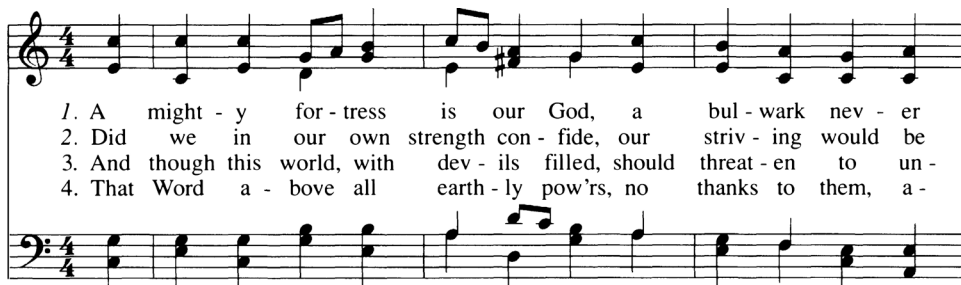
Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

All: **[B]ring an offering and come before him! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness[.]**

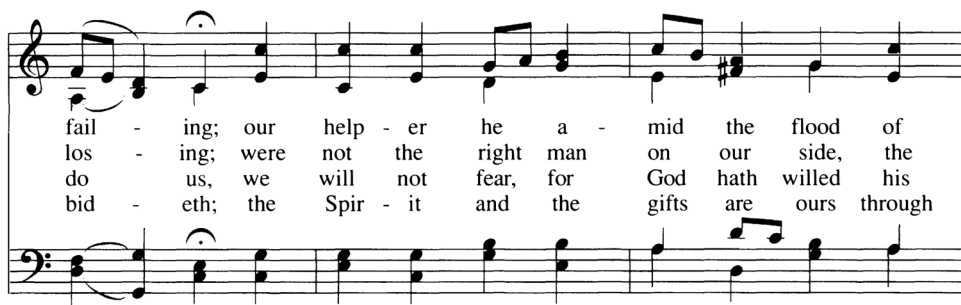
– 1 Chronicles 16:23-29 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD



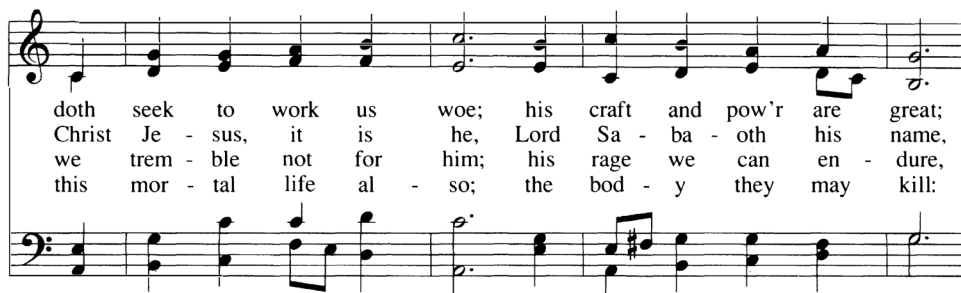
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great;
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:

and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Words and Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther. Public Domain.

** prayer of invocation

Leader: O Father in heaven, by your mercy visit us today with your grace and draw us ever closer to you. For your great glory, open our eyes this morning to better see the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding beauty of holiness, and the exceeding wonder of your grace. Open our minds to comprehend that you have taken us as your beloved, and that your love never wanes. We come before you in worship and seek your blessings in the matchless name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

** affirmation of faith

Leader: Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

All: **For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.**

Leader: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law,

All: **[That is] the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.**

Leader: For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God.

All: **And are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.**

Leader: [This Jesus] God has put forward as a propitiation by his blood,

All: **To be received by faith.**

– From Romans 3:19-25

** hymn of praise

REFORMATION SONG

Your Word alone is solid ground, the mighty rock on which we build;
In every line the truth is found and every page with glory filled.
Through faith alone we come to you; we have no merit we can claim.
Sure that your promises are true, we place our hope in Jesus' name. *

** Chorus:*

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone; gloria, gloria, glory to God alone.

In Christ alone we're justified; his righteousness is all our plea;
Your law's demands are satisfied; his perfect work has set us free. *

By grace alone we have been saved; all that we are has come from you.
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved now by your pow'r have been made new. *

“Reformation Song,” Music & Words: Tim Chester and Bob Kauflin.

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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD, and the iniquity of our fathers, for we have sinned against you. Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us.

– Jeremiah 14:20-21 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: Father in Heaven, have mercy on us.

We are covenant breakers,

Unable to keep the Covenant you established with us –

Whether in the Garden, through Moses and the Law,

Or through unfailing obedience to our Lord Jesus.

Forgive us for turning our hearts away from your holy mountain,

For fashioning idols of whatever we can get our hands on,

For living for ourselves and this fallen world,

For failing to represent you as citizens of Christ's kingdom.

We need the Spirit of life to breathe on us, to give us life anew,

To enable our lives to be poured out for your great Gospel,

That which calls us evermore out of ourselves and towards our Savior,

In whose name we pray, and in whom we rest

As recipients of grace divine and undeserved,

The Jesus, who is, and ever shall be, the Christ of Glory. Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: “For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,” says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

– Isaiah 54:10 ESV

All: Though we have not earned such grace, we gladly receive it through the Lord Jesus Christ, our federal head and the guardian of our souls!

NOT WHAT MY HANDS HAVE DONE

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.

Thy work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace within.
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest, and set my spirit free.

Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak;
Thy power alone, O Son of God, can this sore bondage break.
No other work, save thine, no other blood will do;
No strength, save that which is divine, can bear me safely through.

I bless the Christ of God; I rest on love divine;
And with unfaltering lip and heart, I call this Savior mine.
His cross dispels each doubt; I bury in his tomb
Each thought of unbelief and fear, each lingering shade of gloom.

I praise the God of grace; I trust his truth and might;
He calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my light.
'Tis he who saveth me, and freely pardon gives;
I love because he loveth me, I live because he lives.

Words: Horatius Bonar; Music: LEOMINSTER, George William Martin. Public Domain.

Leader: James 1:2-4, 12
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. Greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

about our guest speaker | [Rick Box](#)

Preaching today and worshiping with us again is Rick Box. Rick has preached for CPC several times this summer and will continue this fall with a series through Revelation 2 and 3. He was born and raised in Texas, and he and his family served as Mission to the World church planting missionaries in Bogota, Colombia, for 29 years. Rick retired from MTW in 2020 and now lives in the Austin metroplex area. Please greet Rick if you have opportunity, and express our thanks for his service to CPC.

Sermon | “The Suffering Church”

September 22, 2024

Revelation 2:8-11 ^{ESV} | 8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

9 “I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. 11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.’”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**** gospel charge**

Leader: Saints of the Lord, in view of what we have heard from His Word, how ought we conduct ourselves?

All: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

– Hebrews 10: 23-25 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.

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 consider his sacrificial suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and ascension; and we await his return in power and with glory. God of Mercy, through your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these symbols of broken bread and a poured out cup. Grant that all who participate in this table 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: Take these symbols of Christ’s sacrifice in remembrance and proclamation that he died for you, and partake of them in faith and thankfulness.

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

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." *

* *Chorus:*

It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul);

It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin – oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! – my sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *

Words: Horatio Spafford; Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip Bliss. 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.

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.
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Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all

crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Words: Thomas Ken; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH. Public Domain.

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.

MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

We are continuing our men's discipleship group ministry this fall at CPC. Groups of 3-6 men will be meeting every 2-4 weeks for a time of life-on-life discipleship through fellowship, prayer, Scripture memory, discussion, accountability, and encouragement through personal testimonies and life updates. Each group will also have outreach and acts of service components. We currently have six groups meeting in NW Georgetown, Liberty Hill, Round Rock, Cedar Park, and Pflugerville. For more information or to sign up, **please contact Daniel McDowell** (daniel@cpcgeorgetown.org).

THE DEACONS NEED HELP!

The diaconate exists to support ministries, worship, safety, and operations of CPC. Our church is growing, and we are looking for volunteers to help with facilities, ushering, streaming, and the operations of the church. Come join us to grow CPC! **Please contact the deacons to volunteer in one of these areas** (deacons@cpcgeorgetown.org).

JOIN THE MUSIC TEAM!

Would you be willing to consider the possibility of using your musical gifts to serve on the music team? Maybe you are a vocalist, pianist, guitarist, percussionist or you play a woodwind, brass or stringed instrument? We would love to talk to you! Remember - God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called! **Please contact Suzanne Schell** (music@cpcgeorgetown.org) if you are interested.

pca global missions conference

The 2024 PCA Global Missions Conference will be held **November 1-3** in Atlanta, GA. The theme will be "Multiply! Rediscovering our mission to go and make disciples" and will include many engaging speakers and informational breakout sessions. If you are interested in the multifaceted work of the church in missions, in need of having your love for missions refreshed, or are interested in learning more about how missions might be a part of your future, please seriously consider attending this wonderful opportunity. For more information, please visit their website at www.mtw.org.

sunday school

Sunday school classes have resumed, 915a. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Come early enough to get your coffee and join in. It is important for God's people to be immersed in his Word often and repeatedly. The regular exposure places God's Word in our minds and hearts ready for the Holy Spirit to teach and convict us.

welcome

CPC Youth is happy to announce new volunteers to help in youth ministry. We're so grateful for their partnership with us! First, **Samuel Bosworth** will be assisting with youth ministry. He graduated from high school last year and is taking classes at a community college. He will be helping in organizing activities, leading portions of youth meetings and supporting where needed. Additionally, **Lucas and Raissa Holmquist** are excited to volunteer as middle school youth leaders. They will be guiding discussion and prayer times for our middle school students on youth nights and teaching Sunday school and other classes from time to time. Lucas and Raissa have a heart for young people, having served in youth ministry previously in their church in Brazil.