

Its heads give judgment for a bribe;
its priests teach for a price;
its prophets practice divination for money;
yet they lean on the LORD and say,

"Is not the LORD in the midst of us?

No disaster shall come upon us."

We gather to worship Jesus Christ, our Prophet, Priest, and King.

Preparatory Hymn "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Welcome

Scriptural Call to Worship Psalm 5:4-7

Prayer of Praise

Hymn "O Great God"

Hymn "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Scripture Reading Jeremiah 23:1-14

Scripture Reading Matthew 23:13-17, 23-33

Prayer of Confession

Scriptural Assurance of Pardon Jeremiah 33:8

Hymn "How Great Thou Art"

Pastoral Prayer of Petition

Sermon Micah 3:1-12

Bad Authorities

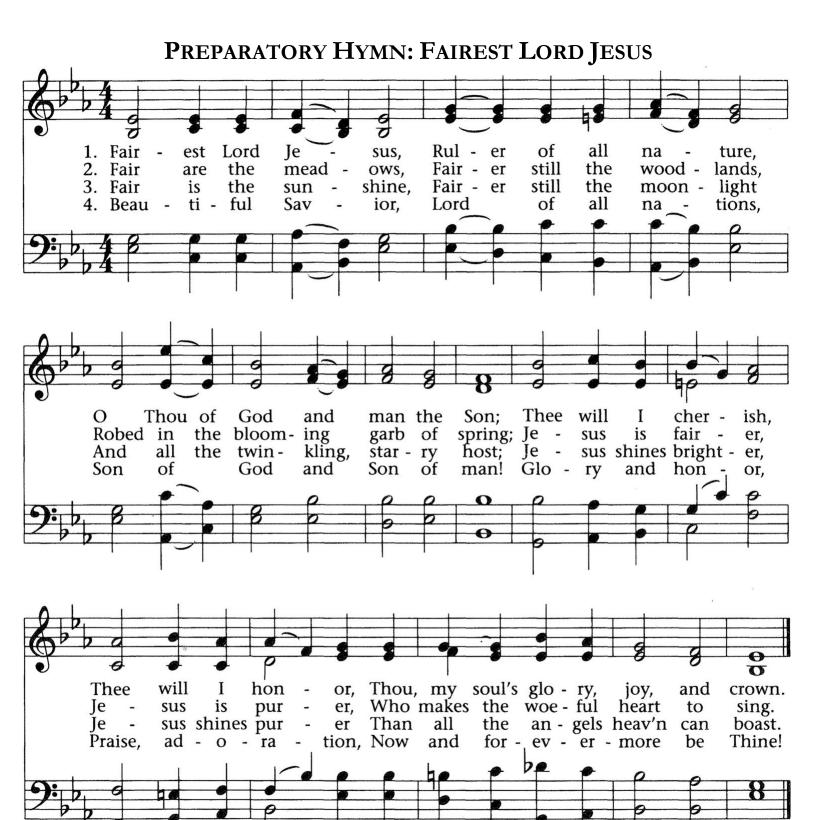
Hymn "Christ the True and Better"

Hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Hymn "Doxology"

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

Moment of Silent Reflection



Words: Anon. German Hymn, Munster Gesangbuch (1677); St. 1-3, tr. Source unknown; St. 4, Joseph Augustus Seiss (1823-1904) Music: Schlesiche Volkslieder (1842); Arr. Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900), Public Domain

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 5:4-7

- For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.
- The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.
- You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.
- I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

O GREAT GOD



Music & Words: Bob Kauflin. Based on the Valley of Vision prayer "Regeneration" © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI)

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE



Words: From the Liturgy of St. James, 5th Century; tr. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885); Music: Traditional French Carol. Public Domain

SCRIPTURE READING

JEREMIAH 23:1-14

23 "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: "You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. ³ Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

⁵ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

⁷ "Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' ⁸ but 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.' Then they shall dwell in their own land."

⁹ Concerning the prophets:

My heart is broken within me;
all my bones shake;
I am like a drunken man,
like a man overcome by wine,
because of the LORD
and because of his holy words.
For the land is full of adulterers;
because of the curse the land mourns,
and the pastures of the wilderness are dried up.

Their course is evil, and their might is not right.

"Both prophet and priest are ungodly; even in my house I have found their evil,

declares the LORD.

Therefore their way shall be to them like slippery paths in the darkness, into which they shall be driven and fall, for I will bring disaster upon them in the year of their punishment,

declares the LORD.

- In the prophets of Samaria
 I saw an unsavory thing:
 they prophesied by Baal
 and led my people Israel astray.
- 14 But in the prophets of Jerusalem
 I have seen a horrible thing:
 they commit adultery and walk in lies;
 they strengthen the hands of evildoers,
 so that no one turns from his evil;
 all of them have become like Sodom to me,
 and its inhabitants like Gomorrah."

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 23:13-17, 23-33

¹³ "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in. ¹⁵ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

¹⁶ "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.' ¹⁷ You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred?

²³ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. ²⁴ You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

²⁵ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. ²⁶ You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

²⁷ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸ So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰ saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' ³¹ Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ³² Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. ³³ You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?

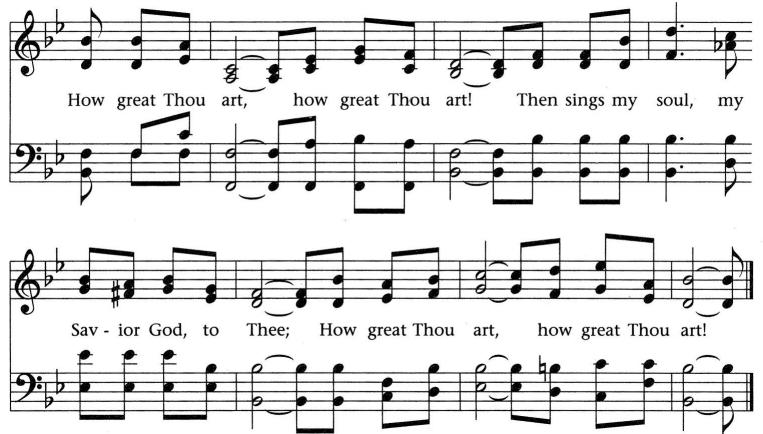
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

JEREMIAH 33:8

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.





Words and Music: Stuart Hine, (1899); © 1949 & 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust

SERMON

BAD AUTHORITIES

MICAH 3:1-12

3 And I said:

2

3

Hear, you heads of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel!
Is it not for you to know justice?—
you who hate the good and love the evil, who tear the skin from off my people and their flesh from off their bones, who eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them, and break their bones in pieces and chop them up like meat in a pot, like flesh in a cauldron.

- Then they will cry to the LORD, but he will not answer them; he will hide his face from them at that time, because they have made their deeds evil.
- Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets
 who lead my people astray,
 who cry "Peace"
 when they have something to eat,
 but declare war against him
 who puts nothing into their mouths.

 Therefore it shall be night to you without vision
- Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision, and darkness to you, without divination.

 The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be black over them;
- the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame; they shall all cover their lips,

for there is no answer from God.

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.

- Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight,
 who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity.
- Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets practice divination for money; yet they lean on the LORD and say, "Is not the LORD in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us."
- Therefore because of you
 Zion shall be plowed as a field;
 Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,
 and the mountain of the house a wooded height.

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

CHRIST THE TRUE AND BETTER

Verse 1

Christ the true and better
Adam Son of God and Son of man
Who when tempted in the garden
Never yielded never sinned
He who makes the many righteous
Brings us back to life again
Dying He reversed the curse then
Rising crushed the serpent's head

Verse 2

Christ the true and better
Isaac Humble son of sacrifice
Who would climb the fearful
mountain
There to offer up his life
Laid with faith upon the altar
Father's joy and only son
There salvation was provided
Oh what full and boundless love

Chorus

Amen Amen
From beginning to end
Christ the story
His the glory
Alleluia amen

Verse 3

Christ the true and better
Moses Called to lead a people home
Standing bold to earthly powers
God's great glory to be known
With his arms stretched wide to
heaven
See the waters part in two
See the veil is torn forever
Cleansed with blood we pass now
through

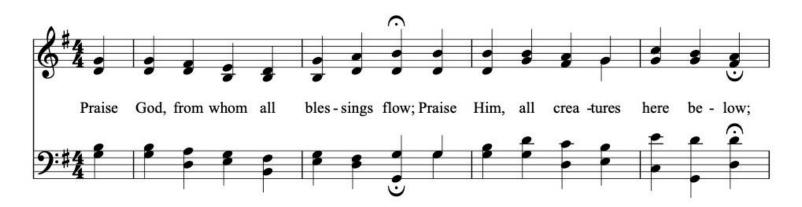
Verse 4

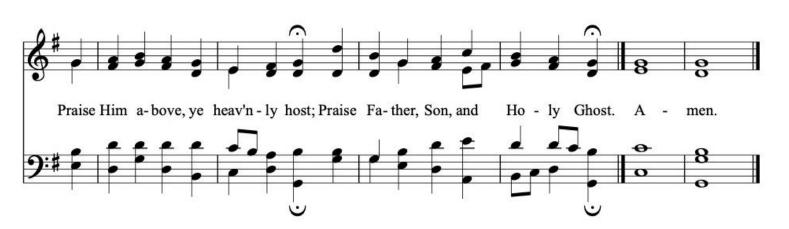
Christ the true and better David
Lowly shepherd mighty King
He the champion in the battle
Where o death is now thy sting?
In our place He bled and
conquered
Crown Him Lord of majesty
His shall be the throne forever
We shall e'er His people be



Words: St. 1, 2, Edward Perronet (1726-1792); St. 3, 4, John Rippon (1751-1836), Public Domain Music: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844 (CCLI# 264766)

DOXOLOGY





Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711) Music: Geneva Psalter (1551) Edition: Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561); Public Domain

WHO IS JESUS?

Our greatest prayer for you is that you would come to know Jesus. Though we have all rebelled against God, He sent Jesus, His only Son, into our broken world. Through Jesus's obedient life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection, sinners can be forgiven and reconciled to God through turning from our sins and trusting in Him.

FOLLOWING JESUS

Baptism is publicly professing your faith in Jesus and identifying with His people.

Discipleship is walking together in life and helping one another follow Jesus faithfully.

Membership is our mutual commitment to follow Jesus together in the context of a local church.

Service to the church and the world is what characterizes Jesus's followers as we seek to make Him known.

If you would like to learn more about Jesus and what it means to follow Him, we would love to talk with you. Please speak with one of our elders or submit a connect card (scan the QR code below).

VISITORS & GUESTS

Welcome! If you are new to our church, we invite you to connect with an elder in the foyer after the service so that we can welcome you personally.



You can also complete a **Connect Card**, available in the pews or via this QR code, to request more information about this church or about what it means to be a Christian.

Families with Children We offer Sunday School classes at 9:30am for grades K-12 and childcare for infants to pre-K during the 10:45 worship service. Canvas 'busy bags' are available in the lobby for children to use during the service. Additional information about our Children's Ministry is available on our website.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Sunday Evening Service - October 6th

Beginning in October, we will change to a monthly Sunday evening service where we will sing, have a short Bible devotional (this month is on Foundations of Spiritual Disciplines), Q&A, book giveaways, and prayer time together. We will also share a potluck meal on October 6th to kick off this new service. Contact the church office with any questions.

Christianity Explored Invites Available

Invites are available in the foyer for our upcoming Christianity Explored class which will take place over Zoom beginning on September 30th. Please take a stack and invite those the Lord has brought into your life to this evangelistic class and remind those you've invited to register!

Assist Pregnancy Center Vision Night - October 25th

Assist Pregnancy Center's Vision Dinner will be a great opportunity to learn more about our local ministry partner and the ways we can be involved! More information is available on the back table. See Larry McLeod with any questions.

Sermon Text for Next Week: Micah 4:1-8

CHURCH INFO



Give Online



Wednesday Zoom Prayer 6:30pm

