

EPIPHANY | *Epiphany means “manifestation” or “appearance,” and we use it to speak of times when something becomes especially clear to us. In the church year, Epiphany celebrates that God made his glory and grace clear by revealing Christ to lowly shepherds, humble fishermen, tax collectors, and especially to us as we see Christ with eyes of faith and trusting hearts.*

preparing our hearts

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

– Psalm 130:5-7 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

All: **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Leader: Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands.

All: **Yes, establish the work of our hands!**

– Based on Psalm 90:1-2, 16-17 ESV

Leader: We worship the Eternal One, the Most High God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

** Please stand if you are able

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish – but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith; Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh hymn tune. Public Domain.

**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: God of heaven and giver of life: You who breathed breath into man also now give us our every purpose and meaning. We are gathered here to thank you for our lives and our salvation, and to offer ourselves to you in humble worship and adoration. Breathe your life into us by your Spirit and by your Word that we might be renewed in our minds and conformed to the likeness of Christ, your Son. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THE NICENE CREED

All: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

* Here, "catholic" means "universal," and refers to the Christian church in all places

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

– 1 John 1:8_{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **Father in heaven,**
Though you have revealed so much of yourself
That I should owe gratitude, worship, and allegiance,
I have sinned in my unbelief.
I have not believed your goodness,
Though it is all around me.
I have not believed in your grace,
Though your wrath has been kept from me.
Forgive my lack of faith
And grant through your Spirit that I would trust in Christ,
In the forgiveness he grants,
in the new life he offers,
In the love you offered through him;
Through the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness...

– Psalm 130:3-4_{ESV}

All: **Thanks be to God for his mercy!**

HIS MERCY IS MORE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

** Chorus:*

Praise the Lord, his mercy is more,
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

What riches of kindness he lavished on us?
His blood was the payment; his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *

“His Mercy is More,” Words & Music: Matt Boswell & Matt Papa.
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Leader: Luke 7:36-50
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.

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 while being careful to practice safe social distancing.

Series | “The Glory of Christ in the Life of the Church”

Sermon | “Stewardship of God’s Grace”

January 10, 2021

Ephesians 3:1-13 ^{ESV} | 1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles – 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. 13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

1. The Mystery of Grace Revealed
2. The Ministry of Grace Displayed

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In light of the Word we have heard, how ought we live?

All: Let us ... lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

– Hebrews 12:1-2_{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, please wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. There are two tabs on the communion sets. The clear tab on top opens the bread. The tab underneath opens the grape juice.

Please hold on to your materials to dispose of on your way out of the sanctuary. If you have a gluten allergy, please indicate this when prompted and to your server, to receive a gluten-free wafer. 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 unto our Lord 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: Thank you, Father, for making Christ known to us in the bread that is broken and the cup that is filled. May this meal now enable us to increase in faith, persevere in hope, and grow up in love. May this witness to Christ’s death draw others into fellowship with him so that all your children will be gathered in to share with us the joy of your salvation. Send us out from this place by your Spirit, our ears open to your Word, our minds alert to the calling you give us, our hearts full of zeal for your coming kingdom, our voices confessing the name of Jesus, our Lord and our God. 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.

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Newton, last verse unknown; Music: AMAZING GRACE, American folk tune. Public Domain.

**** offering & song of thanksgiving**

As you are able, please continue to joyfully give to the work of the Lord through our church by giving [online](#) or depositing your offering in the box with the deacon.

Note: [Other ways to give](#), including mailing a check to the office, are available.

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said – to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”

“When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.”

“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.”

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”

Words: R. Keene; Music: FOUNDATION, American melody. Public Domain.

**** 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 a visitor card, located at the entrance by the bulletins.

adult sunday school

Adult Sunday school resumed today via Zoom and will continue through May. This semester's study, "Salt and Light," will look at our call to understand and engage the culture with the gospel.

kids' virtual hour

Our Virtual Kids' Sunday School Class resumed this morning! Please join us next **Sunday at 930a** on Zoom. While all are welcome, the class is designed for kids ages three through fifth grade. Class materials (color sheets, etc) are available on the website, or **contact Laura Short** (kids@cpcgeorgetown.org) for paper copies.

INTRO TO CPC

If you would like to know more about what we believe and what we aim to do - this class is for you! The class is required to become a member and is being offered via Zoom on **February 7, 14, and 21, 930a**. To complete the class you must attend all three days. The first two classes are 60 minutes and the third is 90 minutes. **E-mail Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) to add your name to the list by January 31.

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETING | JANUARY 19

Please join us for a virtual town hall meeting **January 19, 7p**, to further explore the concept of constructing a church building on the Grace Academy campus. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss with others via Zoom.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Members - One of the great ways you can love CPC is by helping us identify godly men to serve our church as elders or deacons. Pick up a nomination card on the bulletin table and submit your completed form by **Sunday, January 31**. Descriptions of qualifications and responsibilities for officers of the church can be found on the same table. If you attend via Zoom, **you may e-mail your nomination to office@cpcgeorgetown.org**.

women's bible study

Join us beginning January 20 and 21 as we delve into the book of John and study the character of God! We can't wait to discover how Jesus explains what the Father is like in ways we can understand. We'll have both a Wednesday morning and a Thursday evening study available. **Contact Suzanne Joffrion** (women@cpcgeorgetown.org) for details.

hinged at home

Join us **January 30, 1-4p**, for the PCA conference, Hinged at Home, rescheduled from 2020. **You can RSVP to the evite or e-mail Suzanne Joffrion** (women@cpcgeorgetown.org).

our nursery is open

We have room for kids from 6 months to 2 years old in the nursery. CPC Kids use the KidCheck security system to keep our kids safe. **Please see the nursery page at <https://www.cpcgeorgetown.org/nursery>** for details and to create an account.

worship service volunteers needed

Making our service happen on Sundays takes some doing, and a lot is going on behind the scenes. Would you like to help to make it happen? We currently need volunteers for sound and Zoom broadcasting. **If you are interested, please e-mail Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org). We are very appreciative of our volunteers!

sign up to help by reading scripture

Would you like to participate in the worship service by being a Scripture Reader? **E-mail Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) to sign up.