

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 dusty shepherds, humble fishermen, dishonest tax collectors, and especially to us sinners so that we may see Christ with eyes of faith and trusting hearts.*

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

For I will proclaim the name of the LORD;
ascribe greatness to our God!

The Rock, his work is perfect,
for all his ways are justice.
A God of faithfulness and without iniquity,
just and upright is he.

— Deuteronomy 32:3-4 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!

All: Praise befits the upright.

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

All: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

Leader: For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

All: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

— Psalm 33:1-5 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

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: 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.

Leader: What kind of King is Jesus, the Christ?

All: He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

– Colossians 1:15-20 ESV

 ** hymn of praise

ROCK OF AGES



1. Rock of Ag - es, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful-fill thy law's de-mands;
3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
4. While I draw this flect - ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy wound-ed side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un-known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou-ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun-tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: [W]e 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 4:15-16^{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All: Almighty and most merciful Father,
We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended your holiness by breaking your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
And we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent;
According to your promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Grant that we may hereafter live godly, righteous, and holy lives;
To the glory of his holy name. 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!

HELP MY UNBELIEF

I know the Lord is nigh, and would but cannot pray,
For Satan meets me when I try, and frights my soul away.
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent, though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent till Jesus makes it soft.
Till Jesus makes it soft.

Chorus:

Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
My help must come from thee.

I would but cannot love, though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move a soul as base as mine.
A soul as base as mine.

I would but cannot rest in God's most holy will;
I know what he appoints is best and murmur at it still.
I murmur at it still.

Chorus (2x):

Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
My help must come from thee.

“Help My Unbelief,” Words: John Newton, Public Domain. Chorus: Clint Wells. Music: Clint Wells.
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Leader: Ephesians 1:15-23
This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

covenant renewal prayer

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: In response to God's greatness and grace, let us pray together,
All: I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, place me with whom You will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for You or laid aside for You, exalted for You or brought low for You. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You are mine, and I am Yours. May it be so. And may the covenant which I have just made here on earth be confirmed in heaven. Amen.

— Sinclair Ferguson, *Things Unseen*, Ligonier Ministries

** 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 | “Faith – Elijah and Elisha in I & II Kings”

Sermon | “The Crucible of Faith”

January 8, 2023

I Kings 17:1-16 ^{ESV} | 1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.” 2 And the word of the Lord came to him: 3 “Depart from here and turn eastward and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. 4 You shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.” 5 So he went and did according to the word of the Lord. He went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook. 7 And after a while the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, 9 “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” 11 And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” 12 And she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” 13 And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’” 15 And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** 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, 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 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.

TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word,
Just to rest upon his promise, just to know, "Thus says the Lord." *

** Chorus:*

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust him more.

Oh, how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood,
And in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood. *

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease,
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest and joy and peace. *

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, friend;
And I know that he is with me, will be with me to the end. *

Words: Louisa Stead; Music: TRUST IN JESUS, William Kirkpatrick. 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 our gifts are freely returned, and in no way add to but are only a response to the supremely adequate work of Christ's atonement.

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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**** benediction**

announcements

****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.

intro to cpc

If you would like to learn more about what we believe and what we aim to do, please plan on attending the Intro to CPC Class (all three days) during the Sunday School hour February 5, February 12, and February 19. **Email Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) **to sign up or to request more information by January 26.** This class is required to become a member.

SESSION MEETING | TUESDAY

The Session (CPC's elders) will meet on **Tuesday, January 10, 5-7p.** If you would like to attend either in person or via zoom, please let us know to expect you by emailing Adrienne Herron (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org). If you have questions or concerns to be addressed but are unable to attend the meeting, please email those to Adrienne or one of the elders.

PREGNANCY HELP CENTER BBQ FUNDRAISER | JANUARY 15

Please plan to attend a barbecue fundraiser benefiting the Pregnancy Help Center of Williamson County after the worship service **Sunday, January 15, until 2p** at the Georgetown Community Center located in San Gabriel Park (445 E. Morrow St.), serving Pok-e-Jo's and all the fixings! You are invited to come & go, dine-in or take it home!

SIGN UP FOR THE CHILI COOKOFF

Our 5th annual chili cookoff is **Sunday, January 29**, immediately following the service. We need at least twelve chili chefs with crock pots, as well as others to provide sides, salads, cornbread, desserts, and drinks. Jan Straka took home the 1st place trophy in 2022 – do you have what it takes to take home the trophy this year? **Please sign up to compete or to bring something.** The sign-up sheets can be found in the main hall or electronically in the newsletter link. We are also looking for two more volunteers to help organize this event. **Please email Suzanne Joffrion** (women@cpcgeorgetown.org) **with questions or to help!**

women's fellowship night | january 19

Ladies, join us for a fellowship night on **Thursday, January 19, 7p** at the Joffrions' home to kick off our winter/spring study of Habakkuk! Even if you can't attend the Bible study, feel free to join us!

women's bible study

The women's group Bible study of Habakkuk has two meeting options: Monday mornings or Thursday evenings. The studies will begin **Monday, January 23, 930a** at Pickett (childcare by RSVP only) OR **Thursday night, January 26, 7p**, at Jeanne Dillinger's home. **Let Suzanne Joffrion know if you need a study book.** We look forward to this time of growth in God's Word! **If you have questions contact Valin Wells** (jonandvalin@protonmail.com), **Shelie Moore** (sheliemoore@gmail.com), or **Suzanne Joffrion** (women@cpcgeorgetown.org).

missions opportunity

Come alongside CPC missionaries, Marcus and Heather Rudd at Isaiah 55 Ministries in Reynosa, Mexico (just across the border from McAllen, TX) the week of **March 11-17, 2023.** Isaiah 55 is a multi-faceted ministry including a deaf and vocational school, neighborhood outreach, and church planting efforts. Team members will be working on projects to improve our deaf school facility and surrounding community. If you have a heart that is moved for the Isaiah 55 Ministries, please prayerfully consider joining a team of CPC members who will act as the hands of Christ in this ministry. **Please contact Gary Britigan** (gary_britigan@yahoo.com) or **Shawn Horrall** (shorrall@gmail.com) with the Missions Committee for more information or to sign up for this trip.

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 from the designated table near the entrance and submit your completed form to the wooden box by **Sunday, January 29**. Descriptions of the qualifications and responsibilities for officers of the church can be found on the same table.

thank you

January marks the beginning of a new term for church officers, which means that it also marks the end of a term for some who have served faithfully and either need a break from service or have completed their three-year commitment. Please extend great gratitude to **David Moore** (elder) who is rolling off active duty in January. Please also extend thanks to the Moore family for their service to the Lord's church.

sunday school resumes | january 15

CPC Sunday school will resume **January 15, 915a**. Everyone is encouraged to participate each week as it is important for God's people to be immersed in his Word repeatedly and often. Regular exposure to the Scripture places God's Word in our minds and hearts ready for the Holy Spirit to teach, lead, and convict us. This semester's classes include:

Preschool – This semester our CPC kids will be learning from the “Show Me Jesus” Curriculum and from the unit “Jesus is God.” They will discover that Jesus' many miracles were signs that point to Him as God the Son, our Savior. They will find out about his power, learn about his glory, and be taught about his authority.

Elementary – Following our fall study of learning about “Grace in the Law,” this semester our kids will be introduced to “God's Design for Worship,” (from the “Show Me Jesus” Curriculum) a hands-on, topical study of tabernacle worship in Exodus and Leviticus and how it was fulfilled in the coming of the promised Savior.

Youth – When we start talking about the big story of the Bible, there's no better place to start than at the beginning! The book of Genesis introduces us to several of the main characters, events, and themes of the story that God will unfold throughout the rest of the Bible. The song of God's redemption plays its first notes in Genesis, and we'll learn to hear its melody as we study together.

Adults – The adult program will again run 2 classes. Please join in the class/topic of your choice.

- ***Biblical Financial Concepts*** – God's financial principles are about much more than eliminating debt and living on a budget. He knows that we will only experience true purpose and freedom when we understand that we are simply stewards of everything he's entrusted to us. This class is designed to present managing your money from a Biblical perspective. The class will use the Bible as our primary resource supplemented with material from Larry Burkett and Randy Alcorn's book, *Money Possessions and Eternity*. Led by Gary and Jan Britigan.
- ***Leadership and Faith in the Home and Church*** (12 weeks) & ***Christian Worldview*** (6 weeks) – God calls all of his people to exert leadership and influence within our circles of existence. This class will look at God's call to rule and dominion, and the required basis of faith, in both the circles of the home and the church. The discussion will focus on informal leadership influences of everyone (not just elected male leadership) and be led by Lane Joffrion. For the final six weeks of the spring, the class will cover the basic concepts of Christian worldview or how to think of the world around us as Christians and through the lens of Holy Scripture. Led by Daniel McDowell.