
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 are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

— 1 Peter 2:9_{ESV}

**** call to worship**

Leader: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

All: He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Leader: On God rests my salvation and my glory;

All: My mighty rock, my refuge is God.

Leader: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him;

All: God is a refuge for us.

— Psalm 62:5-8_{ESV}

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber; Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes. Public Domain.

****prayer of invocation**

Leader: Great Father of glory, even when the world around us is in tumult and we are surrounded on all sides by trouble and disappointment, all this noise and clatter is silenced when we see you. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts today to know what is the hope to which you have called us, what are the riches of your glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of your power toward us who believe, according to the working of your great might that you worked in Christ, when you raised him from the dead and put all things under his feet and gave him as our head in the Church. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

— Based on Ephesians 1:18-22 ESV

Leader: But why are you called a Christian?

All: Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

Leader: Why do you call him “our Lord”?

All: Because – not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood – he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.

– *Heidelberg Catechism*, Questions 32 & 34

JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide; receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, I helpless, hang on thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone, support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed, all help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head in the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want, here more than all I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart; for all eternity.

“Jesus Lover of My Soul,” Words: Charles Wesley, Public Domain; Music: Greg Thompson
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

— From Hebrews 12:5-6 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live for you.
You have commanded us to obey, but we have been indifferent to your will.
You have commanded us to speak, but we have been silent.
You have called us to do what is just, but we have been fearful.
Lord, grant us the mercy of true repentance,
Teaching us the foul taste of sin and the sweetness of being restored to you.
Show compassion according to your steadfast love
And transform us by the power of your Holy Spirit
So that we may grow in knowledge and grace to the praise of your holy name.
These mercies we ask in the name of Jesus Christ,
Who with you and the Holy Spirit, reigns forever over our hearts, Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might
become the righteousness of God.

— 2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

All: Thanks be to God!

THY MERCY, MY GOD

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

“Thy Mercy, My God,” Words: John Stocker, Public Domain. Music: Sandra McCracken.
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Leader: Luke 5:1-11
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 | “Faith – Elijah and Elisha in I & II Kings”

WHIT ANDERSON

Sermon | “Chariots of Fire”

February 12, 2023

2 Kings 2:1-15 ^{ESV} | 1 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2 And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. 3 And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he said, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

4 Elijah said to him, “Elisha, please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. 5 The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

6 Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. 7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8 Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.” 10 And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” 11 And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. 13 And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. 14 Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, “Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

15 Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

sermon notes

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In response to the Gospel of grace, how shall we then live?

All: And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

— Matthew 28:18-20_{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.

THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen could ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair bowed down with care, God gave his Son to win;
His erring child he reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky. *

** Chorus:*

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure, the saints' and angels' song.

When age-old time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race – the saints' and angels' song. *

Words & Music: Frederick Martin Lehman, Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai. 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.

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red –
Life that shall endless be.

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go,” Words: George Matheson, Public Domain; Music: Christopher Miner.
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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 a visitor card, located at the entrance by the bulletins.

CPC KIDS EASTER EVENT

All CPC parents and children are invited to join us for year two of "A Walk to the Cross," held at the home of Jan and Chris Windsor on **Saturday, April 1!** We had a wonderful time last year, and we could not have done it without the help of our volunteers! If you would like to help make our "Walk to the Cross" event run smoothly, **we need set up, tear down, Easter egg hunt, and role play volunteers!** If you would like to help, please sign up at the CPC Kids table today!

AMPLIFY THE CARING PLACE

The annual Amplify The Caring Place campaign is in full swing. The Caring Place Board of Directors and several local business sponsors have pledged to "match every dollar you give" up to \$57,500! This campaign has been their biggest fundraiser every year since the start of the pandemic. With these matching dollars in play, your donation goes twice as far. There is one caveat to remember about this campaign: **You must give your donation online BEFORE Thursday, March 2, 6p.** Donations after this time will not be matched. You can give at the Amplify The Caring Place website: amplifyatx.org/organizations/the-caring-place.

SUPPORT JUBILEE AT HAVINS

Jubilee is sharing the gospel at the Thomas Havins pre-release unit in Brownwood, Texas, March 17-19. Please support us with participation, prayer, or financial support. **Email Ethan Hoke** (ethanhoke@gmail.com) **or Kevin Tanner** (kevinrtanner@gmail.com) with any questions or to sign up.

missions opportunity

**** New date! **** 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 18-24, 2023**. Isaiah 55 is a multi-faceted ministry, including a deaf and vocational school, neighborhood outreach, and church planting efforts. Team members will work 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.

cpc playgroup

If you take care of kids during the day, visit with friends from church while your children play! We would love to have you join planned and impromptu playdates around town. **Contact Anna Flynn** (anna.claire.nelson@gmail.com) to be added to our email list.

update your contact information

Please update your profile in Servant Keeper if your mailing address, email address, and/or phone number changes. Don't know how to update your profile, upload your photo, or access the online CPC directory? **Contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org).