

LENT | *The season of Lent is traditionally the season to prepare for the memorial of Christ's death and the celebration of his resurrection. This preparation involves a special examination of our devotion to Christ. As such, we lay aside through repentance both our sins and even, for a time, good things that sometimes compete for our love and trust. Instead, we intentionally pursue, even with sacrifice and effort, all things that remind our hearts that we are united to Christ and belong to no other.*

preparing our hearts

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 12:1b-2 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

All: **Make known his deeds among the peoples!**

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

All: **Tell of all his wondrous works!**

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

All: **Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

— Psalm 105:1-3 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King throughout eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high;
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity!

Words: Matthew Bridges, Godfrey Thring (v3); Music: DIADEMATA, George Elvey. Public Domain.

**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

— From the *Revised Common Lectionary*

Leader: Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

— Deuteronomy 6:4-7_{ESV}

Leader: What is the duty which God requires of man and where is it given?

All: The duty which God requires of man is obedience to his revealed will. It is revealed in God's moral law, set out in the Ten Commandments.

— Adapted from *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Q&A 39 & 41

Leader: What is the preface to the Ten Commandments, and what does it teach us?

All: The preface to the Ten Commandments is: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. This teaches us that because God is the Lord, and our God, and Redeemer, therefore we are bound to keep all his commandments.

— *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Q&A 43-44

AND CAN IT BE

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be that thou, my God, should die for me? *

** Chorus:*

Amazing love! how can it be
That thou, my God, should die for me!

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace;
Emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me. *

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee. *

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him is mine!
Alive in him, my living head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own. *

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: SAGINA, Thomas Campbell. Public Domain.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!
And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!
— Psalm 139:23-24 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: O Lord, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me my sins,
And mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit.
Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh,
A heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you,
To follow and enjoy you, for Christ's sake, Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

KYRIE ELEISON†

Leader: Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner

All: Lord Je-sus Christ, Son of God, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner

Leader: Ky-ri-e E-le-i-son, have mer-cy on me a sin-ner,

All: Have mer-cy on me — a sin-ner. —

†*Kyrie Eleison* is transliterated from Greek for “Lord, have mercy.” Public Domain.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

— 1 John 4:10 ESV

All: Thanks be to God for his mercy!

BE STILL, MY SOUL

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change, he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
To guide the future, as he has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord.
When disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Words: Katherine A. von Schlegel (trans. by Jane Borthwick); Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius. Public Domain.

Leader: Psalm 66:10-12; Hebrews 10:19-25
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 | “James – Faith Works”

Sermon | “The Steadfastness of Faith”

February 26, 2023

James 1:1-18 ^{ESV} | 1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

9 Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, 10 and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. 11 For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

12 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** gospel affirmation**

Leader: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

All: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Leader: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of the heavens and the earth.

All: By your will they were created and have their being.

Leader: From dust you brought forth the human race and blessed us in your image. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

All: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Leader: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

All: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Leader: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory.

All: Hallelujah! Worthy is the Lamb!

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.

For Sundays in Lent, please come forward via the inside aisles to the carpeted areas to receive the elements. Once you have been served, please take a few moments to reflect and take your elements. When you are done, place your empty cup in the trays provided and return to your seat via the outside aisles. If you are not taking the elements, you may come forward and stand with your arms crossed to receive a prayer of blessing from one of the elders, or simply remain seated. 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

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

— From 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our 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: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But it is your right, O God, to give mercy to whom you please. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink of him, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood; that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. 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.

UPON A LIFE I HAVE NOT LIVED

Upon a life I have not lived,
Upon a death I did not die,
Another's life; Another's death,
I stake my whole eternity.

Not on the tears which I have shed,
Not on the sorrows I have known,
Another's tears; Another's griefs,
On these I rest, on these alone.

O Jesus, Son of God, I build on what thy cross has done for me;
There both my life and death I read, my guilt, and pardon there I see.
There I see.

Lord, I believe; O deal with me,
As one who has thy Word believed!
I take the gift, Lord, look on me,
As one who has thy gift received.

O Jesus, Son of God, I build on what thy cross has done for me;
There both my life and death I read, my guilt, and pardon there I see.

O Jesus, Son of God, I build on what thy cross has done for me;
There both my life and death I read, my guilt, and pardon there I see.
There I see.

Words by Horatius Bonar (alt. K Twit), Music by Kevin Twit.
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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.

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN

Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken, thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me; they have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me, show thy face and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure; come disaster, scorn and pain.
In thy service pain is pleasure; with thy favor loss is gain.
I have called thee Abba Father; I have stayed my heart on thee.
Storms may howl and clouds may gather; all must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation. Rise o'er sin and fear and care.
Joy to find in every station, something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee; child of heaven, canst thou repine?

Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee; God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

"Jesus I My Cross Have Taken," Words: Henry Lyte, Public Domain; Music: Bill Moore.
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Minister: The God of love has shared his love with you.

All: May he strengthen us in our love for others.

Minister: The Son has shared his life with you.

All: May he grant us grace, that we might share our lives.

Minister: The Holy Spirit now dwells in you.

All: May he empower us to live only and always for God's glory.

Minister: Amen.

**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.

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.

welcome

Please welcome Julie Hanson as our new nursery coordinator! Julie and her family moved to Texas 16 years ago, and joined CPC 5 years ago. Julie has been married to Rob for almost 33 years, and they have two beautiful daughters. Their oldest, Taylor, is married to Travis; they live in Austin. Maddie currently lives with Julie and Rob, and is preparing to start law school this fall. During Julie's undergraduate years she worked as a preschool teacher, and when her youngest daughter turned 3, she was the director of her preschool. Julie absolutely loves caring for and nurturing children, and she's very excited about this new opportunity. Please say hello to Julie and welcome her as our new nursery coordinator!

get connected with a community group

Community Groups at CPC provide a place to apply the gospel to our daily lives. The implications of our life with Christ are so broad that we rarely understand them by ourselves. As we remind one another about grace, we help each other to open our lives to transformation according to God's purposes. If you are interested in joining a community group or getting more information, **contact Daniel McDowell** (daniel@cpcgeorgetown.org) **or Larry Lorimor** (larry.lorimor@gmail.com)!

need to make an announcement?

If you ever need to make an announcement, **please submit your announcement to Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org), along with any relevant materials, details, and/or links, **by Monday**. Please include your own blurb (50 words or less), and ensure your information is accurate. If the announcement is received after the deadline, it will be included in the following week's bulletin.