

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.*

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

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

— 1 John 4:7-8 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

All: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Leader: Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

All: He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

Leader: He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

All: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

— Psalm 111:1-5,7-8 ESV

** Please stand if you are able

ALL PRAISE TO HIM



All praise to him, the God of light, who formed the
 All praise to him whose love is seen in Christ the
 All praise to him whose pow'r im-parts the love of

moun-tains by his might. All praise to him who names the
 Son, the ser-vant King, who left be-hind his glo-rious
 God with-in our hearts. The Spir-it of all truth and

stars that sing his fame in skies a-far. All praise to him who reigns in
 throne to pay the ran-som for his own. All praise to him who hum-bly
 peace, the fount of joy and ho-li-ness. To Fa-ther, Son, and Spi-rit

love, who guides the ga-lax-ies a-bove, yet bends to
 came to bear our sor-row, sin, and shame, who lived to
 now our souls we lift, our wills we bow. To you, the

hear our ev-'ry prayer with sov'-rein pow'r and ten-der care.
 die, who died to rise, the all suf-fi-cient sac-ri-fice.
 Tri-une God, we raise with lo-ving hearts our song of praise.

“All Praise to Him,” Words and music: Matt Merker and Bob Kauflin.

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**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to deliver ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**** affirmation of faith**

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

What is the second commandment?

All: The second commandment is, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

Leader: What does the second commandment require and forbid, and why?

All: The second commandment requires receiving, observing, and keeping pure and whole all the religious worship and ordinances that God has appointed in his Word.

The second commandment forbids worshiping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

The reasons added to the second commandment are God’s sovereignty over us, his ownership in us, and the zeal he has for his own worship.

— *The Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English* (trans. David Snoke), Q&A 49-52

WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL SAVIOR

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men
Oh, you rescue the souls of men.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way
Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way. *

** Chorus:*

You are the One that we praise. You are the One we adore.
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving your own
Here in our weakness you find us, falling before your throne
Oh, we're falling before your throne. *

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior," Words & Music: Dawn Rogers & Eric Wise.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

— Psalm 51:1 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: O Lord,
The house of my soul is narrow; enlarge it that you may enter in.
It is ruinous, O repair it!
It displeases your sight. I confess it, but who shall cleanse it?
To whom shall I cry but to you?
Cleanse me from my secret faults, O Lord,
And spare your servant from my peculiar sins.
All this I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Savior of my soul. Amen.

— Adapted prayer of Augustine of Hippo

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: Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

– 1 Corinthians 6:9a, 11 ESV

All: Thanks be to God!

** hymn of gratitude

MY SOUL FINDS REST IN GOD ALONE (PSALM 62)

My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation;
A fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless, and hearts may curse, and lies like arrows pierce me;
I'll fix my heart on righteousness; I'll look to him who hears me. *

** Chorus:*

O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;
Everlasting, never failing: my Redeemer, my God.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone, amid the world's temptations;
When evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go, don't set your heart upon them;
The fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven. *

I'll set my gaze on God alone and trust in him completely;
With every day pour out my soul, and he will prove his mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, a sigh too brief to measure,
My King has crushed the curse of death, and I am his forever. *

O praise him! O praise him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
O praise him! O praise him! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! *

"Psalm 62," Words & Music: Stuart Townend & Aaron Keys.

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Leader: Deuteronomy 10:12-22
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”

WHIT ANDERSON

Sermon | “Love, Our First Priority”

March 12, 2023

James 2:1-12 ^{ESV} | 1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” 4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. 11 For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty.

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.

COME YE SOULS BY SIN AFFLICTED

Come ye souls by sin afflicted, bowed with fruitless sorrow down;
By the broken law convicted, through the cross behold the crown;
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus; mercy flows through him alone.

Take his easy yoke and wear it; love will make your obedience sweet;
Christ will give you strength to bear it, while his grace shall guide your feet
Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory, where his ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the eyes that see him. Blest the ears that hear his voice.
Blessed are the souls that trust him, and in him alone rejoice.
His commandments, his commandments, his commandments then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary, light to newly opened eyes,
Like full springs in deserts dreary, is the rest the cross supplies.
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it shall to rest immortal rise.

Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus; mercy flows through him alone.

“Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted,” Words: Joseph Swain (alt. Twit); Music: 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.

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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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.

WALK TO THE CROSS DONATIONS

We need candy-filled Easter eggs for our *Walk to the Cross* event! Last year we hid 500 eggs for our egg hunt, and we are looking to meet that same quota. We will be accepting candy-filled eggs from now until **Sunday, March 26**. Donations can be left at the Children's Ministry table in the appropriate bin. **Please reach out to Korina Slabach** (kids@cpcgerogetown.org) with any questions.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP

Join us Sunday, **April 9, 915 to 1015a**, for our Easter Breakfast. We will have good food and fellowship during the Sunday school hour to celebrate our Risen Lord! There is a sign-up sheet in the main hall for items to bring. **Please contact Sherryl Hatz** (sherryl.hatz@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

men's game night | march 25

Join your brothers from CPC for an evening of fellowship and friendly competition on **Saturday, March 25, 6p**. This is a great event to bring a friend to as well. All men are welcome! **Please respond to the evite or email James Schell** (wjamesschell@gmail.com) to be added to the evite list or to RSVP.

good friday service | april 7

Please plan to join us **Friday, April 7, 530p** at the **Georgetown Community Center** (445 E. Morrow St. Georgetown, TX 78626) for Good Friday Service.