

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

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

— Hebrews 11:6 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us

All: And make his face to shine upon us,

Leader: That your way may be known on earth,

All: Your saving power among all nations.

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

All: Let all the peoples praise you!

— Psalm 67:1-3 ESV

** 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: Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

— From *The Book of Common Prayer*

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 fourth commandment?

All: The fourth commandment is, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

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

All: The fourth commandment requires keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word, in particular one whole day in seven to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

The fourth commandment forbids the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, by doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works about our worldly employments or recreations.

The reasons added to the fourth commandment are God allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his claiming a special ownership of the seventh, his own example, and his blessing of the Sabbath day.

— *The Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English* (trans. David Snoke), Q&A 57, 58, 61, 62

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood shall never lose its power,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.
Be saved, to sin no more, Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

When this poor, lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing thy power to save.
I'll sing thy power to save, I'll sing thy power to save;
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing thy power to save.

Words: William Cowper; Music: FOUNTAIN, Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

— Psalm 25:6-7 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: Faithful Father, forgive us, for our sins against you are many.
In mercy, expose our folly, our false faith, and our weak hearts;
That the seed of your Word would not be snatched from us
Because we lack understanding;
That we not wither when trouble arises;
That the cares and riches of this world
Would not choke out what we have heard.
Instead, soften our hearts that we would receive you,
And that we would bear the fruit of righteousness in our lives,
Evermore bringing you glory and praise. In Jesus' name, 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: My little children [...] if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous.

– 1 John 2:1 ESV

All: Thanks be to God!

** hymn of gratitude

GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME (PSALM 51)

God, be merciful to me; on thy grace I rest my plea.
Plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now.
Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against thy grace, and provoked thee to thy face.
I confess thy judgment just; speechless, I thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust, by thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear thy voice.
From my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me, and return, O God, to thee.
Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love.
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

“God, Be Merciful To Me,” Words: Public Domain. Music: Christopher Miner & Richard Redhead.
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Leader: Matthew 7:15-29
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 | “How Faith Works”

March 26, 2023

James 2:14–26 ^{ESV} | 14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe – and shudder! 20 Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” – and he was called a friend of God. 24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

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.

DEAR REFUGE OF MY WEARY SOUL

Dear refuge of my weary soul, on thee, when sorrows rise
On thee, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies.
To thee I tell each rising grief, for thou alone canst heal.
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, for every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call thee mine.
The springs of comfort seem to fail, and all my hopes decline.
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust,
And still my soul would cleave to thee, though prostrate in the dust.

Hast thou not bid me seek thy face, and shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace, attends the mourner's prayer.
Oh, may I ever find access, to breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will, and wait beneath thy feet.
Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will, and wait beneath thy feet.

“Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul,” Words: Anne Steele, Public Domain. 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.

ALL MUST BE WELL

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well
Free and changeless is his favor, all is well
Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, all must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying
Yes, in living or in dying, all must be well

On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying
Yes, in living or in dying, all must be well

"All Must Be Well," Words: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith, Music: Matthew S. Smith.
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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.

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.

READERS NEEDED

We are looking for three Scripture readers for the Good Friday service **April 7, 530p**. If you are interested in serving, **please contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org).

easter breakfast | april 9

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! **Please contact Sherryl Hatz** (sherryl.hatz@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

update your directory information

Do you have a new address, email, phone number, or want to update your photo in the online directory? CPC has a self-service membership portal to manage personal information! **Contact Adrienne Herron** (adrienne@cpcgeorgetown.org) to learn how to register and update your personal information in Servant Keeper!

need to make an announcement?

If you ever need to make an announcement via weekly email, **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.