

ASCENSION SUNDAY • EASTERTIDE

MAY 24, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

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CHRIST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OUR VISION

CPC exists to invite every person in Georgetown and every place we serve into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

[cpcgeorgetown.org](http://cpcgeorgetown.org)

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 preparing our hearts

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”

– Our Lord in John 14:1-3 ESV

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 \*\* call to worship

*Leader:* For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

**All:** **But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;**

*Leader:* God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,

**All:** **So that no human being might boast in the presence of God.**

*Leader:* And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written,

**All:** **“Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”**

– 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 ESV

*Leader:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All:** **Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!**

## 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 all your longings 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.

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## **\*\*prayer of invocation**

*Leader:* We praise you, Father in Heaven, for our cup overflows with your grace. And we worship the name of Jesus, whom you have made the firstborn among all those you have adopted as your own; whose name is exalted above every name; and whom you have made King of our hearts. We thank you that because he offers perpetual intercession for us, you can inhabit our praises, and we can look forward to the day when we live for eternity together with you. In Jesus' exalted name we pray, Amen.

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## **\*\* affirmation of faith**

*Leader:* Christian, do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

*Leader:* Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us, and rose again?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

*Leader:* Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

*Leader:* This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

ISAIAH 43

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,  
And the waves will not overcome you.  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,  
I have called you by name; you are mine.

For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),  
I am the Lord your God (I am) the Holy One of Israel, Your Savior  
For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),  
I am the Lord your God (I am) the Holy One of Israel, Your Savior  
I am the Lord (do not fear) (x4)

When you walk through the fire, you'll not be burned,  
And the flames will not consume you.  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,  
I have called you by name; you are mine.

For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),  
I am the Lord your God (I am) the Holy One of Israel, Your Savior  
For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),  
I am the Lord your God (I am) the Holy One of Israel, Your Savior  
I am the Lord (do not fear) (x4)  
I am the Lord

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## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience[.]

– Ephesians 2:1-3 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **Merciful God, with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared;  
For we have offended you, Almighty God:  
We have sinned against your holy law;  
We have defiled your design for our lives;  
We have perverted justice and reason;  
We have neglected and squandered your gifts and blessings;  
We have feared created things rather than our Creator;  
We have harbored resentment and rebellion against you.  
You are our King, and though in sin we deem that too hard;  
In your grace and in the blood of the Lamb,  
There is no salvation, no hope, and no joy  
Apart from your rule over us.  
Therefore, by your Spirit, humble us and lead us to repent,  
To amend our lives according to the life we have in Christ.  
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

*Please reflect and silently confess your sins.*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE \*\*

*Leader:* But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

– Ephesians 2:4-6 ESV

**All:** **So that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

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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## scripture reading

*Leader:* Acts 1:3-11  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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## 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.**

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## passing the peace

*An elder will lead the passing of the peace.*

*During this time, everyone will be unmuted. When instructed, greet one another, saying, "The peace of Christ be with you."*

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## cpc kids lesson

*CPC Kids Director Laura Short will lead a brief lesson designed especially for our children.*

Series | “Exodus: From Captivity to Liberty”

Sermon | “The God of Inadequate Instruments”

May 24, 2020

**Exodus 4:1-17** <sup>ESV</sup> | 1 Then Moses answered, “But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’” 2 The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” He said, “A staff.” 3 And he said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. 4 But the Lord said to Moses, “Put out your hand and catch it by the tail”—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand— 5 “that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.” 6 Again, the Lord said to him, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. 7 Then God said, “Put your hand back inside your cloak.” So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. 8 “If they will not believe you,” God said, “or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. 9 If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

10 But Moses said to the Lord, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.” 11 Then the Lord said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.” 13 But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” 14 Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. 15 You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. 16 He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. 17 And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

*Leader:* This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

1. The reasons we don't move
2. The reasons we can move
3. The way God moves us forward

*Leader:* Though we cannot receive the sacrament of communion together while worshipping apart, we rejoice that our Lord continues to be present among us and remember Christ Jesus,

**All:** [W]ho, though he was in the form of God,  
Did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,  
But emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,  
Being born in the likeness of men.  
And being found in human form,  
He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,  
Even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
And bestowed on him the name that is above every name,  
So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
In heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
To the glory of God the Father.

– Philippians 2:6-11 ESV

*Please pray silently, giving thanks for Jesus, our salvation through him,  
and our union with him in life forevermore.*

*Leader:* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.  
Alleluia.

*As you are able, please continue to joyfully give to the work of the Lord through our church by giving [online](#).*

*Note: Besides placing your offering in the offering plate, all of the [other ways to give](#), including mailing a check to the office, are available.*

## MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' Name. \*

*\* Chorus:*

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand.

All other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every rough and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. \*

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. \*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found;  
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. \*

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**\*\* benediction**

*Minister:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All:** Alleluia! He is risen, indeed!

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**\*\*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.