

# Lord's Day Worship March 17, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

#### **WELCOME**

During Christian worship we cross the threshold
of the secular to the sacred,
from the common to the uncommon,
from the profane to the holy.
Our contact with the holy is not merely an encounter
with a different dimension of reality;
it is the meeting with Absolute Reality.
Christianity is not about involvement with religious experience as a tangent.
It involves a meeting with a holy God.¹

# **GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Prelude: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me, Augustus M. Toplady (1776)

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 36:7–8

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

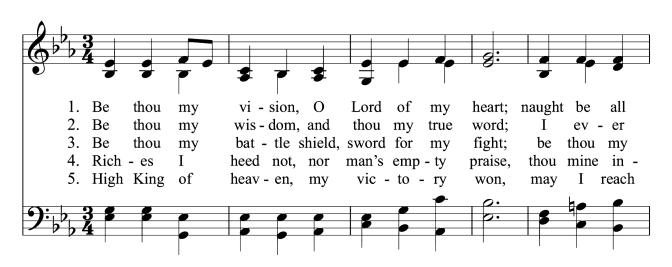
Church: They feast on the abundance of your house,

and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

# **HYMN OF ADORATION**

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# Be Thou My Vision



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R.C. Sproul, *The Holiness of God* (Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2010), 144, 146.



Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent. Tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905 Vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912 SLANE 10.10.10.10.10
Traditional Irish melody
Harm. OPC/URCNA 2016
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#### THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# **CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED**<sup>2</sup>

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.<sup>3</sup>
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,<sup>4</sup> the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### READING OF THE LAW FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT: MICAH 6:8–7:19

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The voice of the Lord cries to the city—and it is sound wisdom to fear your name:
"Hear of the rod and of him who appointed it!
Can I forget any longer
the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is accursed?
Shall I acquit the man with wicked scales

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Apostles' Creed is the oldest and simplest creed in the Christian church. Its earliest forms have been dated to around AD 200 when new converts were asked to profess it before joining the church. Christians have used it during worship for thousands of years to show our unity in the faith.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "He descended into hell" expresses Christ's "being buried, and continuing in the state of the dead, and under the power of death till the third day." See Westminster Larger Catechism 50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The word "catholic" derives from the Greek word *katholikos*, which means universal. The catholic church the universal church, which is invisible, consisting of all Christians in every church that have been, are, or shall be under Christ the Head. *See* Westminster Confession of Faith 25:1. The Apostles' Creed predates the church's division into the Western Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox churches or the Reformation of the western church that came much later.

and with a bag of deceitful weights?

12 Your rich men are full of violence;
your inhabitants speak lies,
and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

13 Therefore I strike you with a grievous blow,
making you desolate because of your sins.

14 You shall eat, but not be satisfied,
and there shall be hunger within you;
you shall put away, but not preserve,
and what you preserve I will give to the sword.

15 You shall sow, but not reap...
you shall tread grapes, but not drink wine....

7:9 I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication.

10 Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me, "Where is the Lord your God?"

A day for the building of your walls!
 In that day the boundary shall be far extended.
 In that day they will come to you,
 from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
 and from Egypt to the River,
 from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

19 He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>5</sup>

All: So long, Lord, have I lived in this world of yours, which you made and not I, as if I might do in it, and with myself, what I pleased! I have usurped upon your unquestionable right in me, have lived to myself and not to you; Turn me and I shall be turned; you are the Lord my God. Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by John Howe (1630–1705)<sup>6</sup>

#### Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 53:4–5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In our prayer of confession, we are honest with God, with ourselves, and with each other about who God is and who we are, confessing to Him that He is holy, righteous, just, and loving; and that we are not; yet, we are trusting in His mercy and grace available in Jesus Christ. We then have the joy of hearing God's Word say that He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins when we confess (1 John 1:9). And we have the joy of responding in song.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This prayer is adapted from Jonathan Gibson, *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* (Wheaton, Crossway: 2024).

# Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed



Constant Assert

Alt. 1961

Hugh Wilson, 1800 Arr. Robert A. Smith, 1825

#### **GREET ONE ANOTHER**

As the Apostle Paul encouraged churches to "Greet one another" (Romans 16:16, 1 Corinthians 16:20, 2 Corinthians 13:12, 1 Thessalonians 5:26), please greet those around you, and please introduce yourself to anyone you do not know.

# **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

Christ intercedes for His church in prayer (John 17; Luke 23:34; Hebrews 7:25), and He gives His church the ministry of praying "with each other for each other" as well praying for the community in which our church is placed (1 Timothy 2:1–4). We also use this time to pray for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world (Matthew 6:10).

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#### NEW TESTAMENT READING: LUKE 5:27–32

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." <sup>28</sup> And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.

And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

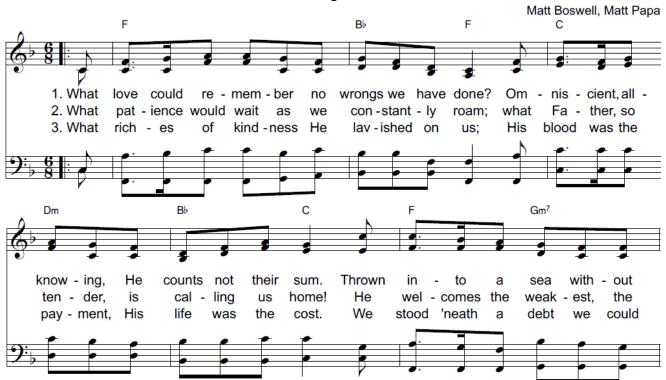
#### PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

# **Converting Sinners into Saints**

J. Porter Harlow Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church

#### **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

# **His Mercy Is More**





## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Meditation: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (6th Century Latin Hymn) tune by George J. Elvey (1858)

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King, who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side; praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine, gives his body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread; with sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie; death is conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light: hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise; holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

# Sermon Outline Converting Sinners into Saints Luke 5:27-32

I. Levi's DraConversion
II. Levi's Joyful Desire to Share Jesus
III. The Pharisee's Lack of Compassion & Faith in the Power of God to Change Sinners

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

During our prayer of thanksgiving, we express our thankfulness for what the Lord has provided, and we ask him to use our tithes and offerings to advance his kingdom and provide for those in need. Our church has three opportunities to give: (1) over the internet, (2) the collection box on the back table, or (3) by mail. Please see the announcements page for details.

#### HYMN OF THANKSGIVING



2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex) Irreg. Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

#### BENEDICTION: EPHESIANS 3:20–21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Leadership.** Christ Presbyterian is served by the following leaders:

- Teaching Elder: Porter Harlow
- Ruling Elders: Scott Hatch, Kevin Horrigan, David Hudak, and Philip Lee
- Deacons: Michael Hornbuckle, David Och, Wade Woo
- Women's Ministry Leadership Team: Bethany Fernandez, Kristy Hatch, and Lee Ann Hudak
- Pastoral Intern: Robert Hasler

**Giving.** You may support the work of the Lord by giving in the following ways.

- Internet. Go to <a href="https://cpcburke.org/support">https://cpcburke.org/support</a> or you may scan this QR Code.
- Offering Box. You may place your offering in the wooden box on the back table. Offering boxes were used in Old Testament synagogues (Luke 21:1–4). The ancient church continued to use them. Most churches eliminated them when they made the collection part of the worship service. During the Reformation, some churches returned to the practice. With the increasing use of electronic giving, many churches are returning to the Biblical precedent of offering boxes.



#### **Recurring Events**

- **Sunday School** meets after worship. Children 0-3 meet in the nursery. Pre-K to 5th graders meet in the pod outside the nursery before breaking into their classes. 6th to 12th meets in the band room. Adult Sunday School meets in the cafeteria.
- Small Groups
  - Wednesday Small Group meets weekly at 7:30 pm in the Hudak home.
  - o Friday Small Group meets on 2d and 4th Fridays at 6:00 pm in a rotating home.
  - o Sunday Small Group meets on 2d and 4th Sundays at 4:00 pm in a rotating home.
- Church Fellowship Meals on the first Sunday of the month after worship.
- Men's Breakfast meets on the second Saturday of each month.
- Women's Fellowship. The Women's Ministry meets on the third Saturday of each month.

**Missions We Support.** Please pray for the missions we support.

- **Church Planting in DC Area**. One Voice Fellowship, pastored by Chris Sicks, is a multilingual church on mission to reach ethnic and religious minorities in Falls Church.
- Church Planting in Dearborn, Michigan. Jerry Riendeau is preparing to plant in Dearborn, Michigan, home to the largest Arabic speaking population outside the Middle East.
- Church Planting in England. Oxford Presbyterian Church is a church being planted by in Oxford, England, by Andy Young.
- Church Planting in Japan. <u>Jason & Ai Kueh</u> are PCA missionaries planting in Shin-Urayasu, a Tokyo suburb. Jason is also ordained in the Presbyterian Church in Japan.
- **Church Planting in East Asia.** We support a PCA missionary who is training pastors in East Asia as part of a church planting movement underway there.
- Reformed University Fellowship-International at GMU. Pastor <u>Matthew DeLong</u> and staff member <u>Janelle Grove</u> are on mission to reach international students at GMU.

#### **Mercy Ministries We Support**

- The Lamb Center is a daytime homeless shelter sharing the love of Christ in Fairfax.
- Assist Pregnancy Center. <u>Assist</u> has a mission "to promote life through Christ to those vulnerable to abortion."

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