

Lord's Day Worship January 21, 2024

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: Unless the LORD Builds Up the House, Psalm 127 in The Psalter of 1912 set to the tune DEUS TUORUM MILITUM (1753)

Unless the LORD builds up the house, the weary builders toil in vain; unless he keeps the city safe, the guards a useless watch maintain. In vain you rise before the dawn, and late your nightly vigils keep; while you eat bread of anxious toil, God gives to his beloved sleep.

CALL TO WORSHIP: COLOSSIANS 1:15–19

Minister:

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church.

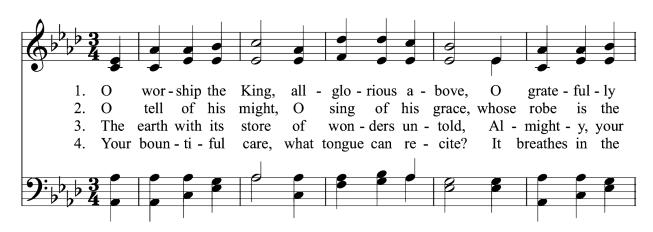
Church:

He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent.

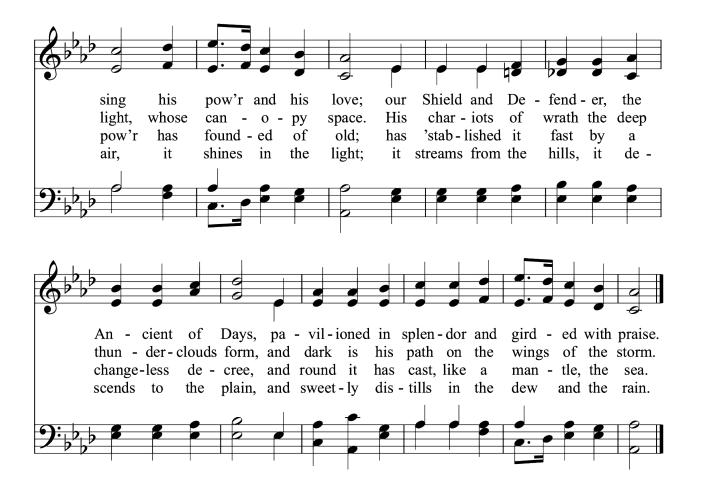
HYMN OF ADORATION

O Worship the King

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¹ R.C. Sproul, *The Holiness of God* (Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2010), 144, 146.



- 5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail; your mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!
- 6. O measureless Might! Ineffable Love! While angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

Based on Psalm 104 Robert Grant, 1833 Mod LYONS 10.10.11.11.
Michael Haydn, 1737–1806
Arr. in William Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

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: NICENE CREED²

All: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who, for our salvation, came down from heaven. and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate: He suffered and was buried: and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven. and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; And we believe one holy catholic³ and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

READING OF THE LAW FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: LUKE 10:25–28

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind,

² The Nicene Creed (AD 325, 381) is the ancient church's statement on what the Scriptures teach about God: that he is a Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit: co-equal and co-eternal persons inside the Godhead.

³ The "holy catholic" church is not the Roman Catholic church but 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 Nicene Creed predates the church's division into the Western Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church or the Reformation that came later.

and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION⁴

All: O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit, have mercy upon us.

Be merciful to us and deliver us, O Lord.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil-deliver us.

From the wiles of the devil and from everlasting death—deliver us.

Lord Jesus, by the mystery of your holy incarnation,

by your holy nativity,

by your baptism, fasting, and temptations

by your agony and bloody sweat,

by your cross and suffering,

by your death and burial,

by your resurrection and ascension,

by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter-deliver us, O Lord. Amen.

Adapted from a prayer by Martin Bucer (1491–1551)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: EPHESIANS 2:4-10

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

⁴ 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.

HYMN OF CONFESSION



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).

NEW TESTAMENT READING: LUKE 3:1–14

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹ And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³ And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

The Gospel Makes Demands

J. Porter Harlow Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Take My Life, and Let It Be

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5. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store. Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Frances R. Havergal, 1874

HENDON 7.7.7.rep. Henri A. César-Malan, 1827

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Meditation: From the Depths of Woe I raise to Thee, words by Martin Luther (1523) set to a tune by Christopher Miner (1997)

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication;
If Thou iniquities dost mark,
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
O who shall stand before Thee?
O who shall stand before Thee?

To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! Are all in vain;
In much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,
And live alone by mercy
And live alone by mercy

Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience
I wait for it with patience

What though I wait the live-long night,
And 'til the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in His might;
It doubteth not nor feareth;
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,
Ye of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait 'til God appeareth
And wait 'til God appeareth

Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow
From all their sin and sorrow

Sermon Outline The Gospel Makes Demands

Luke 3:1-14



II. His Message (v.7–9)

III. The Response (v.10–14)

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, ²¹ 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 https://cpcburke.org/support 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 Fellowship 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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