
prelude

PAT DOLAN

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

Children of the Heavenly Father – Swedish Folk tune / C. Moglebust

May Jesus Christ Be Praised – Joseph Barnby / Lari Goss

When morning gilds the sky, our hearts awaking cry: May Jesus Christ be praised!

In all our work and prayer we ask his loving care: May Jesus Christ be praised!

preparing our hearts

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

– Isaiah 9:6-7 ESV

**** call to worship**

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

All: **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

Leader: The LORD has made known his salvation;

All: **He has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to his people.

All: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

– Psalm 98:1-3 ESV

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: German tune. Public Domain.

****prayer of invocation**

Leader: O Holy Father, you have freely given your Son; O Divine Son, you have freely paid our debt; O Eternal Spirit, you have freely bid us come. O Triune God, you have freely grace us with salvation. Grace us also with your fellowship and grant joy in our hearts as we seek you today. Amen.

– Adapted from *The Valley of Vision*, “Freedom”

**** affirmation of faith**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

And is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy catholic Church*,

The communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

* Here, “catholic” means “universal,” and refers to the Christian church in all places

HIS LOVE CAN NEVER FAIL

I do not ask to see the way my feet will have to tread;
But only that my soul may feed upon the living Bread.
'Tis better far that I should walk by faith close to his side;
I may not know the way I go, but oh, I know my Guide. *

** Chorus:*

His love can never fail, his love can never fail,
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.

And if my feet would go astray, they cannot, for I know
That Jesus guides my faltering steps, as joyfully I go.
And tho' I may not see his face, my faith is strong and clear,
That in each hour of sore distress my Savior will be near. *

I will not fear, tho' darkness come abroad o'er all the land,
If I may only feel the touch of his own loving hand.
And tho' I tremble when I think how weak I am, and frail,
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail. *

"His Love Can Never Fail," Words: E. S. Hall, Public Domain. Music: Christopher Miner.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

– Psalm 34:11,14_{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **Forgive us, Lord, for we have sinned against a Holy God.**
You have taught us to trust you in the midst of the storm,
And yet we rise and fall with the winds and waves around us:
The balance of our fortunes, the health of our bodies,
The strength of our relationships, the fruit of our work,
The state of politics or the world.
Forgive our misplaced anger, misguided anxiety, and misused energy.
Help us to believe in your sovereign reign, even as we wait to see it in full.
Help our unbelief as we see the broken things around us.
Through Christ our Lord, who is the Prince of Peace, Amen.

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

– Psalm 34:18, 22_{ESV}

All: **Thanks be to God!**

BE THOU MY VISION

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought by day or by night; waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father and I thy true son; thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise; thou my inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart; High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won. May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Dallan Forgaill, translated by Mary Byrne; Music: Irish folk song. Public Domain.

Leader: Psalm 2
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–K.

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.

Series | “Romans, Part Four: Why We Serve”

Sermon | “The Politics of the Transformed”

October 7, 2018

Romans 13:1-8 ^{ESV} | 1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, 4 for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. 7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

1. The Politics of Human Beings
2. The Politics of God
3. The Politics of God's People

**** the gospel charge**

Leader: In light of the Word we have heard, how ought we live?

All: The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

– Philippians 4:5b-7 ESV

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.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

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 hymns.

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

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”

– Mark 14:22-24^{ESV}

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord 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: Father, we give you thanks for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his willing obedience and suffering during his life on earth, and for his sacrifice of his body and blood on the cross. As we partake of these, your gifts of the bread and the cup, give us assurance that we are made whole by his body and our sins are pardoned through his blood. Fill our minds with your peace and turn our eyes to heaven, where Christ is at your right hand interceding for us. Enable us to offer up ourselves in service to Christ and unite us with each other through your Spirit so that we may continue in the living hope of our Savior’s coming in glory. Hear us now through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

ALL I HAVE IS CHRIST

I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave
I had no hope that you would own a rebel to your will
And if you had not loved me first, I would refuse you still

But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed; you suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me; now all I know is grace *

** Chorus:*

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life

Now, Lord, I would be yours alone and live so all might see
The strength to follow your commands could never come from me
O Father, use my ransomed life in any way you choose
And let my song forever be, "My only boast is you" *

"All I Have Is Christ," Words and Music: Jordan Kauflin, © Sovereign Grace Praise. Song #5174122.

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine.
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, and I'll love thee in death.
I'll praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in Heaven so bright;
And sing with the glittering crown on my brow.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

Words: William Featherstone; Music: Adoniram Gordon. Public Domain.

ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS I STAND

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away. *

** Chorus:*

I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land,
I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more. *

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face and in his bosom rest? *

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand," Words: Samuel Stennett, Music: Christopher Miner.
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announcements

Please note the announcements found on Pages 17-20 of your bulletin.

**** benediction**