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**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.*

*Prelude on "The Lord's My Shepherd" – James Bain/Raymond Haan*

*Psalm 121 – Scottish Psalter/Joan Pinkston*

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**preparing our hearts**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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 . . . For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

– Colossians 1:15-16, 19-20<sub>ESV</sub>

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**\*\* call to worship**

*Leader:* Praise the LORD!

**All: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,**

*Leader:* In the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**All: Great are the works of the LORD,**

*Leader:* Studied by all who delight in them.

**All: Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.**

– Psalm 111:1-3<sub>ESV</sub>

## THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. Oh, let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

Words: Maltbie Davenport Babcock; Music: Franklin Lawrence Shepphard. Public Domain.

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

*Leader:* O God, your plan, and the end of your will is to make Christ glorious and beloved in heaven where he is now ascended, where one day all the elect will behold his glory and love and glorify him for ever. Though here we love him but little, may this be our portion at last. In this world you have given us a beginning; one day it will be perfected in the realm above. You have helped us to see and know Christ, though obscurely, to take him, receive him, to possess him, love him, to bless him in our hearts, our mouths, and our lives.

– Adapted from *The Valley of Vision*, “Christ Alone”

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## **\*\* 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

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

O, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Glory to God, and praise and love be ever, ever given,  
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Carl G. Glaser. Public Domain.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

– Hebrews 3:12 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **O Father, Maker of Heaven and Earth,  
Whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite,  
We are gathered before you to confess that  
We have sinned in thought and word and deed;  
We have not loved you with all our heart and soul;  
We have not loved you with all our mind and strength;  
We have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves.  
Deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done, for the good we have left  
undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please Father,  
do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your  
mercy, restore the joy of our salvation, so that we may love you with a holy  
love. In Jesus' Holy Name we pray, Amen.**

*Please reflect and silently confess your sins.*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE \*\*

*Leader:* There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

– Romans 8:1-2 ESV

**All:** **Thanks be to God, through Christ Jesus our Lord!**

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.

*Leader:* Psalm 133  
1 John 4:7-12  
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

*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.

*When instructed, greet those around you, saying, “The peace of Christ be with you.” When the music begins, please be seated and prepare yourself for the hearing of God’s Word.*

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

Sermon | “Christian Unity”

October 21, 2018

**Romans 14:1-12** <sup>ESV</sup> | 1 As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. 2 One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. 3 Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

5 One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. 7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. 8 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; 11 for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

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

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

1. Differences That Divide
2. Grace That Unites
3. The Unity Challenge

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**\*\* the gospel charge**

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

**All:** Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

– Luke 6:37-38<sub>ESV</sub>

## 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.*

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## 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<sup>ESV</sup>

*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.

## BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea:  
A great High Priest whose name is Love who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands; my name is written on his heart.  
I know that while in heaven he stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart; no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see him there, who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just, is satisfied  
To look on him and pardon me; to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!  
One with himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by his blood.  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ my Savior and my God; with Christ my Savior and my God.

“Before the Throne of God Above,” Words: Charitie L. Bancroft; Public Domain. Music: Vikki Cook.  
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## WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts. Music: anon., arr. Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS

O, the deep, deep love of Jesus; vast, unmeasured, boundless free.  
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love.  
Leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

O, the deep, deep love of Jesus; spread his praise from shore to shore.  
How he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore.  
How he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own.  
How for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O, the deep, deep love of Jesus; love of every love the best;  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus; 'tis a heaven of heavens to me,  
And it lifts me up to glory for it lifts me up to thee.

Words: Samuel Trevor Francis, Music: Thomas J. Williams. Public Domain.

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**announcements**

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

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**\*\* benediction**