### **Liturgy for Corporate Worship**

The Lord's Day May 2, 2025

Prelude Chris Holmberg

Welcome & Announcements

Introit Choir

Festive Praise

Call to Worship Philippians 4:20

Hymn 213

Glory Be to God the Father

Corporate Prayer of Confession & Silent Confession

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that by nature we are slaves to sin, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking that your grace might relieve our distress. Have compassion on us, most gracious God, Father of mercies, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt, also grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness that are pleasing in your sight: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 5:17

The Gloria Patri 572

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

**Prayer of Dedication** 

Elder Chris Holmberg

The Lord's Prayer

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. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem Choir

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Unison Scripture Reading John 15:1-11

Hymn 343

What Wondrous Love Is This?

Sermon Rev. Pete Scribner

Ephesians 5:22-33

Statement of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 1 & 2

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Hymn 465

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Benediction Hebrews 13:20-21

Parting Hymn

God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Featured Element of Worship: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, which we sing today, includes the following words:

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Take away our bent to sinning; Into every troubled breast! Alpha and Omega be.

Let us all in Thee inherit;

Let us find the promised rest.

Find and Official Be.

End of faith, as its beginning,

Set our hearts at liberty.

Do we recognize that as a result of original sin, we are born with a bent toward sinning? Our hearts are in essence, as Calvin put it, "idol factories." And we can't free ourselves from our enslavement to sinful desire; rather we need God to work in us if we are ever to have any hope of liberty.

In worship, we turn to God seeking deliverance from this bondage, and are reminded once more of the good news of Christ Jesus. It is through Christ alone and his power in us, that we can be freed to live holy lives, loving God and loving neighbors as we have been called to do. May we all know this freedom and express it through the fruits of repentance.

### Glory Be to God the Father

#### 213



Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889; alt. CCLI# 594962

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7. Henry Smart, 1867

# Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, Love most bright,
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,
Soar to uncreated light.

Word of God, our flesh that fashion'd, With the glow of faith impassion'd, Striving still to Truth unknown, Life attaining near Thy throne.

Through the way where hope is guiding,
Hark, what peaceful music rings!
Where the flock, in Thee confiding,
Drink of joy from deathless springs.

Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure,
Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own
In the love of joys unknown.

Johann Sebastian Bach
Edited, accompaniment arr. by Richard G. Appel
Martin Jahn: English words from the Church Music Society
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### **Unison Scripture Reading....John 15:1-11**

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.



## **Sermon Text...Ephesians 5:22-33**

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of his body. 31 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

# Sermon Notes (Ephesians 5:22-33)

The Duty of Wives

• The Duty of Husbands

• The Mystery of Marriage

# **Meditation for the Week**

The reason that marriage is so painful and yet wonderful is because it is a reflection of the gospel, which is painful and wonderful at once. The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope. This is the only kind of relationship that will really transform us. Love without truth is sentimentality; it supports and affirms us but keeps us in denial about our flaws. Truth without love is harshness; it gives us information but in such a way that we cannot really hear it. God's saving love in Christ, however, is marked by both radical truthfulness about who we are and yet also radical, unconditional commitment to us. The merciful commitment strengthens us to see the truth about ourselves and repent. The conviction and repentance moves us to cling to and rest in God's mercy and grace.

The hard times of marriage drive us to experience more of this transforming love of God. But a good marriage will also be a place where we experience more of this kind of transforming love at a human level. The gospel can fill our hearts with God's love so that you can handle it when your spouse fails to love you as he or she should. That frees us to see our spouse's sins and flaws to the bottom—and speak of them—and yet still love and accept our spouse fully. And when, by the power of the gospel, our spouse experiences that same kind of truthful yet committed love, it enables our spouses to show us that same kind of transforming love when the time comes for it.

Timothy Keller *The Meaning of Marriage*, p. 48 New York: Dutton, 2011



WELCOME to this morning's service of corporate worship!

The Flowers adorning our worship this week were provided by Thomas and Susan Alarie in memory of Sue's mom, Bonita Eileen Young, at her birthday.

## **Communion at Calvary**

If you are our guest in worship today, we welcome you both to Calvary and to the Lord's Table. Our celebration of the Lord's Supper is open to all who have trusted in Christ as Savior and follow Him as Lord, that in partaking they might experience spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Mindful not only of Scripture's promises, but also of its cautions regarding the Lord's Supper, we generally discourage children from partaking of the sacrament. Regardless of age, it should be shared only by those people who understand and give ascent to the historical and personal significance of the cross of Jesus Christ.

When the bread is passed to us by the Elders, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a piece from the tray and hold it while others are being served. Then, as a symbol of our common union with Christ as one body, we shall all partake together.

When the cups are distributed, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a cup from the tray and, as a symbol of our individual trust in Christ, to drink on our own.

We encourage worshippers to use the time during which others are being served for the thoughtful reading of Scriptures or quiet meditation and prayer.

May God nourish our spirits as we worship Him through partaking of these elements in faith, as a sign and a seal of the covenant of grace.

Offerings are received each week in the wooden donation box in the Narthex. We have placed it there as a convenience for our members and friends. If you are visiting us this Sunday, please feel no pressure to make any donation. We are glad to have you simply be our guest today, and invite you to join us for a donut and coffee in the Fellowship Hall after worship!

New Pictoral Directory - We are in the very opening stages of creating a new pictoral directory. If you would like to volunteer to help out with this project, please let us know in the office.

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**Next Sunday** 9:40 Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome)

10:00 Worship Service

followed by coffee, donuts & fellowship

11:30 Sunday School

Next week's sermon text is Isaiah 26. In addition to our Meditation for the Week (printed on the insert), spend time with this text throughout the week as you prepare your heart for corporate worship next Sunday.

### **Church Staff**

Pastor	Pete Scribner
Director of Music	Susan Lechota
Music Minister	Chris Holmberg
Custodian	Vicky Haughey



<u>THANK YOU</u> to everyone who was here for Saturday's work day to help take care of our building and grounds!



# Calvary Presbyterian Church May 2, 2025



Our Mission - We exist to know, worship, serve, and enjoy the one true God.

Our Vision - We seek to love God completely, love others selflessly, and everywhere proclaim Christ: crucified, risen, and reigning forever.

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