

Welcome to Christ United Methodist Church in Cedar Mill

Sunday, July 25th, 2021
Online Gathering, 10:30 am
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Welcome and Greeting

Opening Prayer

Hymn: "Ain't No Grave"

1. Shame is a prison as cruel as a grave
Shame is a robber
and he's come to take my name
Love is my redeemer
lifting me up from the ground
Love is the power
where my freedom song is found

2. Fear is a liar
with a smooth and velvet tongue
Fear is a tyrant, he's always telling me to run
Love is resurrection
and love is a trumpet sound
Love is my weapon,
I'm gonna take my giants down

*There ain't no grave gonna hold my body down
There ain't no grave gonna hold my body down
When I hear that trumpet sound
I'm gonna rise up out of the ground
There ain't no grave gonna hold my body down*

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21 (CEB)

This is why I kneel before the Father. Every ethnic group in heaven or on earth is recognized by him. I ask that he will strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit. I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God.

Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.

The Word of God for you, the people of God
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: “Way Maker”

1. You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You

*You are
Way maker, miracle worker,
promise keeper, light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are*

2. You are here, touching every heart
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing every heart
I worship You, I worship You

3. You are here, turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, mending every heart
I worship You, I worship You

*Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop, You never stop working*

That is who You are...

Prayers of the People

Response to each praise:

One: *We give thanks.*

Many: **Thank you, God.**

Response to each concern:

One: *Lord, have mercy.*

Many: **Christ, have mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer

Sung response:

*Way maker, miracle worker,
promise keeper, light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are*

Message:

“What's Good got to do with it?”

Pastor Ric Shewell

The Great Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

On the night when Christ handed himself over for our sakes...

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us...

Through Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

(You may receive the bread and cup you have prepared for this gathering.)

Hymn: *“The Love of God”*

1. The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave his Son to win
His erring child he reconciled
And pardoned from their sin

*O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song*

2. When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall
When we who here refuse to pray
On rocks and hills and mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints and angels song

3. Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And everyone a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

Coming up with Christ UMC

Blessing

Hymn: *“Take to the World”*

Go in peace to love and to serve
Let your ears ring long
with what you've heard
And may the bread on your tongue
Leave a trail of crumbs
To lead the hungry back
to the place that you are from

*And take to the world this love, hope and faith
Take to the world this rare, relentless grace
And like the three in one
Know you must become what you want to save
'Cause that's still the way
He takes to the world*

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Grow • Pray • Study Guide

7/26/21 - 7/31/21, Christ UMC

(you can join Pastor Ric live every morning at 8 am on our website or our Facebook page)

MON 7/26/21: Psalm 103, from forever ago to forever from now
The unfathomable extent of God's love is revealed through the history, worship, and thoughts of Israel. This psalm is the perfect example. Where the gods of other stories are vindictive and petty, the God revealed through Israel is compassionate, full of love, and ready to forgive. See how Jesus, Paul, and the Apostles were influenced by Hebrew thinking in their Greek contexts?

TUE 7/27/21: Luke 10:25-37, Do this and you will live
God, in Jesus Christ, is offering us freedom and new life! Yet so often, we are looking for a contract: what do I get? and what do I have to do? In our reading today, a legal expert is asking for the contract: what do I have to do to get eternal life? Jesus makes it simple, and then makes it hard. Love God and love neighbor, do this and you will live. When the legal expert presses the matter, Jesus tells him to do what the good Samaritan did.

WED 7/28/21: Psalm 51, What can we really do to make it right?
This psalm is paired with the story of David's sin in taking Bathsheba and killing her husband. We're face David's dilemma with him: what could possibly be done to make it right? There's not a sacrifice or a price to pay that can undo what has been done. There is only a plea for mercy. How powerful is mercy?

THU 7/29/21: 1 Samuel 24:1-22, David has mercy on Saul
Saul's intentions are clear: kill David. While on the hunt for David, Saul takes a nap in a cave, unaware that David is further in. David spares Saul, takes a corner of his cape as evidence that he wishes no harm on the king. David's act of mercy turns away Saul's wrath. How can mercy be more effective than revenge or violence? What are you hearing in this Scripture today?

FRI 7/30/21: Philippians 3:17-21, Citizens of heaven
The Philippians were citizens of Rome. It was a colony of Rome. A Philippian could always appeal their case to Rome if they felt there were treated unfairly in other parts of the Empire. To be a citizen of Rome meant that you had certain protections and rights. It also meant that you ascribed to a way of living prescribed by the Emperor. However, Paul tells them (and us) that we are not citizens of Rome, but of heaven. What rights and protections do we enjoy as citizens of heaven? What is the way of living that we are called to as citizens of heaven?

SAT 7/31/21: Ephesians 4:1-16, Unity in the Spirit
Being rooted in love, we now are called to live lives worthy of this connection and calling. Notice the virtues: humility, gentleness, patience, and love. Join us in worship Sunday as we continue our sermon series "Come Together." Join us in person at 9 am or 10:30 am, or online at 10:30 am. You matter to God.