

Welcome to Christ Presbyterian Church of New Haven!

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us in worship this Lord's Day.

It is our sincere hope and prayer that you will know the saving presence, power, love and authority of our King and Savior Jesus Christ as a result of our time spent together in worship.

*We would also like to get more acquainted with you, so please take the time to **fill out the register** as it comes down your row during the announcements. Please use the prayer card located in the inside pocket of the register or the back of pews to communicate your prayer requests or other concerns and place it in the basket on the back table as you leave the worship service. Your requests are prayed for during the week.*

*We also hope you will join us for **coffee & tea following the worship service.***

*As a church, we value family worship, and therefore children of all ages are welcome to join us in the worship service at their parents' discretion. However, **childcare** is available (off of the foyer area - Children's Education Wing) for parents who wish to take advantage of it (there is no age restriction). Please do not hesitate to ask a greeter for assistance.*

Introduction and Welcome to CPC - please pick up your free copy on the table located at the foyer entrance.

Our Offices are adjacent to the sanctuary. Core office hours at CPC are from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm Monday-Thursday. Should you need to use our facilities, please call our Administrator to make arrangements. We are currently building a unique library and reading room containing various selections of books, journals, children's literature and tapes (library is located in our balcony area). Selections may be checked out or you are welcome to drop by for a reading break from your busy schedule.

Parking - On Sundays, please reserve the on-site parking lot for our visitors & parents with small children. In courtesy to our neighbors, please do not park in front of Bradley St. homes, but use the RIS parking lot located next door. **During the week**, please contact our administrator for parking information as most of our spaces are rented out during the week. And, for safety reasons, exit the lot on the Bradley Street side only. Thank you.

Log onto: christpresnewhaven.org for more information or calendar events.

You may also call 777-6960 and press 5 to hear weekly events.

CD's of sermons are available upon request for \$3 per CD. To order a copy, please fill out a request sheet (located in the Media Center/Reading Room in the Fellowship Hall) and place your payment into the container labeled Media Payments.

As a church committed to Greater New Haven, we meet in the middle of the region we hope to serve and reach, which consists of both downtown New Haven and the surrounding edge towns. We believe that the gospel transcends all ethnic, social, and demographic boundaries. We are ambitious for the glory of God and aim to extend a Christ-centered gospel throughout Greater New Haven.

We reuse bulletin covers - if you do not need one - please place covers on the foyer table as you leave.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
Service Order 4

January 7, 2007

10:30AM

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship

Out Of The Deep

*Out of the deep I call
To Thee, O Lord, to Thee.
Before Thy throne of grace I fall;
Be merciful to me,
Be merciful to me.*

*Out of the deep of fear
And dread of coming shame;
All night 'til morning watch is near
I plead the precious name,
I plead the precious name.*

*Out of the deep I cry,
The woeful deep of sin,
Of evil done in days gone by,
Of evil now within,
Of evil now within;*

*Lord, there is mercy now,
As ever was, with Thee.
Before Thy throne of grace I bow;
Be merciful to me,
Be merciful to me,*

**God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory*

#122

*God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;
ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;
beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;
all the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.*

*Clearer still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
ruler of creation's glory, image of thy majesty.
Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days,
are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise.*

*But our sins have spoiled thine image; nature, conscience only serve
as unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve.
Yet thy grace and saving mercy in thy Word of truth revealed
claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed.*

*God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
we, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;
with our acts as with our voices, thy commandments to fulfill.*

**Congregation Standing*

*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 pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.*

*He speaks and, list'ning 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 loosen'd tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.*

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Psalm 135:1-7, 13

Leader: Praise the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord; praise him, you servants of the Lord.

People: *You who minister in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.*

Leader: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant.

People: *For the Lord has chosen Jacob to be his own, Israel to be his treasured possession.*

Leader: I know that the Lord is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods.

People: *The Lord does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.*

Leader: He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; he sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

People: *Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord, through all generations.*

Leader: Praise the Lord.

*Invocation and Prayer of Adoration

*Doxology (#733)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;

O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-5*

New Testament Reading: *Matthew 13:44-46*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

*Congregation Standing

Meditation

[Please take a moment to reflect on the reading of God's Word]

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Corporate Confession:

[Participants may kneel or lean forward]

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: *Eternal Father, You are good beyond all thought, but we are sinful and blind. Our lips are ready to confess, but our hearts are slow to feel and our ways reluctant to amend. Unmask to us sin's deformity, that we may hate it, abhor it, flee from it. Give us grace to bewail our senseless folly; grant us to know that the way of transgression is hard, that evil paths are wretched paths, that to depart from you is to lose all good. We have seen the purity and beauty of your perfect law, yet daily we violate and condemn its precepts. All these sins we mourn, lament, and for them cry, "Pardon." Work in us more profound and abiding repentance; give us the fulness of a godly grief which is ever powerful, and ever confident; grant that our repentance will enable us to see more clearly the brightness and glory of the cross of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

Private Confession

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and you did not forsake them. *Nehemiah 9:17*

Pastoral Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Prayer for our Members: David & Katherine Routenberg

Special Needs: Missions planning for the summer.
Janine Lempke – future finances.

Mission to the World:

Peru – Mr. & Mrs. Bill Allen, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Beck, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Berry, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Davidson, Ms. Laura Deadwyler, Mr. & Mrs. Craig Gahagen, Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Gutierrez, Mr. & Mrs. Osman Gutierrez, Mr. Andrew Halbert, Jr. , Mr. Nathan Leslie, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Matthews, Mr. & Mrs. Dick Montag, Ms. Julie Murphy, Ms. Susanna Murphy, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Norton, Mr. & Mrs. Keith Powlison, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Riedel, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Rockwell, Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Ross, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Woodson, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Wroughton

*Song of Response: *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

*Alas and did my savior bleed
Did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a fool as I?*

*Chorus: The strangeness of love, my life in Your death
In Your brokenness my wholeness revealed
Your bonds are my freedom, Your sorrow my song
And by Your wounds I am healed*

*Was it for crimes that I have done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!*

Chorus

*Well might the sun in dark-ness hide,
and shut his glor-ies in,
when Christ, the might-y Mak-er, died
for man the crea-ture's sin.*

Chorus

*Thus might I hide my blush-ing face
while His dear cross ap-pears;
dis-solve my heart in thank-ful-ness,
and melt my eyes in tears.*

Chorus

*But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give my self away
'Tis all that I can do.*

Chorus

TAG: And by Your wounds I am healed.

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: *The Dearest Dream*
[Sermon notes located on page 15]

Rev. Clay Daniel

44" The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 45" Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.
Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)

*Congregation Standing

WORSHIP THROUGH SACRAMENT

Introduction to the Lord's Table

The Collection of the Communion of the Saints

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Collection Hymn: *Amazing Grace* (vs. 1-3)

[A good time to retrieve your children from childcare to experience the Lord's Table, if so desired.]

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

*Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.*

*Presentation of Gifts

[Please stand as we present our lives and gifts to Christ at His banquet table.]

...and they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Revelation 4:10-11

*Processional Hymn: *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* (#1)

*All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth-tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.*

*Congregation Standing

*Confession of Faith

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

Congregation: *In all my distress and persecution, I turn my eyes to the heavens and confidently await as Judge the very One who has already stood trial in my place before God and so has removed the whole curse from me. All His enemies and mine, He will condemn to everlasting punishment-- but me and all His chosen ones, He will take along with him into the joy and the glory of heaven. I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.*
[Heidelberg Catechism, question 52 & 56]

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

All: *We lift them up to the Lord!*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Prayer of Consecration

Invitation to the Lord's Table

[We use wine in the Lord's Supper, believing it to be the biblical element used. We provide grape juice for those who, out of conscience or reasons of health, do not partake of wine. Grape juice is in the outer rim.]

Words of Institution

Pastor: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: *Christ has died.*

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

Pastor: 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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Congregation Standing

Prayers for those not communing:

~Prayer for those searching

Oh God, I am discovering that the more I have, the more I need to have, the more I am loved, the more I need to be loved, the more I achieve, the more I need to achieve. Nothing seems to satisfy me. "Nothing tastes." Could it be, as someone once said, that "Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee." Dear God, if this is true, and if as the Bible teaches there is life and life eternal in Christ alone, please guide me to him. Open me to the reality of the one who alone can satisfy my restless heart. Give me the courage to believe that which I cannot see but can understand, feel and touch through the word, sacraments and church family. Lord I want to believe, please help me in my unbelief! Amen.

~Prayer of belief

Lord God, I now see that I am weaker and more flawed than I ever before believed, but in Christ, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Even as I have not loved you or my neighbor with all of my heart, you have shown your love for me in that while I am still sinning, Christ died for me and took upon himself the condemnation that I deserve. I now know that You owe me nothing for my efforts, but you offer acceptance, love and blessing into all eternity because of Christ's efforts on my behalf. I therefore ask that you would enable me to turn away from trusting in my own efforts to gain your acceptance and forgiveness, and trust in the perfectly righteous efforts of Christ on my behalf in order to be accepted by you and entered into your holy family. And just as you raised Christ from the dead, so too I ask that you would give me a new life in Christ, one that will lead eventually to heaven itself. Thank you for Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit to believe in him alone for my salvation. And as You have called us to follow You in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in Your church, grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with Your people, and live in the fullness of Your Spirit. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation* (vs. 1-4)

#347

*The church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.*

*Elect from every nation,
Yet one over all the earth;
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.*

*Though with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.*

*The church shall never perish,
Her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish,
Is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her,
And false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor,
She ever shall prevail*

*Congregation Standing

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Gloria Patri (#735)

*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!*

*Benediction

Leader: May the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, himself restore, establish, and strengthen you. To him be the dominion for ever and ever. Amen. *I Peter 5:10-11*

People: Thanks be to God! Hallelujah!

Postlude

Sermon Notes

The Dearest Dream

Matthew 13:44-46

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences: