

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 downloadable online or 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

February 4, 2007

10:30AM

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship

Ancient of Days

(Verse & Chorus 2x, Bridge, Verse & Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)

Verse: *Blessing and honor, glory and power*

Be unto the ancient of days

From ev'ry nation, all of creation

Bow before the ancient of days

Chorus: *Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth*

Shall declare your glory

Ev'ry knee shall bow at your throne in worship

And your kingdom shall not pass away

O Ancient of days

Bridge: *Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth*

Sing unto the ancient of days

For none can compare to your matchless worth

Sing unto the ancient of days

*Hark the Voice of Love and Mercy

Hark! the voice of love and mercy

sounds aloud from Calvary;

see, it rends the rocks asunder,

shakes the earth, and veils the sky:

'It is finished! 'It is finished!'

hear the dying Savior cry;

hear the dying Savior cry.

'It is finished! O what pleasure

do the wondrous words afford!

heavenly blessings without measure

flow to us from Christ the Lord:

'It is finished! 'It is finished!'

hear the dying Savior cry;

hear the dying Savior cry.

Finished all the types and shadows

of the ceremonial law,

Finished all that God had promised;

death and hell no more shall awe;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory to the bleeding Lamb!

Glory to the bleeding Lamb!

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs,

Join to sing the glorious theme;

all on earth and all in heaven

join to bless Emmanuel's name:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory to the bleeding Lamb!

Glory to the bleeding Lamb!

*Congregation Standing

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Psalm 148:1-5, 13-14

Leader: Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

People: *Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts,*

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

People: *Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.*

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

People: *Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.*

Leader: He has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart.

People: *Praise the Lord.*

*Hymn of Praise: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

#100

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*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: *Esther 5*

New Testament Reading: *Matthew 10:16-25*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Meditation

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

*Congregation Standing

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Corporate Confession:

[Participants may kneel or lean forward]

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

People: *Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But You, O Lord, have mercy on us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to humankind through Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your Holy name. Amen.*

(Book of Common Prayer)

Private Confession

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

"Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us." *Romans 8:33-34*

Pastoral Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Prayer for our Members: Jim Thomas, Lauri Volkert

Special Needs: Student Partnership
Wallingford Community Group

Mission to the World:

Scotland- Ms. Lisa Byers, Ms. Terry Carlton, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Evans, Ms. Christine Griebel, Mr. & Mrs. Chris McCune, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rahaim, Mr. & Mrs. David Robertson, Mr. John Wagner

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.*

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! His doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.*

*That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.*

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: *Let's Walk Down*

Rev. Tolivar Wills

[Sermon notes located on page 16]

1On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, in front of the king's quarters, while the king was sitting on his royal throne inside the throne room opposite the entrance to the palace. 2And when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won favor in his sight, and he held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. 3And the king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom." 4And Esther said, "If it please the king, let the king and Haman come today to a feast that I have prepared for the king." 5Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther has asked." So the king and Haman came to the feast that Esther had prepared. 6And as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king said to Esther, "What is your wish? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." 7Then Esther answered, "My wish and my request is: 8If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my wish and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said." 9And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai. 10Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. 11And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. 12Then Haman said, "Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king. 13Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate." 14Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast." This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made. *Esther 5 (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: *It Is Well with My Soul*

#691

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

*When peace, like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul"*

*It is well (it is well)
with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul*

*My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

Refrain

*And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.*

Refrain

*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: What is your only comfort in life and death?

Congregation: *That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but*

belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully paid for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil, and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; moreover, that all things must work together for my salvation, and by His Holy Spirit, Christ also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth, to live for Him.

[Heidelberg Catechism, #1]

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

Pastor: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*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

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Amazing Grace

*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.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,
his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures*

*And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.*

*When we've been here ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.*

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: Crown Him With Many Crowns*

#295

*Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*Crown him with Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.*

*Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.*

*Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime;
all hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me:
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.*

**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: "Now may the Lord bless you, even as one who by the power at work within you is able to accomplish abundantly for more than all we can ask or imagine. To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to every generation forever and ever. Amen." *Ephesians 3:20*

People: Thanks be to God! Hallelujah!

Postlude

Sermon Notes

*Let's Walk Down
Esther 5*

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences:

[Music reprinted by permission - CCL #745254]

*Congregation Standing