

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.*

CPC Introduction & Welcome Booklet - please pick up your free copy located in the foyer.

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.

Sermon MP3's 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

March 4, 2007

10:30AM

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

*Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Savior, hide, 'till the storm is past
safe into the haven guide, receive my soul at last.*

*Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me!
All my trust on thee is stayed, help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head the shadow of thy wing.*

*Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am, thou full of truth and grace.*

*Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within:
thou of life the fountain art, let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart, to all eternity.*

*Hymn of Praise: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, For He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.*

*Praise to the Lord, Who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, Yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all your longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

*Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness And mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.*

*Praise to the Lord, Who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee;
Decked thee with health, And with loving hand, guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief,
Spreading his wings to o'er-shade thee.*

*Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, Come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen Sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.*

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Revelation 7:9-12

Leader: After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

People: *“Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb”*

Leader: All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

People: *“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”*

*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: Nehemiah 9:6-17

New Testament Reading: John 4:43-54

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Meditation: *Bless the Lord*

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

Instrumental meditation – Sing 2X - Instrumental meditation

***Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.***

WORSHIP THROUGH BAPTISM AND ABSOLUTION

Introduction to Christian Baptism and Church Membership

Corporate Confession:

[Participants may kneel or lean forward]

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

People: My Changeless God. Under the conviction of your Spirit I learn

that the more I do, the worse I am, the more I know, the less I know, the more holiness I have, the more sinful I am, the more I love, the more there is to love. O wretched person that I am! I have a wild heart that cannot stand before you. How little I love your truth and ways! I neglect prayer by thinking I have prayed enough. I lack spiritual understanding with too little desire for the Lord's Day. My will is without power of decision or resolution, my heart is without affection. I am too often the evangelical hypocrite, who sins more readily because grace abounds. Give me a broken heart that it may carry home the power of your grace. For my hope is not in me, but in you through Jesus Christ, Amen!

(Adapted from "Paradoxes" in The

Valley of Vision)

Private Confession

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself." *Acts 2:38-39*

Baptismal and Membership Vows

Members Joining:

Reaffirmation of Faith – Joe & Sandy Casella, Robert Leishman,
Kimberly Hayden, Lark Perez, Mark Anderson,
William & Amy Sarris

Profession of Faith – Alex Alves

Transfers – Christy Lamb, Colleen Potter, Becky Blossom,
Molly & Tim Gribble

Associate Membership – David Flinner

Christian Baptism - Michael Casella, Peter Casella

Membership Vows

1. *Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?*
2. *Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?*
3. *Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?*
4. *Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?*
5. *Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?*

Parental Vows

1. *Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?*
2. *Do you claim God's covenant promises in his/her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his/her salvation, as you do for your own?*
3. *Do you now unreservedly consecrate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him/her a godly example, that you will pray with and for him/her, that you will teach him/her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him/her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?*

Congregational Vows

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Pastoral Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Prayer for our Members: Our New Members

Special Needs: Upcoming Youth Retreat

Mission to the World: Sweden – Mr. & Mrs. David Bergmark,
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Johnson, Mr. Tim Allyn

*Song of Response: *Not What My Hands Have Done* (vs. 1,2,3,5)

#461

*Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.*

*Thy work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace within.
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest, And set my spirit free.*

*Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God, can this sore bondage break.
No other work, save thine, no other blood will do;
No strength, save that which is divine, can bear me safely through.*

*I praise the God of grace; I trust His truth and might;
He calls me His, I call Him mine, My God, my joy and light.
'Tis He Who saveth me, and freely pardon gives;
I love because He loveth me, I live because He lives.*

*Congregation Standing

Note: Trinity Hymnal can be found in pews if desired.

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: *If only I had a sign from God?*
[Sermon notes located on page 17]

Rev. Preston Graham

43After the two days he departed for Galilee. 44(For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) 45So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. 46So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. 47When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." 49The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." 50Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. 51As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. 54This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

John 4:43-54 (ESV)

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: *How Deep the Father's Love For Us*

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

***How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.***

***Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished.***

***I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.***

*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* (vs.1)

#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.*

Note: Trinity Hymnal can be found in pews if desired.

*Confession of Faith

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

Congregation: I believe that Christ makes intercession for us, by his appearing in our nature continually before the Father in heaven, in the merit of his obedience and sacrifice on earth, declaring his will to have it applied to all believers; answering all accusations against them, and procuring for them quiet of conscience, notwithstanding daily failings, access with boldness to the throne of grace, and acceptance of their persons and services.

[Westminster Larger Catechism #55]

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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: *Join All The Glorious Names* (vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5)

#301

*Join all the glorious names
Of wisdom, love, and power,
That ever mortals knew,
That angels ever bore:
All are too mean to speak His worth,
Too poor to set my Savior forth.*

*Great Prophet of my God,
My tongue would bless Thy Name,
By Thee the joyful news
Of our salvation came,
The joyful news of sin forgiv'n
Of hell subdued, and peace with Heav'n.*

*Thou art my Counselor,
My Pattern, and my Guide,
And thou my Shepherd art;
O keep me near thy side:
Nor let my feet e'er run astray
To wander in the crooked way.*

*My Savior and my Lord,
My Conqueror and my King,
Thy scepter and Thy sword,
Thy reigning grace I sing:
Thine is the power; behold I sit
In willing bonds beneath Thy
feet.*

Note: Trinity Hymnal can be found in pews if desired.

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: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

People: Thanks be to God! Hallelujah!

Postlude

*Congregation Standing

Sermon Notes

John 4:43-54

If only I had a sign from God?

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences:

[Music reprinted by permission – CCL #745254]