

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.

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.

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

July 29, 2007

9:30 AM

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship

Be Thou My Vision

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence thy light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Psalm 108:1-5

Leader: My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul.

People: *Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.*

Leader: I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.

People: *For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.*

Leader: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth.

*Congregation Standing

*All praise to God, who reigns above, The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love, The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul he fills, The God who every sorrow stills,
To God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty pow'r hath made, His gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning dawn or evening shade, His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of his might, Lo, all is just and all is right,
To God all praise and glory!*

*I cried to him in time of need: Lord God, O, hear my calling!
For death he gave me life indeed, And kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be; O thank him, thank our God, with me,
To God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord forsaketh not his flock, His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock, their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand, He leads his own, his chosen band,
To God all praise and glory!*

*Ye who confess Christ's holy name, To God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's power proclaim, To God give praise and glory!
All idols under foot be trod, The Lord is God! the Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!*

*Then come before his presence now, And banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow, And sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell, The Lord, my God, did all things well,
To God all praise and glory!*

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

*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: *Genesis 4:1-15*

New Testament Reading: *James 4:1-10*

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]

Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.

Sing 2x

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Corporate Confession:

[Participants may kneel or lean forward]

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

People: O LORD, do not rebuke us in your anger, or discipline us in your

wrath. For your arrows have sunk into us, and your hand has come down on us. There is no soundness in our flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in our bones because of our sin. For our iniquities have gone over our heads; they weigh like burdens too heavy for us. Forgive our sins, pardon our iniquities, and restore our communion with You, we ask through our Blessed Lord Jesus, Who for a little while was made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, Who by your grace tasted death for everyone. Amen.

[Based upon Psalm 38 and Hebrews 3]

Private Confession

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

“Come now, let us argue it out, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Isaiah 1:18

Pastoral Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Prayer for our Members: C.J. Dickson, Joanne Donovan

Special Needs: 4 & 5 year old through 2nd grade Sunday School class.

Mission to the World: Guam - Mr. & Mrs. Mike Sabin, Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Troxell,
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Wood

*Song of Response: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

[A good time for children to leave for childcare - if so desired.]

*Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.*

*Upon that cross of Jesus my eyes at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me:
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess,
the wonders of His glorious love and my unworthiness.*

*I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place:
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss;
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: A Counter-Intuitive Faith
[Sermon notes located on page 14]

Rev. Tolivar Wills

1What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? 2You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. 4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? 6But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

James 4:1-10 (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: *Amazing Grace* (vs. 1,2, 5, 6)

#460

[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!*

*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.*

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

*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.*

*Congregation Standing

*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

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

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 Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns*

#298

*The Head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty Victor's brow.*

*The highest place that heaven affords
Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords,
And heaven's eternal Light;*

*The Joy of all who dwell above,
The Joy of all below
To whom He manifests His love
And grants His name to know.*

*To them the cross, with all its shame,
With all its grace, is given;
Their name an everlasting name,
Their joy the joy of heaven.*

*They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The mystery of His love.*

*The cross He bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.*

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: Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you without blemish before the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.

Jude 24-25

People: Thanks be to God! Hallelujah!

Postlude

Sermon Notes
A Counter-Intuitive Faith
James 4;1-10

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences:

[Music reprinted by permission – CCL #745254]