

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

October 8, 2006

8:30 & 10:30AM

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's unchanging love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; Here by Thy great help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood;*

*O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.*

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

*O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.*

*O Life that will yet swal-low death, I glo-ry in thy vic-to-ry;
My flesh will find e-ter-nal breath, For Je-sus burst the bonds of death,
And reigns in heav'n for me.*

*Hymn of Praise: Rejoice, All People, Homage Give #73

*Rejoice, all people, homage give,
to God with voice of triumph sing;
he rules us in dread majesty,
the great, the universal King.*

*He puts the nations under us
and makes us all triumphant stand;
he gives us for our heritage
his promised rest, a goodly land.*

*God has ascended with a shout,
Jehovah with the trumpet's sound;
sing praise to God our King, sing praise,
yes, let his glorious praise abound.*

*Our God is King of all the earth,
with thoughtful heart his praise
make known; over all the nations
God does reign, exalted on his holy throne.*

*To praise and serve our covenant God
The princes of the earth draw nigh;
All kingly pow'rs belong to him,
He is exalted, God most high.*

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Psalm 79

Leader: The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

People: *Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.*

Leader: Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side.

People: *His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.*

Leader: The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

People: *The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.*

*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 2:1-11*

New Testament Reading: *2 Timothy 2:3-13*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: *Thanks be to God!*

Instrumental Meditation (*Spirit of the Living God*)

[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: *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)

Congregation Sing:

*God, be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;
plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgression now;
wash, me make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.*

*My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face;
I confess thy judgment just, speechless, I thy mercy trust.*

Private Confession

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God...For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 3:23, 6:23*

Pastoral Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Prayer for our Members: Emily Engle, Jamene Farrell

Special Needs:

John Kebabian – for his business, finding the needed employees.
David Hutchinson – installation service held today.

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*

*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; 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 smitten heart with tears two wonders I confess
The wonders of His glorious love, my unworthiness.*

*I take, O cross, the 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; glory all the cross.*

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: *Looking for Signs of Life*

[Sermon notes located on page 16]

Rev. Tolivar Wills

³Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. ⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.

2 Timothy 2:3-13 (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.

Collection Hymn: 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (vs. 1-3) #679

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

*'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise,
And to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"*

Refrain:

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
Oh, for grace to trust Him more!*

*Oh, how sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust His cleansing blood;
And in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood!*

*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.*

*Confession of Faith

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

People: *I believe in the one eternal God, Creator and Lord of the world, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who governs all things according to the purpose of His will. I believe in the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both the Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, and in the power of God's word to accomplish His purpose of salvation. I believe that there is only one Savior, Jesus Christ, and that He will return personally and visibly, in power and glory, to consummate His salvation and His judgment. I believe in the Holy Spirit whom the Father has sent to bear witness to His Son, believing that conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth, and Christian growth are all His work.*

[Adapted from The Lausanne Covenant, 1974]

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

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: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #92*

*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.*

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

*Congregation Standing

Sermon Notes
2 Timothy 2:3-13
Looking for Signs of Life

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences:

[Music reprinted by permission – CCL #745254]