

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 at no cost online or are available upon request for \$3 per CD. To order a copy, please fill out a request sheet (located in the foyer) 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.

October 21, 2007

10:30 AM

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Service Order 4

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation

Opening Songs of Praise and Worship

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

***Come, thou fount of ev'ry 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; hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring 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 that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandr'ing 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.***

Liturgical Definitions:

Prelude & Pre-Worship Meditation:

A time to quiet your heart and mind in preparation to enter into the life-giving presence of God.

"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." Psalms 46:10

Invitational Songs of Prayers for God's Presence

*And I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open.
Revelation 4:1*

** Congregation Standing
wherever indicated throughout
bulletin.*

*Note: Trinity Hymnal can be
found in pews for hymns
indicated with numbers*

*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!*

WORSHIP THROUGH INVOCATION AND ADORATION

*Call to Worship: Psalm 29:1-9

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: *Ascribe to the Lord glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.*

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters.

People: *The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic.*

Leader: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

People: *The voice of the Lord strikes with flashes of lightning.*

Leader: The voice of the Lord shakes the desert; the Lord shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

People: *The voice of the Lord twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, "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!*

Call to Worship

And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! Rev. 4:2

Invocation and Praise

Day and night without ceasing they sing, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come." Rev. 4:8

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 18: 1-3 & 46-50

New Testament Reading: Colossians 1:13-20

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Meditation: **Bless the Lord**

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

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: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleanse us from our sins. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, we were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us, we pray through Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us, even our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Based upon Psalm 51

Private Confession

Hearing God's Word

A time to hear God's holy Word, ultimately unveiled to us in Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Rev. 5:1

Meditation on God's Word

In stillness and meditation, please take a moment to reflect on the power and privilege of hearing God's Word.

Confession of Sin

Because sin is so pervasive in both our corporate and individual lives, we are invited to come before God with honesty and transparency, confessing our brokenness and moral failures, asking for both forgiveness and healing through Jesus Christ. We confess corporately to show our unity even in our brokenness. We confess honestly because in Christ, we are safe to confess our sins without fear of condemnation and no longer in need of hiding in defensiveness and blame shifting.

And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Rev. 2:4

Absolution

Leader: Hear now God's assurance of pardon:

"For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf."

Hebrews 9:24

Communal Prayer

[Participants may be seated]

Pastoral Prayer:

Prayer for our Members: Morgan Hume and Eric Klein

Special Needs: Spiritual Renewal and Revival for our lives and church; Food for Thought at Yale

Mission to the World: **New Zealand-** Ken Austin; Ron and Cathy Ellis and Family

Absolution

Christ has given the Church authority to declare the forgiveness of sins in his Name. This promise is for all who have been joined to Christ by faith as mediated through any gospel-believing church.

"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Mt. 16:19)

Pastoral Prayers

Our prayers are ultimately "in the name of Jesus Christ," which means that our trust is not in the power of our prayers, but in the power of Christ's prayers who prays for us as our "great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God... For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb. 4:14-16

The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. Rev. 5:8

*Song of Response: *By Grace Alone*

*Out of the depths I cry to You,
Lord, hear my voice of pleading;
Bend down Your gracious ear, I pray,
Your humble servant heeding.
If You remember each misdeed,
And of each thought and word take heed,
Who can remain before You?
Only by grace, by grace alone.*

*Your pardon is a gift of love,
Your grace alone must save us,
Our works will not remove our guilt,
The strictest life would fail us.
Let none in deeds or merits boast,
But let us own the Holy Ghost
for He alone can change us:
Only by grace, by grace alone.*

*Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our utmost need it soundeth.
Our kind and faithful Shepherd He,
Who will set all His people free
From all their sin and sorrow:
Only by grace, by grace alone.*

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

Sermon: The Supremacy of Christ

Rev. Tolivar Wills
Rev. Preston Graham

[Sermon notes located on page 15]

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:13-20 (ESV)

Sermon

A sermon is not just teaching for living a moral life; it is mainly a time when the living Christ Himself encounters His people through His Word bringing to us the full truth and grace of the gospel. Therefore, as you listen, pray to encounter the life-changing Christ.

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals, They sing a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth."

Rev. 5:1, 9-10

Right after the sermon is a good time to retrieve your children from childcare to experience the Lord's Table, especially on the weeks we come forward (first Sunday of the month) in order to receive God's blessing for his covenant children.

People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

Luke 18:15-16

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:

Thy Mercy My God Is the Theme of My Song

*Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.*

*With out thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through thy free goodness my spirits revive
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.*

*Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.*

*Great father of mercies thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of thy crucified son;
All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!*

Communion Gifts

We give not as a payment for a service rendered nor out of compulsion to gain God's favor. The communion offering is symbolic of offering our whole lives and weekly vocations in consecration to God in spiritual service of worship! It is as if we join the holy procession of saints throughout history in offering ourselves as a living and holy sacrifice made acceptable to God by Christ who completes us by faith. Please give as an act of worship and only if you can give cheerfully as unto the Lord.

The twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; 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."
Rev. 4:10-11

*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.*

*Confession of Faith

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

People: *I believe that Christ will be exalted in his coming again to judge the world, in that he, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the last day in great power, and in the full manifestation of his own glory, and of his Father's, with all his holy angels, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, to judge the world in righteousness.*

Westminster Larger Catechism #56

*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

The Eucharistic Sacrament of the Lord's Supper:

Eucharist means "the good grace" and "communion" implies a real participation in that grace. Therefore, the Lord's Supper is both a thankful memorial service to remember Christ's sacrificial death on the cross and a life giving participation in that grace as we are being united to Christ in heaven by the Holy Spirit and received by faith. In short, Christ is really present in, with and through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, even if not bodily but spiritually as being united to the body of Christ in the church.

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Rev. 5:11-12

Note concerning the elements of the Lord's Supper

We serve 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.

***Prayers for those not
communing***

Those who have genuinely confessed their own brokenness in sin, received Christ by faith and have joined to Christ by means of joining any gospel believing church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. If you are not yet prepared to participate in the sacrament, please know that we are glad that you are here, even as we respect your sincerity for not participating at this time. We want CPC to be a safe place for you to be "in journey" and would not want you to feel any compulsion to partake until it is the right time as noted above. With you in mind, we have included some prayers if you would desire some aid in praying to God during this time.

*Closing Hymn:

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

#296

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

***Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.***

***Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.***

***Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.***

***O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.***

***Hymns of Coronation and
Praise***

"Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped." Rev. 5:13-14

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

The Supremacy of Christ

Exposition:

Main Point:

Inferences:

[Music reprinted by permission – CCL #745254]

