



Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

Our Gathered Order of Service

May 2, 2021

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Imagine — And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” (Jeremiah 31:34).

I. Rediscover God’s Glory

Call to Worship— Lamentations 3:22-24 & Psalm 36:5-7

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of humankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Let us offer up praise to our Ascended King.

II. Rediscover God’s Grace

Lord Jesus, like Israel we tend to abandoned You; like Judas, we too often have betrayed You; like Peter we can deny You; and, like the disciples we, too readily, forsake You. Yet, You remain faithful to us unto death, even death on a cross. Though You bound yourself to us, we too easily unbound ourselves to you. God, have mercy on us weak and sinful people. Lead us once again to Your Word and to Your forgiveness, which we so desperately need. Forgive us. Cleanse us. And, make us whole once again through Your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bow your heads, take the time to offer your own confession of sins

The Word assures us of God’s forgiveness

Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy (1 Peter 2:10).

III. Renewal in Christ, Our King’s Word

OT Reading — Jeremiah 18:1-17

NT Reading — Romans 9:14-18

Reader: *The Word of the Lord*

Everyone: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *We Want God to Choose, Or Else It’s Up to Someone Else to Choose: In Praise of the Master Potter*

VI. Renewal of Christ’s Presence

Sharing our prayer requests and bringing them before our Father

Our profession of our faith together

Church, how does Christ fill the office of a king?

Christ fills the office of a king in making us his willing subjects, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies [WSC #26].

Affirming Christ’s Presence as we share the Lord’s Supper

V. Restored in Christ’s Supremacy

Prayer and the Words of Benediction

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever (Romans 11:33-36).

And all God’s people said: **Amen!**

OT Reading—Jeremiah 18:1-17: The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: “Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do. Then the word of the LORD came to me: “O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: ‘Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.’ “But they say, That is in vain! We will follow our own plans, and will every one act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.’ “Therefore thus says the LORD:

Ask among the nations,
Who has heard the like of this?
The virgin Israel
has done a very horrible thing.
Does the snow of Lebanon leave
the crags of Sirion?
Do the mountain waters run dry,
the cold flowing streams?
But my people have forgotten me;
they make offerings to false gods;
they made them stumble in their ways,
in the ancient roads,
and to walk into side roads,
not the highway,
making their land a horror,
a thing to be hissed at forever.
Everyone who passes by it is horrified
and shakes his head.
Like the east wind I will scatter them
before the enemy.
I will show them my back, not my face,
in the day of their calamity.”

NT Reading—Romans 9:19-29: You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles? As indeed he says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’” “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called sons of the living God.”

And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” And as Isaiah predicted, “If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring, we would have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord // The people: Thanks be to God

Announcements

- ➔ **May 5th** — **Online Zoom** Ladies Bible Study & Prayer @ 7:00pm. The meeting ID is 843 6693 1861 and the passcode is 661614.
- ➔ **May 8th** — Children’s Read Aloud at 14 Steven’s Street, 1:00pm–3:00pm @ Maxine’s home. A time for our neighborhood children to read a chapter book together and gain some reading comprehension skills.
- ➔ **May 8th** — Come join us for the Sidewalk Breakfast (10am) & Sidewalk Church Service (10:15) at 122 Carlisle Street, New Haven. Come and welcome the folks who join us for the breakfast and sidewalk church service and get to know them.
- ➔ **May 9th** — *Please come join us again next Sunday for our service of worship, instruction, and fellowship @ 10am (here at 158 Davenport Ave).*
- ➔ **May 16th** — Hill Servant Leadership Advisory Board to meet after Service on May 16th to discuss Summer Activities. Thank you.