

Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill Our Gathered Order of Service

June 28, 2020

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Imagine — Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore (Psalm 125:1-2).

I. Rediscover God's Glory

Call to Worship—Psalm 62:1-2, 6-7

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

Let's take some time to offer up praise to our Ascended King

II. Rediscover God's Grace

O, King of Heaven, we are honored to enter into your throneroom. Your invitation overwhelms us and we are humbled and contrite for our sins are still many, deserving nothing from your hand. Yet you are kind and gracious toward us because of your steadfast love and the obedience of your true Son, Jesus Christ. Our inward being still rebels against you. Our attitudes still do not reflect your glory. Change us, our king. Make our inward being a stronghold of your mercy and grace. Teach us to know you in our inward parts so that our outer life will reflect your glory, for the sake of your Son, the Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

The Word assures us of God's forgiveness

"In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross." (Colossians 2:11-14).

III. Renewal in Christ, Our King's Word

OT Reading — Ezekiel 36:17-38

NT Reading — Romans 2:17-29

The Word of the Lord

Everyone: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Romans 2:17-29

Bragging You have face with God Doesn't Honor God without Obedience: God shows no partiality (gives face) to those who boast (i.e., brag) in the Lord, yet still is disobedient to him; one's face before God still depends on obedience.

VI. Renewal of Christ's Presence

Share prayer requests and then take some time to pray for them

Our Confession together:

Church, where is our boast?

Let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth (Jeremiah 9:24).

Affirming Christ's Presence at the Table of the Lord

V. Restored in Christ's Supremacy

Words of benediction (someone read the following text)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope (Romans 15:13).

And all God's people shout out: Amen!

OT Reading—Ezekiel 36:16-38: The word of the Lord came to me: "Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds. Their ways before me were like the uncleanness of a woman in her menstrual impurity. So I poured out my wrath upon them for the blood that they had shed in the land, for the idols with which they had defiled it. I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries. In accordance with their ways and their deeds I judged them. But when they came to the nations, wherever they came, they profaned my holy name, in that people said of them, 'These are the people of the Lord, and yet they had to go out of his land.' But I had concern for my holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations to which they came.

"Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. I will make the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field abundant, that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations. Then you will remember your evil ways, and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominations. It is not for your sake that I will act, declares the Lord God; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.

"Thus says the Lord God: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. And they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.' Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the Lord; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it.

"Thus says the Lord God: This also I will let the house of Israel ask me to do for them: to increase their people like a flock. Like the flock for sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the Lord."

NT Reading—Romans 2:17-29

But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law; and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? Then he who is physically uncircumcised but keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law. For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

Announcements

- ⇒ Second Free Movie Night on Stevens Street is July 3rd. Starts an hour before Sunset; movie starts at a little after sunset.
- → Saturday Sidewalk Breakfasts & Sidewalk Church Service: you are invited to join us or maybe come and serve. Breakfast starts at 10am; church service starts at 10:20. We follow social distancing and health protocols at this Breakfast Grab & Go.
- ⇒ July 1_{st}—our first "In His Midst" at Trowbridge Square Park will set up at 5 and serve at 5:45 as a Grab & Go so COVID-19 social distancing and health protocols will be in place. We don't let anything stop us, but we do have to submit to the safety protocols in place. Your help will be greatly appreciated on these Wednesday evenings.