



## Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

### Our Gathered Order of Service

Pastor Chip Anderson (203) 450-2299 / Email: ChipCPCtheHill@gmail.com

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**Imagine** — Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let your glory be over all the earth! (Psalm 57:5)

### I. Rediscover God's Glory

**Call to Worship** — Psalm 57:1-5

*Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.*

**I cry out to God Most High,  
to God who fulfills his purpose for me.**

*He will send from heaven and save me;  
he will put to shame him who tramples on me.*

**God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness!**

*My soul is in the midst of lions;  
I lie down amid fiery beasts—  
the children of man, whose teeth are spears and arrows,  
whose tongues are sharp swords.*

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!  
Let your glory be over all the earth!**

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

### II. Rediscover God's Grace

Gracious God, we confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world. We have loved the gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we pine for are shadows, but you are substance; that they are quicksands, but you are mountain; that they are shifting, but you are anchor. We plead your forgiveness on the merits of Jesus Christ. Accept his worthiness for our unworthiness, his sinlessness for our transgressions, his fullness for our emptiness, his glory for our shame, his righteousness for our dead works, his death for our life. We pray in Jesus name. Amen.

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

*The Word assures us of God's forgiveness*

"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." (Romans 4:7-8; Psalm 32:1-2).

### III. Renewal in Christ, Our King's Word

**OT Reading** — Genesis 12:1-3 & 2 Samuel 7:4-22

**NT Reading** — Romans 4:1-13

*The Word of the Lord*

**Everyone:** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon:** Romans 4: Meet Abraham & David: Stories that Changed the World

### VI. Renewal of Christ's Presence

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

Our profession of our faith together

Church, who is the Redeemer? (WSC #21)

**The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, in whom God became man and bore the penalty for sin himself.**

Affirming Christ's Presence as we share in the Lord's Table

### V. Restored in Christ's Supremacy

**A Prayer and Words of benediction**

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." (Revelation 11:15).

**And all God's people shout out: Amen!**

## **OT Readings—Genesis 12:1-3 & 2 Samuel 7:1-22**

**Genesis 12:1-3:** Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**2 Samuel 7:4-22:** But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’” In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Then King David went in and sat before the Lord and said, “Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord God. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O Lord God! And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Lord God! Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have brought about all this greatness, to make your servant know it. Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

**NT Reading—Romans 4:1-13:** What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised. For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

## **Announcements**

- ➡ **Aug 12<sup>th</sup>** — Our 7<sup>th</sup> “In His Midst” at Trowbridge Square Park. We set up at 5:00pm; our goal is to serve between 5:45pm–6:00pm as a Grab & Go. Social distancing and health protocols have been in place and will continue. Your help will be greatly appreciated on these Wednesday evenings.
- ➡ **Aug 14<sup>th</sup>** — Free Movie Night on Stevens Street. Starts an hour before dusk; movie starts at after sunset.
- ➡ **Aug 15<sup>th</sup>** — Saturday Children's Read Out-loud at Maxine's on Steven's Street, 1:00pm–3:00pm. This is for our neighborhood children to listen to a book read aloud together. A great summer-time learning event.
- ➡ Saturday Sidewalk Breakfasts & Sidewalk Church Services (122 Carlisle Street): 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.