



July 4, 2021

Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

Our Gathered Order of Service

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Imagine— “O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. Incline your ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see (Isaiah 37:16-17^a)

I. Rediscover God's Glory

Call to Worship — 1 Chronicles 29:11-13

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

And we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

Let us offer up praise to our Ascended King.

II. Rediscover God's Grace

There are many times we think we love you well, O God. But upon hearing your call to love you with all our heart, and all our mind, and all our strength, we confess that our love for you is a diluted love, made insipid and flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart. Our love seems pure only for brief moments; soon our affections are drawn away. How easily our devotion dies. Forgive us; in deep mercy spare us, despite our lost first love for you; in grace rekindle our love for you in seeing anew Jesus' love for us. Amen.

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

The Word assures us of God's forgiveness

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2).

III. Renewal in Christ, Our King's Word

OT Reading — Daniel 7:9-14

NT Reading — Romans 13:1-14

Reader: *The Word of the Lord* // **Everyone:** Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Church not of but in the Empire: We're not just another rant and rebellion against the State*

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

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him . . . I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (Revelation 1:4b-8).

And all God's people said: Amen!

OT Reading—Daniel 7:9-14: “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

“I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

NT Reading—Romans 13:1-14: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

The NT Reading is continued on the back page . . .

Continued NT Reading—Romans 13:1-14: ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Announcements

- ➡ **Jul 14th—2021 “In His Midst”** Wednesday evening park BBQ @ Trowbridge Square Park—5:00pm set up; serving at 5:30pm. Remaining dates: **July 21, 28; Aug 4, 11, 18, 25**
- ➡ **Jul 16th— Friday Outdoor Movie Night @ Maxine’s** Come a little before dusk.
- ➡ **Jul 17th—** 14 Stevens Street **Children’s Read Aloud**, 1:00pm–4:00pm. Our children read a chapter book together, gain some reading comprehension skills, and this week hear a Bible Story and have a special Bible activity included this week.
- ➡ **Jul 17th—** Join on Carlisle Street for our Sidewalk Breakfast (10am) & the Sidewalk Church Service (10:15). Join those who come to the breakfast and join them at the sidewalk church service.
- ➡ **Jul 18th—** *Please join us again next Sunday for our service of worship, instruction, and fellowship @ 10am (at 158 Davenport Ave).*