



Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

Our Gathered Order of Service

December 27, 2020 Pastor Chip Anderson (203) 450-2299 / Email: ChipCPCtheHill@gmail.com

Imagine — Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses (Psalm 135:6-7).

I. Rediscover God's Glory

Call to Worship — Psalm 96:1-6

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

**Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

**Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Let us sing a song of adoration and offer up praise to our Ascended King.

II. Rediscover God's Grace

Our Heavenly Father and God of the Universe, you have great us to be in your image, but we failed and continue to fail apart of your grace. Your forgiveness, we too often treat lightly and your mercy we often approach without reverence. Yet, you save us and hear our prayers of confession. Your plan is far bigger than us and yet, your forgiveness is but a small glimps of our greater plan for the ages. So, again, hear our prayers, forgive our sins, and let the world know of your majesty. Through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

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

The Word assures us of God's forgiveness: In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth (Ephesians 1:1-5).

III. Renewal in Christ, Our King's Word

OT Readings—Genesis 1:26 – 2:3

NT Reading—Romans 8:18-25

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

Sermon: The Creation Awaits for the Adoption of Sons: A future Coronation, a Present Suffering

VI. Renewal of Christ's Presence

Sharing our prayer requests and bringing them before our Father

Prayers for our children

Our profession of our faith together

Church, What is adoption? (WSC # 34)

Adoption is an act of God's free grace by which we are received into the number and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God

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

V. Restored in Christ's Supremacy

A Prayer and the Words of Benediction

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:1-5^a).

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

OT Reading—Genesis 1:26 – 2:3

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

NT Reading—Romans 8:18-25: For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

Announcements

- ➔ **Dec 30th** — **Zoom** Ladies Bible Study & Prayer @ 6:00pm. In-person Studies are the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month.
- ➔ **Jan 2nd** — Maxine’s Children’s Read Aloud continues at 14 Steven’s Street, 1:00pm–3:00pm. This is for our neighborhood children to listen to a book read aloud together.
- ➔ **Jan 2nd** — Saturday Sidewalk Breakfast & Sidewalk Church Service (122 Carlisle Street) Breakfast starts at 10am; church service starts at 10:20. We serve no matter the weather. Come join us!
- ➔ **Jan 3rd** — Come join us again for next Sunday’s service of worship, instruction, and fellowship @ 10am (here at 158 Davenport Ave).
- ➔ **Jan 5th** — **Next** Bonfire Bible Study @ the Anderson’s out back of 122 Carlisle Street (at 6pm)—*Learning to Follow Jesus a Little Deeper: Portraits of Jesus from the Gospel of Luke*