



Christ Presbyterian Church in The Hill

Our Gathered Order of Service

March 14, 2021

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

Imagine — The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool” . . . The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath (Psalm 110:1, 5).

I. Rediscover God's Glory

Call to Worship— Psalm 100

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!*

And know that the LORD, he is God!

*It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!*

For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Let us offer up praise to our Ascended King.

II. Rediscover God's Grace

O, Lord, our Creator and Redeemer, we have been welcomed into Your presence by the work of Your Son on the cross, yet we still stumble and fall. Forgive us. The inclination of our hearts, too often, lead us to sin against You and against others; please forgive us and continue to conform us to the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we might be pleasing in Your sight and all the more fulfill the purpose of why You created us. Amen.

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

The Word assures us of God's forgiveness

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14).

III. Renewal in Christ, Our King's Word

OT Reading — Psalm 121

NT Reading — 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

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

Sermon: “Behold, I Tell You a Mystery!” (by Reverend Jeff Hutchinson)

VI. Renewal of Christ's Presence

Sharing our prayer requests and bringing them before our Father

Our profession of our faith together

Church, what benefits in this life accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification?

The benefits in this life which accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification are: assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, progress in holiness, and perseverance in it to this life's end [WSC #36]

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 God's people of promise said: **Amen!**

OT Reading—Psalm 121:1-8

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

NT Reading—1 Corinthians 15:1-58: Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be

misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? Why are we in danger every hour? I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the

spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”
“O death, where is your victory?
O death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Announcements

- ➔ **Mar 17th** — **Online** Ladies Bible Study & Prayer @ 7:00pm on Zoom. Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 843 6693 1861; Passcode: 661614
- ➔ **Mar 20th** — Children’s Read Out Loud at 14 Steven’s Street, 1:00pm–3:00pm @ Maxine’s home. A time for our neighborhood children to listen to a book read aloud together.
- ➔ **Mar 20th** — Come join us at the Sidewalk Breakfast (10am) and Sidewalk Church Service (10:20ish).
- ➔ **Mar 21st** — Come join us again for next Sunday’s service @ 10am (here at 158 Davenport Ave). **NOTE:** This will be a Zoom and FB Live online service, depending on whether Pastor Chip needs to quarantine after his trip. We will let you *know*.

JEFF HUTCHINSON is an Assistant Minister of Christ Presbyterian Church in New Haven, CT, serving as Coordinator of Church Planting Development for Mission Anabaino. After service as a Surface Warfare Officer in the U. S. Navy, Jeff was called to the ministry of the gospel, and has served as a pastor in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut for more than twenty-five years. He and his wife, Troy, have three children, 25, 21, and 17.