



Community Presbyterian Church

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time
22 October 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Psalm 98:1-6

(One) Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders,
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

(All) The Lord has made salvation known to all. He has shown justice to the nations. He has remembered truth and love for the house of Israel.

(One) All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.

(All) Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn, let us praise the King, our Lord.

(One) Let our worship be joyful music to our God.

*Hymn (40)

For the Beauty of the Earth

(1) For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

(2) For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]

(3) For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]

(4) For the church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love, [Refrain]

(5) For thyself, best gift divine,
to the race so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven. [Refrain

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

(One) O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

(All) Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

(One) Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

(All) For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

(One) For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

(All) Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

(One) Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

(All) Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

(One) Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

(All) Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."

(One) Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth.

(All) He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Prayer of Confession

(All) God of mercy, You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned

aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

(All) In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, our sins have been washed away by the blood of the Lamb and we have been set free and reconciled with our Creator. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 33:12-23

***Hymn (51)**

How Great Thou Art

(1) O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!

(2) When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. [Refrain]

(3) And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,

that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin. [Refrain]

(4) When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

***Hymn (426)**

Blessed Assurance

(1) Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

(2) Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

(3) Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:15-22

***Hymn (106)**

All Hail The Power of Jesus Name

(1) All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem,

and crown him Lord of all;
bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

(2) Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all;
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!

(3) Let every kindred, every tribe
on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all;
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!

(4) O that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all;
we'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!

Offering

The offering plates are available in front of the communion table and on the table in the Narthex as you exit through the front doors. If you'd like to contribute to this week's offering, please use these plates.

Prayers of the People

(One) Creator God, we call upon you today, asking that you help us trust in your sovereignty as you guide our world.

(All) We pray that you will refine the character of our nation, state, and community, and help us to bring light to all those we meet.

(One) Today, we lift up these names in prayer.

All are invited to share out loud the name(s) of those they are offering to Christ Jesus in prayer.

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespass)

(One) Now we close this prayer with the words You taught us to pray. Our Father... Amen.

Postlude

SCRIPTURES

Exodus 33:12-23

33:12 Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'

33:13 Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."

33:14 He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

33:15 And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here.

33:16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

33:17 The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."

33:18 Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray."

33:19 And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

33:20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live."

33:21 And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;

33:22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by;

33:23 then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

1:1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

1:2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly

1:3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,

1:5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

1:6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit,

1:7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1:8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.

1:9 For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

1:10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Matthew 22:15-22

22:15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said.

22:16 So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality.

22:17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

22:18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?"

22:19 Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

22:20 Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?"

22:21 They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

22:22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.