

# WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### The Song of Ascent

*God's people sang together as they gathered and traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.*

### Congregation

*Come into His Presence*

Come into His Presence with thanksgiving in your heart and give Him praise-- and give Him praise.

Come into His Presence with thanksgiving in your heart your voices raise-- your voices raise.

Give glory, and honor, and power unto Him --

Jesus - the name above all names.

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## ADORATION OF GOD

### Call to Worship:

We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with righteousness. Let Mount Zion be glad! Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers, consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever. - Psalm 48.10-14

### Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

### Declaration of Truth: (Unison)

Psalm 84.1-2, 4

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.... Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

### Hymn of Praise

*Before Jehovah's Awesome Throne*

Before Jehovah's awesome throne,  
All nations bow with sacred joy!  
Know that the Lord is God alone;  
He can create and He destroy.  
His sovereign pow'r without our aid  
Made us of dust and formed us men;  
And when like wandering sheep we strayed,  
He brought us to His fold again. (x2)

We are His people, we His care,  
Our souls, and all our mortal frame;  
What lasting honors shall we raise,  
Almighty Maker, to Your Name?  
We'll crowd Your gates with thankful songs,  
High as the heav'ns our voices raise!  
And earth, with her ten thousand tongues,  
Shall fill Your courts with sounding praise. (x2)

Wide as the world is Your command,  
Vast as eternity Your love.  
Firm as a rock Your truth must stand,  
When rolling years shall cease to move.  
Before Jehovah's awesome throne,  
All nations bow with sacred joy!  
High as the heavens our voices raise;  
To fill Your courts with sounding praise. (x2)

## **CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE**

### **Mission Moment**

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

## **OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

### **The Gift of Music**

#### **Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

##### *The Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below.  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

#### **Hymn of Testimony**

##### *In Christ Alone*

*(Children ages three through 3rd grade may be escorted to Children's Church)*

In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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## PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

### Reading of God's Word

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" <sup>2</sup>Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem! <sup>3</sup>Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together, <sup>4</sup>to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David. <sup>6</sup>Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you! <sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!" <sup>8</sup>For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!" <sup>9</sup>For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

All: The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.

### Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

*"Why the Joy?"*

Pastor John

*Series: Timeless Questions from the Psalms*

## OUR RESPONSE

### Prayer of Application

**Hymn of Response**      *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken Formed thee for his own abode:  
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters, And all fear of want remove;  
Who can faint, while such a river Ever flows their thirst t'assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov'ring, Showing that the Lord is near:  
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna Which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy Name:  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure, All his boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know.

### The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA  
cmpca.org  
CMPC Sermon Notes for November 28, 2021

- **Series-** *Timeless Questions from the Psalms*
- **Message:** “*Why the Joy?*”
- **Text:** Psalm 122

- Anticipation...
- Joy

### The Joy of Jerusalem, 1-2

- Began with fear/Long pilgrimage/Arrived
- Eyes filled with wonder
- This is the city of God... Symbolic dwelling place of God on earth
- The House of the Lord
- The greatest joy in life is worship
- God’s people love to worship with the people of God
- We’ve turned worship on its end
- One of John Owen’s assistants wrote, *Public Worship is to Be Preferred Before Private Worship*

### Jerusalem: The people of God, the Church, 3-5

- What we’ve come to: Mount Zion! Hebrews 12.22
- Blueprint
- Exodus 26.11, “bound firmly together”
- Reality: Revelation 21.10ff
- Unity, not uniformity
- Tribes distinct, cf. Genesis 49
- Give thanks: the object of the pilgrim feast
- Why doesn’t God act?
- Judgment: All will be well one day
- Past joys, future promises

### Our view of Jerusalem, 6-9

- Enjoying what God has given us
- Pray
- Peace
- Security
- Brothers and sisters
- Our love for the church
- Resolve: seek your (the church’s) good

### So What About Us?

- Prefigures our ultimate journey
- Jude 23,24
- One day our eyes will see Jesus: We shall behold him...
- Enjoying worship, enjoying the church