

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

APRIL 10, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

*Please silence all phones and electronic devices
as we prepare to worship our great God.*

Welcome and Announcements

Dee Hammond, Pastor of Missions and Outreach

The Song of Ascent

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

Congregation

We Will Glorify

We will glorify the King of kings; We will glorify the Lamb.

We will glorify the Lord of lords, Who is the great I AM.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty; We will bow before His throne.

We will worship Him in righteousness, We will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth; He is Lord of all who live.

He is Lord above the universe; All praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of kings; Hallelujah to the Lamb.

Hallelujah to the Lord of lords, Who is the great I AM.

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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship: When Jesus reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of His followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen. "Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in highest heaven!"
—Luke 19.37-38

Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

Declaring Our Faith:

John 12.12-15; Zechariah 9.10b

Leader: The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out,

All: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!"

Leader: And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

All: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

Leader: He will proclaim peace to the nations.

All: His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Hymn of Praise *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name/ Crown Him King of Kings*

Crown Him King of kings; Crown Him Lord of lords.
Wonderful, -- Counselor, -- the Mighty God; - - - -
- Emmanuel, God is wi - th us,
And He shall reign, He shall reign,
He shall reign forevermore.

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Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me:
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Mission Moment

Pastoral Prayer

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* The Brass Ensemble

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Doxology

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Testimony *God, the Uncreated One (King Forevermore)*

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

God, the uncreated one The author of salvation
Who wrote the laws of space and time And fashioned worlds to his design
The one whom angel hosts revere Hung the stars like chandeliers
Numbered every grain of sand Knows the heart of every man

He is king forever He is king forever He is king forevermore

God, our fortress and our strength The rock on which we can depend
Matchless in his majesty His power and authority
Unshaken by the schemes of man Never-changing, Great I AM
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall He is faithful through it all
Crown him king forever Crown him king forever Crown him king forevermore

Mighty God in mortal flesh Forsaken by a traitor's kiss
The curse of sin and centuries Did pierce the lowly prince of peace
Oh lifted high, the sinless man Crucified, the spotless lamb
Buried by the sons of man Rescued by the father's hand
To reign as king forever Reign as king forever Reign as king forevermore

King eternal, God of grace We crown you with the highest praise
Heaven shouts and saints adore "You're holy, holy, holy, Lord!"
What joy in everlasting life All is love and faith is sight
Justice rolls and praises rise At the name of Jesus Christ
King of kings forever King of kings forever King of kings forevermore

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Revelation 2.12-17

And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: 'The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword. 13 "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. 14 But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. 15 So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 16 Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.'

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

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon *Pergamum: Dwelling in the Shadow of Satan's Throne* Pastor John
Series: *Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow: The Book of Revelation*

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response *Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power*

Blessing and honor and glory and power,
Wisdom and riches and strength evermore
Give ye to Him Who our battle hath won
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.

Into the heav'n of the heav'ns hath He gone,
Sitteth He now in the joy of the throne,
Weareth He now of the kingdom the crown,
Singeth He now the new song with His own.

Soundeth the heaven of the heavens with His Name;
Ringeth the earth with His glory and fame;
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower
Echo His praises and tell of His power.

Ever ascendeth the song and the joy;
Ever descendeth the love from on high;
Blessing and honor and glory and praise,
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for April 10, 2022

- **Series:** *The Book of Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow*
- **Message:** *Pergamum: Dwelling in the Shadow of Satan's Throne*
- **Text:** Revelation 2.12-17

Pergamum, 2.12-17

- Jesus: sharp two-edged sword- God's word that judges, cf. Hebrews 4.12
 - Power of the sword: The governor in Pergamum had it
 - Jesus: Clarity and discernment brought to a confused Pergamum
 - Anticipates Revelation 19.15
- The city of Pergamum
 - "Asia's most distinguished city"- Pliny the Elder
 - On a 1000 foot high hill so that the city is visible from the Mediterranean Sea, 15 miles away- aura of authority
 - Library with 200,000 parchments
 - Where parchment "invented" (developed from animal skins) was called pergamena; Egypt kept papyrus from being sent here.. the library was rivaling that in Alexandria
 - A university town and famous medical school
- Know
 - Where you dwell: Where Satan's throne is
 - Huge altar to Zeus on the hillside that looked like a massive throne; 24 hour a day sacrifices to Zeus Soter (Savior)
 - Lots of other gods/goddesses
 - Asclepius shrine there as well, the god of healing, seen as a snake and wrapped around a pole, the symbol of medicine today. (Asclepius was the name used by Medicare for its email alert system) (one of Asclepius' daughters was Hygieia, the goddess of health, cleanliness and sanitation)
 - Called Asclepius the Savior... Counterfeit to Jesus
 - Also center of Emperor Worship, with first temple to Caesar
 - *I know where you dwell... in the shadow of Satan's Throne*
- Praise
 - Hold fast to my name- would not be easy in such a context
 - Did not deny the faith
 - Antipas- martyred for the faith- perhaps the pastor but really not sure- tradition says burned inside a brass bull.
 - Where Satan lives
- Rebuke
 - Hard time discerning good and evil- need the clarity of God's word
 - The teaching of Balaam: Could not curse, so corrupt them...
 - Food sacrificed to idols (in place of manna provided by God)
 - Practice sexual immorality
- Nicolaitans' teaching led to the same immorality

- The Nicolaitans further seduced the Christians with their teaching that God created sexual activity, so the Christian could maintain
 - his/her identity as a Christian, but in the name of Christian liberty, attend the pagan orgies and participate in acts of immorality.
 - Sexual purity: a completely new virtue from the Christian Community???
 - Demosthenes: 4th Century BC: “We have harlots for pleasure; concubines for daily cohabitation, & wives for the purpose of having legitimate children as well as managing our household affairs.”
 - Cicero: 1st Century AD- “For the one who thinks that men should be forbidden the love of women, he is extremely severe. I am not able to deny the principle [that is, of virtue], but he is at odds, not only with the license of what our own age allows, but also with the customs of our ancestors. When indeed was this not done? When did anyone ever find fault with it? When was such permission denied? When was it that that which is now lawful was not lawful?”
- Solution: Repent!
 - Warning: Come with the sword (Balaam/sword... Numbers 22.23,31; 31.8)
 - Promise:
 - Hidden manna
 - Manna- “hidden” in the ark of the covenant
 - Second Maccabees: Jeremiah hides the ark of the covenant with the manna in a cave on Mt. Nebo; Jewish thinking was in the age of Messiah they would eat of this manna again.
 - Spiritual bread the world cannot see/comprehend... I am the bread of life
 - Nourishment/satisfaction... eat of that will never hunger
 - Manna still being received in days of Balaam
 - Jesus the true manna
 - White stone- Meaning uncertain
 - White stones given to the winner of an athletic contest to admit him to the winners’ celebration
 - Our victory celebration
 - New name- our admission pass to eternity
 - Identifies us with Christ

So What About Us?

- We dwell where Satan’s throne is. How do we combat this?
- Satan’s “Balaam Plan” and “Nicolaitan Plan” are on repeat.
- Do not be naïve in the face of temptation.
- Do not be surprised by temptation to compromise
- Christians reflecting the anything goes tolerance of the culture
- Solid teaching as a remedy
 - Loss of truth/People failing to know what the Bible teaches
- Repentance
- Our identity is in the enthroned Christ, who will ultimately bring judgment AND dethrone Satan