

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

APRIL 24, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Please silence all phones and electronic devices.

Welcome and Announcements

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship: “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. — Revelation 22.16 –17

Congregational Response *All Hail, King Jesus*

All hail, King Jesus, All hail, Emmanuel:
King of kings, Lord of lords, Bright Morning Star.
And throughout eternity I'll sing His praises,
And I'll reign with Him throughout eternity

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Invocation

Declaration of Truth (unison):

Revelation 1.5b-8

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail[b] on account of him. Even so. Amen. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Hymn of Praise

Come, Behold the Wonderous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended Took on flesh to ransom us
Come behold the wondrous mystery He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment Of the law; in Him we stand
Come behold the wondrous mystery Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory Grace unmeasured, love untold
Come behold the wondrous mystery Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him Praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected As we will be when he comes
What a foretaste of deliverance How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected As we will be when he comes

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OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Gift of Music

Lamb of God

Trio

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Doxology and Prayer

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

His Mercy is More

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

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Refrain: Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness New every morn'
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

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THE WORD AND THE SACRAMENT

Reading of God's Word

Revelation 2.18-29

Pew Bible Page 1029

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

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

Learning to Discern

Pastor John

Series— *Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow*

The Invitation to the Lord's Table: Those who have not yet come to the place in their lives of trusting Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord are requested to let the elements pass. Please use this time to read Isaiah 53 (p. 613 in the Pew Bible) and I Corinthians 1.18-25 (p. 952), asking God to show you the glory of His Son Jesus Christ. If you are unsure about your relationship with Christ, please see a member of the pastoral staff or one of the elders after the service.

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn of Preparation

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

#252

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died;
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Receiving the Bread and Cup: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. —I Corinthians 11.26

Please note: the wafers in the small cup in each tray are gluten-free. Also, our custom is that we take each element in unison after everyone has been served.

OUR RESPONSE

Hymn of Celebration *All Hail the Power* (1-4) #296

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.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God Who from his altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod, And crown him Lord of all:
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod, And crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, Ye ransomed of 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.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at his feet, And crown him Lord of all:
Go spread your trophies at his feet, And crown him Lord of all.

Word and Deed Offering:

Today's word and deed offering will be used to meet the needs of Ukrainian refugees.

Declaration of Hope (Unison) Numbers 24.17; Revelation 22.20

I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near:
a star shall come out of Jacob,
and a scepter shall rise out of Israel;
"Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Hymn of Parting *All Hail the Power* (5-6) #296

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry 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.

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.

The Benediction and Three-fold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for April 24, 2022

- **Series:** *The Book of Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow*
- **Message:** *On Beyond Love: Learning to Discern*
- **Text:** Revelation 2.18-29

Thyatira, 2.18-29

- Smallest city
 - 40 miles southeast of Pergamum
 - Pliny the Elder, 1st century, spoke about “Thyatira and other unimportant communities”
 - “the longest and most difficult of the seven letters is addressed to the least known, least important, and least remarkable of the cities.”
 - But the letter is to the church; the size of the city is unimportant
- Trade center/trade guilds of all types: wool, linen, garment/textile, leather, tanners, potters, dyed fabric
 - Lydia, first convert in Philippi, was from Thyatira
 - Purple came from the madder root, which grew there, and little shellfish called murex
 - Very expensive- hence for royalty: the emperor
- Each guild would have had its own god/goddess to make it successful.
 - To succeed, you had to be in a guild
 - Typical pagan, sexual worship services
- Christ:
 - Eyes of fire, feet of bronze
 - Attracts attention
 - Feet of bronze- as a metal alloy, the guildsmen would notice
 - Thyatira produced a unique alloy of bronze... it was a prized bronze... the secret of their bronze is known to Christ!
- Praise:
 - Five characteristics that are positive: works, love, faith, service, patient endurance
 - Result: great things as their last works are greater than their first- they are growing
 - Love is strong here, as opposed to Ephesus
- Rebuke: “I love your love but I hate your tolerance.” Johnson
 - Lack is doctrinal purity
 - Result is tolerating sin
 - Jezebel is possibly a real woman who gave the answer yes to involvement in those pagan worship services; some suggest just the church itself is called Jezebel, cf. II John 1
 - She is teaching
 - Dualism: our spirit is saved, and our bodies do not matter
 - Seducing the people
 - Tolerating idolatry and license
 - Toleration is good... to a point
 - Whereas Ephesus did not put up with evil teaching but lost their love, Thyatira loved well... but put with false teaching the pointed to compromise

- The deep things of Satan... “hidden, special knowledge only the most spiritual know”- Satan still at work despite all the good things happening
 - The great balancing act: loving well and maintaining doctrinal purity.
 - Those who focus on love are sometimes willing to let doctrinal purity slide
 - Those who focus on doctrinal purity sometimes fail to love
 - God is going to act against her and against those who are following her
 - The eyes of blazing fire search the heart, the feet of bronze trample the wicked
- Solution
 - To those who need to, Repent!
 - Sexual immorality is destructive to the individual and the Body of Christ and cannot be tolerated
 - To the Rest
 - Have not learned the deep things of Satan
 - Hang on
 - Easy to become an outcast in such a city if one goes against the flow
 - Stand against the culture
 - Until he comes: people of anticipation
- Reward
 - Get what works deserve
 - Authority over the nations- to people in a small, nowhere town! Wow!
 - Ruling as in Psalm 2
- Promises
 - The Morning Star (cf. Numbers 24.17, 2 Peter 2.17-19)
 - The morning star is a king in Numbers who reigns even as Messiah reigns
 - Significance through participation with Christ even though the world sees us as unimportant
 - Jesus promises ultimately himself... Revelation 22.16
- Listen
 - The danger of tolerating- one bad apple can spoil the whole basket
 - Saying no to the sin of sexual immorality... a repeated thing because of a repeated strategy with repeated effectiveness and the dominant sin of our day

So What About Us?

- The systematic and systemic attack on sexual morality
 - To the extent we are involved with it or tolerate it, we must repent
- Obviously one of the key battle areas for the persecuted church to deal with
- Larger issue:
 - People failing to know what the Bible teaches
 - Christians reflecting the anything goes tolerance of the culture
 - “Judge not” mentality
- Psalm 1 living in a Psalm 2 world
- The Lord’s Table as a source of strength