

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

September 26, 2021

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

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

Psalm 57.9-11 (Be Exalted, O God)

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, among the people.
I will sing praises to Thee among the nations.
For Thy steadfast love is great, is great to the heavens;
And Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God,-- above the heav-ens;
Let Thy glory be over all the earth.
Be exalted, O God,-- above the heav-ens;
Let Thy glory be over all the earth.

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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, —Psalm 103.1-2

Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

Declaration of Truth: *The Heidelberg Catechism, Question One*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

The Gloria Patri's first line was sung in the church as early as the 2nd century to affirm that God is Triune. The second line was added in the 4th century to emphasize the eternal Deity of Jesus, refuting the Arian heresy that Jesus was not eternally God

Hymns of Praise *Worthy of Worship*

Worthy of worship worthy of praise,
Worthy of honor and glory
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing,
Worthy of all of the offerings we bring.

Refrain

*You are worthy, Father, Creator.
You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;
Worthy of worship and praise.*

Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear,
Worthy of love and devotion;
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees,
Worthy of all this and added to these...

Almighty Father, Master and Lord,
King of all kings and Redeemer,
Wonderful Counselor, Comforter, Friend,
Savior and Source of our life without end;

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**CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE
Mission Moment**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

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 *O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord (Psalm 103)*

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

O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker,
and all within me bless his holy name;
bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies,
his pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.

Refrain:

*Bless him forever, wondrous in might,
bless him, his servants that in his will delight.*

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion,
most slow to anger, plenteous in love;
rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him,
boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.

His love is like a father's to his children,
tender and kind to all who fear his name;

for well he knows our weakness and our frailty,
he knows that we are dust, he knows our frame.

We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty,
like tender grass that soon will disappear;
but evermore the love of God is changeless,
still shown to those who look to him in fear.

High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever,
his kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;
bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion,
bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God's Word

Psalm 116

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. ²Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. ³The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. ⁴Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!" ⁵Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. ⁶The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. ⁷Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. ⁸For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; ⁹I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living. ¹⁰I believed, even when I spoke: "I am greatly afflicted"; ¹¹I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars." ¹²What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? ¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, ¹⁴I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. ¹⁶O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds. ¹⁷I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. ¹⁸I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, ¹⁹in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

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

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

Pastor John

"What Shall I Render to the LORD for All His Benefits to Me?"

Series: Timeless Questions from the Psalms

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response *He Leadeth Me*

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
By his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be,
For by his hand he leadeth me.*

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done,
When, by thy grace, the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA
cmpca.org
CMPC Sermon Notes for September 26, 2021

- **Series-** *Timeless Questions from the Psalms*
- **Message:**
“What Shall I Render to the Lord for All His Benefits to Me?”
- **Text:** Psalm 116

- What are the benefits of being a believer? How do we respond to God for those benefits?

The Resolve, 1-2

- The first benefit is a sense of resolve, or purpose
- Love for God- Present tense verb
 - A resolve to trust God exclusively and worship him explicitly
- Why?
 - God has demonstrated his love for the psalmist with a track record of hearing prayer.
 - God has heard, hears and will hear
 - How do we know? The unchangeableness of God.
 - God’s past is the guarantee and revelation of the future. (Alexander Maclaren)

The Revelation, 3-11

- The second benefit is God’s presence in a difficult situation
- What was the situation?
 - Illness? Verse 3 and 10 sound like it.
 - Opposition? 11
 - Job-like experience?
 - Never explicitly told
- Borrows the language of Psalm 18
- Death pictured as attacking
 - Distress, anguish
- Refuge found in the name of the Lord
 - God’s name reveals what he is like
 - Hagar: The God who sees
 - Abraham: The Lord will provide
- A desperate prayer, 4
 - God is gracious
 - God is righteous

- God is merciful
- He preserves the simple
 - What a verse!
 - The simple- in psalms, the gullible feckless people who roam the pages of Proverbs drifting into trouble.
 - It is humble for the psalmist to identify with them and humble for God to have time for them.
- Rest
- Delivered my soul from death, eyes from tear, feet from stumbling
- True son of Abraham: 9
 - Hope and declaration- I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
- I believed...
 - Though greatly afflicted, 10
 - Brutal in assessment, 11
 - All men are liars- a lot of frustration in his hyperbole

The Response, 12-19

- How do I respond to all his benefits?
- Partake of his salvation- pick up the cup to drink it and receive a blessing
- Pray
- Pay my vows... we do not know what these were but presumably offered during his distress
- All of this in the presence of others
- Our pilgrimage ends in death, which God views as precious
- Your servant... set free
- Similar to above
- Summons to all to praise the Lord and share the joy

So What About Us?

- Counting our blessings
- Rendering to God
 - Celebrating
 - Pray
 - Walk
 - Rest
 - Worship