

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

April 18, 2021

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Please silence all phones and electronic devices.

Welcome and Announcements

Song of Ascent

Jesus Messiah

He became sin Who knew no sin
That we might become His Righteousness.
He humbled himself and carried the cross,
Love so amazing, Love so amazing...

*Refrain: Jesus Messiah, Name above all names, Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel,
The rescue for sinners, The ransom from Heaven, Jesus Messiah... Lord of all.*

His body the bread, His blood the wine,
Broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth trembled And the veil was torn
Love so amazing, Love so amazing...

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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

Psalm 36.5, 7-

8

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

Invocation

Hymn of Praise

We Come, O Christ, to You

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man,
By whom all things consist, in whom all life began:
In you alone we live and move, and have our being in your love.

You are the Way to God, your blood our ransom paid;
In you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand, your love has met your law's demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in you,
The Source of every skill, the one eternal TRUE!
O great I AM! In you we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true Life, to know you is to live
The more abundant life that earth can never give:
O risen Lord! We live in you: in us each day your life renew!

We worship you, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
To you our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
So fill our hearts, that all may view your life in us, and turn to you!

Declaration of Truth (Unison)

Isaiah 41.8-10

But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

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 *You Are My All in All (Abraham's Song)*

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

You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the Treasure that I seek, You are my All in All.
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my All in All.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name. (x2)

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
rising again I bless Your name. You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup. You are my All in All.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name. (x2)
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THE WORD AND THE SACRAMENT

Genesis 18.1-8

And the Lord appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth 3 and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, 5 while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." 6 And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

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

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

"The Friend of God"

Pastor John

Series- *Genesis 12-25: Walking by Faith*

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Preparation *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's a light for a look at the Savior,
and life more abundant and free!

Refrain:

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
in the light of his glory and grace.*

Through death into life everlasting
he passed, and we follow him there;
over us sin no more hath dominion—
for more than conqu'rors we are!

The Invitation to the Lord's Table: Those who've not yet trusted Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord are asked to let the elements pass. Please use this time to contemplate Psalm 130, asking God to show you the glory of his Son Jesus Christ in his death for the forgiveness of your sins. If you're 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

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. —1 Corinthians 11:26
Please note: the bread in the small cups on the tables is gluten free. Also, our custom is that we take each element in unison after everyone has been served.

OUR RESPONSE

Hymn of Celebration *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*
Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Refrain: *Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a Strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my Strength, my victory wins.

Jesus! what a Help in sorrow! While the billows over me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! what a Guide and Keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night overtakes me, He, my Pilot, hears my cry.

Jesus I do now receive Him, More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

Word and Deed Offering: Please note the special plates designated for this offering which is used to meet financial needs within the Body and the Community.

Declaration of Hope (Unison)

John 15.12-15a

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends...

Hymn of Parting *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

His Word shall not fail you - he promised;
believe him, and all will be well:
then go to a world that is dying,
his perfect salvation to tell!

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
in the light of his glory and grace.*

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA
cmpca.org
CMPC Sermon Notes for April 18, 2021

Pastor John Batusic
Message: The Friend of God
Text: Genesis 18:1-8

The Friend of God is Hospitable, 1-5

- Middle-eastern hospitality
 - Abraham's excitement
- Hebrews 13.2
- The guests' identity
 - Getting to serve God
- Elders' hospitality
- Friends with people

The Friend of God Serves 6-8a

- "Morsel of bread" !
- Sarah bakes bread
- Servant prepares a calf
- Abraham serves

The Friend of God Enjoys Fellowship, 8b

- Often centered around a meal
 - Abraham's meal
- Conversation
- God dwelling in us: Holy Spirit, John 14.23
- Revelation 3, the Laodicean church
 - Backslidden
 - Repent
 - Revelation 3.20: Jesus knocks

Are We a Friend of God? John 15.12-14

- Jesus shows his friendship at the cross
- We show our friendship with obedience
- Are we a friend of other people? Cf. Matthew 25.35ff

The Sustaining Meal for the Friend of God, John 14.12

- The Lord's Supper
 - Fellowship
 - Strength

So What About Us?

- What are we hungry for?
 - The Wedding Feast
 - The Lord's Supper
- Remember Revelation 3.20