

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

APRIL 3, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

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

Welcome and Announcements

Travis Brown, Youth Pastor

The Song of Ascent

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

Salvation's Song

Loved before the dawn of time, Chosen by my Maker,
Hidden in my Savior: I am His and He is mine, Cherished for eternity.

When I'm stained with guilt and sin,
He is there to lift me, Heal me and forgive me;
Gives me strength to stand again, Stronger than I was before.

So with every breath that I am given I will sing salvation's song;
And I'll join the chorus of creation Giving praise to Christ alone.

All the chains of Satan's curse
Lifted through His offering, Satisfied through suffering;
All the blessings He deserves Poured on my unworthy soul.

So with every breath that I am given I will sing salvation's song;
And I'll join the chorus of creation Giving praise to Christ alone.

Singing glory, honor, wisdom, power
To the Lamb upon the throne. Hallelujah, I will lift Him high.
Singing glory, honor, wisdom, power To the Lamb upon the throne.
Hallelujah I will sing with every breath that I am given
I will sing salvation's song; And I'll join the chorus of creation
Giving praise to Christ alone.

Stars will fade and mountains fall; Christ will shine forever,
Love's unfading splendor.
Earth and heaven will bow in awe, Joining in salvation's song.
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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship: Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god...

Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there

a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.
Isaiah 44.6, 8

Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

Declaration of Truth:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

This creed traditionally dates back to the early 2nd century. The word "catholic" means "universal", meaning the one true church made up of all believers in Jesus Christ from every tribe, language, people and nation.

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

Hymn of Praise *Our God Almighty is Sovereign Still!*

Amid the fears that oppress our day,
across the clouds that obscure our way,
one golden truth sheds its shining ray —
our God almighty is sov-ereign still!

Refrain:

*Pow'r, Pow'r, God's pow'r.
His holy purpose unchanging stands,
Pow'r, Pow'r, God's pow'r.
He holds the world in his mighty hands.*

Though wars may rise, and though kingdoms fall,
though ills may threaten, and fears enthrall,
our God still lives, and he hears our call —
our God almighty is sov-ereign still!

Though fierce the fight 'gainst the hosts of wrong,
his Word is sure, and his arm is strong;
the day is his: raise his triumph song —
our God almighty is sov-ereign still!

When Christ shall come to receive his own,
His kingdom come, his pow-er, his throne,
eternal King he shall reign alone —
our God almighty is sov-ereign still!

CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Reception of New Members and the Sacrament of Covenant Baptism

Baptism today is given to Emma Jordan Prince , Lily Grace Prince, and Hannah Lee Prince, on profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and welcome them into the CMPC family with their parents, Lee and Audrey. .

Mission Moment

Pastoral Prayer

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

Refiner's Fire

Jim Zeller

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

Though Troubles Assail Us

#95

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

Though troubles assail us, and dangers affright,
though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,
yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
the promise assures us, "The Lord will provide."

The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;
from them let us learn to trust God for our bread.
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied
So long as 'tis written, "The Lord will provide."

When Satan assails us to stop up our path,
and courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,
This heart-cheering promise, "The Lord will provide."

No strength of our own, and no goodness we claim;
yet, since we have known of the Savior's great name,
in this our strong tower for safety we hide:
the Lord is our power, "The Lord will provide."

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Revelation 2.8-11

And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life. 9 "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that

they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. 11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'
All: The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

The Church Under Assault

Pastor John

Series: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow: The Book of Revelation

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

#481

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!

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!

Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for April 3, 2022

- **Series:** *The Book of Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow*
- **Message:** *The Assault on the Church*
- **Text:** Revelation 2.8-11

The Big Picture

- The letters as direct teaching
 - The assault on the church
 - What strength for today and hope for tomorrow does Revelation give us?
- Two things from Ephesus
 - Absolute necessity of love to endure what the church faces
 - The lampstand metaphor for the church... cf. Zechariah 4

The Arena

- Smyrna
- First century- nearly as large as Ephesus with close to 250,000
- Significant port city then and now
- Tried to “out Rome” Rome
- Today... Muslim... Izmir... nearly 3 million people

Anchor

- Pivotal truth about Jesus
- First and the Last, 8; cf. Isaiah 41.4, 44.6, 48.12
 - Claim to deity and sovereignty
- Jesus also suffered, 8
- He knows... the you is singular
- Resurrection hope!

The Adversaries

- Satan, 9
- Romans, 10
- Jews, 9

Adversity

- Poverty, 9a
- Slander, 9b
- Prison, 10a
- Death, 10b

Allegiance

- Do not be afraid, 10a
- Be faithful, 10b

Award

- Crown of life, 10
- No second death, 11
 - Born once, die twice
 - Born twice, die once

So What About Us?

- Polycarp
 - Knew the apostle John
- Present day
- The persecuted church today
- The persecuted church tomorrow