

# WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

JULY 4, 2021

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

Ben Phillips, Pastor of Ministries

### The Song of Ascent

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

### Congregation

*God of the Ages*

God of the ages, history's Maker,  
planning our pathway, holding us fast,  
shaping in mercy all that concerns us:  
Father, we praise you, Lord of the past.

God of this morning, gladly your children  
worship before you, trustingly bow;  
teach us to know you always among us,  
quietly sovereign-- Lord of our now.

God of tomorrow, strong overcomer,  
princes of darkness own your command:  
what then can harm us? We are your people,  
now and forever kept by your hand.

Lord of past ages, Lord of this morning,  
Lord of the future, help us, we pray:  
teach us to trust you, love and obey you,  
crown you each moment, Lord of today!

### ADORATION OF GOD

**Call to Worship:** "The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: 'The kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.'" —The Revelation 11.15

### Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

**Declaration of Truth:** Psalm 47

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

All: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom He loves.

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**All: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!**

Leader: God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne. The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

**All: For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted!**

### *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**      *God, the Uncreated One (King Forevermore)*

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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**CMPC Mission and Family Life**  
**Mission Moment**  
**Pastoral Prayer**

**OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**The Gift of Music**

**Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offering**

*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** *Great King of Nations, Hear Our Prayer*

*(Children ages three through first grade may be escorted to Children's Church)*

Great King of nations, hear our prayer, While at your feet we fall,  
And humbly, with united cry, To you for mercy call.

The guilt is ours, but grace is yours, O turn us not away;  
But hear us from your lofty throne, And help us when we pray.

Our fathers' sins were manifold, And ours no less we own,  
Yet wondrously from age to age Your goodness has been shown.

When dangers, like a stormy sea, Beset our country round,  
To you we looked, to you we cried, And help in you was found.

With one consent we meekly bow Beneath thy chast'ning hand,  
And, pouring forth confession meet, Mourn with our mourning land.

With pitying eye behold our need, As thus we lift our prayer;  
Correct us with your judgments, Lord, Then let your mercy spare.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Reading of God's Word**

Genesis 21.22-34

<sup>22</sup> At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do. <sup>23</sup> Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned." <sup>24</sup> And Abraham said, "I will swear." <sup>25</sup> When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized, <sup>26</sup> Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today." <sup>27</sup> So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant. <sup>28</sup> Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. <sup>29</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the

meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?”<sup>30</sup> He said, “These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug this well.”<sup>31</sup> Therefore that place was called Beersheba,<sup>[d]</sup> because there both of them swore an oath.<sup>32</sup> So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines.<sup>33</sup> Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.<sup>34</sup> And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Sermon** Pastor John Batusic

“How Shall We Then Plant: The Church in the 21st Century USA”

*Series from Genesis 12-25- Abraham & Sarah: Walking by Faith*

### **OUR RESPONSE**

#### **Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response**      *God of Our Fathers*

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;  
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;  
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide, and Stay;  
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,  
Lead us from night to never-ending day;  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,  
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

**The Benediction and Threefold Amen**



## Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

[cmpca.org](http://cmpca.org)

CMPC Sermon Notes for July 4, 2021

Pastor John Batusic

- Series- *Abraham and Sarah: Walking By Faith- Genesis 12-*
- Message: *“How Shall We Then Plant:  
The Church in the 21st Century USA”*
- Text: Genesis 21.22-34

### The Matter of Our Testimony

- The world is watching
  - Their observation: Abraham’s testimony
- Their request
- Their testimony
- Abraham’s response

### Testing a Relationship

- Abraham’s challenge
- Abimelech’s plea
- A covenant
- A witness

### Planting a Tree

- What’s the big deal?
  - A nomad doesn’t own the land
  - Abraham is 104
  - Expression of hope
    - Come quickly Lord Jesus
    - God’s timetable
- Worshiping, Psalm 111
- Sojourning
  - I Thessalonians 4.9-12
    - Love others
    - Make it your ambition...
      - Live quietly and mind your own affairs
      - Work
      - Walk

### So What About Us?

- USA’s greatest need
- A Revived Church
  - Pursuing Jesus
  - Pursuing grace-fueled holiness
  - Seeking an Awakening
- Planted Trees, cf. Psalm 1