

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

August 29, 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

Though Troubles Assail Us

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."

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." —Revelation 22.13

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.

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

O Father You Are Sovereign

O Father, You are sovereign In all the worlds You made;
Your mighty Word was spoken, And light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons And bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses And stills the tempests' roar.

O Father, You are sovereign In all affairs of man;
No powers of death or darkness Can thwart Your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, Supreme in time and space,
You hold your trusting children Secure in Your embrace.

O Father, You are sovereign The Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows To gold of heavenly gain,
All evil overruling, As none but Conqueror could,
Your love pursues its purpose— Our souls' eternal good.

O Father, You are sovereign! We see You dimly now,
But soon before Your triumph Earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us Our faith springs up anew:
Our Sovereign Lord and Savior, We trust and worship You!

CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Mission Moment

Pastoral Prayer

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 *Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me*

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

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom

My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God's Word

Psalm 2

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, ³"Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." ⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. ⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." ⁷I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. ⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." ¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

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

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

"Why Do the Nations Rage?"

Pastor John

Series: Timeless Questions from the Psalms

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response *All Glory Be to Christ*

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn, all glory be to Christ!

Refrain: *All glory be to Christ our king! All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!*

His will be done, His kingdom come, on earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price
The water of eternal life, all glory be to Christ.

When on the day the great I Am, the faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain, is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us and be our steadfast light
And we shall e'er his people be, all glory be to Christ! (Refrain)

The nations of this world are blind, their rebel eyes are closed.
They miss his sov'reign ma-jesty, his splendor and his grace.
Our task is ever clear to us, His glory, we do see!
To make him known, his praise we sing, all Glory be to Christ.

Commit your heart, your prayers, your gold, to the unfinished task
No sacrifice for Him's too great, He gave his life for us.
So boldly magnify the Lord, his gracious love proclaim
That all may join us as we sing, all glory be to Christ.

Words by Dustin Kensrue, © Dead Bird Theology (ASCAP), It's All About Jesus Music (ASCAP) UBP/ARR ccli# 184884

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA
cmpca.org
CMPC Sermon Notes for August 29, 2021

Pastor John Batusic

Series- *Timeless Questions from the Psalms*

- **Message:** “*Why Do the Nations Rage?*”
- **Text:** Psalm 2

- Questions of the heart
- Questions of natural curiosity
- Questions are timeless
- Answers are not always simple
- Setting: David consolidates his kingship in Jerusalem
 - King David becoming King over all Israel points to Jesus becoming King

The Nations Rage Because They Have Rebel Hearts, 1-3

- First rebels: Adam and Eve
 - Cain defies God and builds a city, naming it for his son
- We are to make much of God’s name
 - Tower of Babel: to make a name for themselves
- God says fill the earth
 - People said stay together: build a city
- God’s call to Abraham: leave the city

The Nations Rage Because God’s Agenda is Not Their Agenda, 4-6

- The City of Man, The City of God: tracing both agendas
- Babylon: the prototypical great city
 - Magnificent
 - Yet destroyed in a single night: God’s judgment
 - Jeremiah 51.37
- Futility of the nations’ agenda, 4
- God’s laughter
 - The restraint they want to throw off is God’s revelation- God’s word
- Consider the Ten Commandments
- God’s agenda: installing his king on Zion/in Jerusalem, 5-6
- The beauty of Zion/God’s plan, Psalm 48
- God prospered Zion in the face of opposition
- Ultimately, Jerusalem tumbled into sin
 - Jeremiah’s lament, Lamentations 2.13ff
 - God’s prophets failed God’s people by not proclaiming God’s word and calling sin sin
 - God’s prophets cast off the restraints of God
- The world thinks God’s agenda is failing
 - Jerusalem is rebuilt, only to be destroyed in 70AD by the next great City of Man, Rome
 - But the world missed the installation of the King 40 years before
- Jesus is the foundation- the cornerstone- for a New Jerusalem

The Nation's Rage Because God is Accomplishing His Agenda, 7-9

- Jesus makes the nations his heritage
- The City of Man is destined for destruction
 - The world's great cities
- Our responsibility is to seek their welfare, Jeremiah 29.7ff
 - An interest in the care of their people
 - Ultimately: gospel proclamation

The Nations Rage Because They Reject God's Demands, 10-12a

- Objects of God's wrath
- God's wrath comes on the City of Man, Revelation 18
 - Kabul and Afghanistan are a tragic, heart-breaking picture of God's judgment

The Nations Rage at How the Story Ends, 12b

- What about the Christian martyrs?
- Revelation 6.12-17
- We look forward to the city to come, Revelation 21-22
- The rage of the nations will end with Christ's Ultimate Triumph

So What About Us?

- The rage of the nations frightens us
- The rage of the nations challenges us
- The City of God will satisfy us... forever