

Announcements

Check out our website (cpcsb.org) to see our calendar and events.

Romans: An Introduction and Overview of Paul's Letter—January 11th

Perhaps no book has influenced Church history more than Paul's letter to the Romans. There is a timeless quality to the letter. As such, people in every century have taken a great interest in it. But like every book in the New Testament, Romans is also rooted in history. It was written to a particular people facing particular circumstances. In order to understand its message, we need to pay attention to the specific circumstances out of which it was written.

Instead of meeting as small groups, we are going to gather for four weeks as a church on Wednesday evenings from 6:30–8:00PM beginning this week (January 11th) to get acquainted with this book. Nursery care is provided for infants through 3 years old. There will be special activities for older children. Feel free to bring a friend.

Project Chile 2012—Short-Term Missions Opportunity

Tom Beveridge, one of our deacons, will be leading a construction/community outreach team from CPC to Quillota, Chile from March 9th–25th. Two other teams from PCA congregations in Philadelphia and Virginia will be working there too, one before and one after our team. The teams are returning to Quillota in order to complete **Renacer** (rebirth in Spanish), a vitally important and strategically placed facility ministering to at risk children and families in one of the poorest sections of this beautiful city. In 2006 and 2007 teams from PCA congregations constructed a meeting space, classrooms, and office space. This year teams will construct a dining facility, restrooms and a kitchen.

Interested in being part of the CPC team? Neither construction experience nor Spanish speaking skills are necessary...only a willing heart and desire to serve. Costs are approximately \$2300. Some assistance from CPC is available. Talk to Tom Beveridge, Richard Jacobsen or Isabel Beveridge by **January 22**.

Interested in giving to Project Chile 2012? Make your check out to Christ Presbyterian Church and include “Chile 2012” on the memo line.

College Lunch—January 22nd

Save the date—all college students are invited to lunch after the worship service on January 22nd. Watch for details in next week's bulletin.

Service of Worship January 8, 2012 First Sunday after Epiphany

A word about our worship: We believe that in worship we actually meet with God. Therefore, our services are interactive and dynamic, retelling the gospel through a five-act drama: Approach, Renewal, (re)Commitment, Communion, and Commissioning. In this drama, we all have a part. In each act, we are placed in dialogue with God himself: He speaks and we respond. In our liturgy (script), you will find your lines designated in **bold**.

PREPARATION AND REFLECTION

non est liber nisi liberatus; no one is free until freed.

—David Burrell from his essay, “Can We Be Free?”

Love slays what we have been that we may be what we were not.

—St. Augustine

There are some defeats more triumphant than victories.

—Michel de Montaigne

To Thee I Come

Clint Wells | Samuel Medley

While the musicians sing this song, use this time to prepare for worship.

ACT 1: APPROACH

CALL TO WORSHIP: *God summons us.*

From Psalm 95

Come, sing for joy to the Lord!

We will shout to the Rock of our salvation!

Come before him with thanksgiving!

We will celebrate him with music and song!

Worship the Lord, our God and our Maker!

All Creatures of Our God and King

Words: Francis of Assisi; Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing.
O praise him! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!

Chorus O praise him! O praise him!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong;
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him! Alleluia!
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice;
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

Chorus

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness.
O praise him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

Chorus

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

Chorus

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ACT 5: COMMISSIONING***Mighty to Save***

Words and Music: Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan

Everyone needs compassion,
Love that's never failing.
Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness,
The kindness of a Saviour,
The hope of nations.

Chorus Saviour, he can move the mountains.
 My God is mighty to save.
 He is mighty to save.
 Forever, Author of salvation,
 He rose and conquered the grave.
 Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as you find me,
All my fears and failures.
Fill my life again.
I give my life to follow
Everything I believe in.
Now I surrender.

Bridge: Shine your light and let the whole world see.
 We're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus.
 Shine your light and let the whole world see.
 We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

CCLI Song No. 4591782

BENEDICTION: *God sends us out in His power.*

To thee I come a sinner lost,
 Nor have I aught wherein to trust;
 But where thou art Lord I would be;
 O God, be merciful to me.

Chorus 3: To glory bring me Lord at last,
 And there when all my fears are past;
 With all thy saints then I'll agree;
 God was merciful to me.

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PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may I turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Indescribable

Jesse Reeves | Laura Story

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,
 Creation's revealing your majesty.
 From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring,
 Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings.
 All exclaiming:

Chorus 1 Indescribable, uncontainable; you placed the stars in the sky
 And you know them by name. You are amazing, God;
 All powerful, untamable; awestruck, we fall to our knees
 As we humbly proclaim:
 You are amazing, God.

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go,
 Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?
 Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light,
 Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night?
 None can fathom.

Chorus 1

Chorus 2 Indescribable, uncontainable; you placed the stars in the sky
 And you know them by name. You are amazing, God;
 All powerful, untamable; awestruck, we fall to our knees
 As we humbly proclaim:
 You are amazing, God.
 Incomp'able, unchangeable; you see the depths of my heart
 And you love me the same.
 You are amazing, God.
 You are amazing, God.

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INVOCATION: *We ask God to meet us.*

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 44:6,9, 12–20

⁶ 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.

⁹ All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit. Their witnesses
neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame.

¹² The ironsmith takes a cutting tool and works it over the coals. He fashions it with hammers and
works it with his strong arm. He becomes hungry, and his strength fails; he drinks no water and is
faint. ¹³ The carpenter stretches a line; he marks it out with a pencil. He shapes it with planes and
marks it with a compass. He shapes it into the figure of a man, with the beauty of a man, to dwell
in a house. ¹⁴ He cuts down cedars, or he chooses a cypress tree or an oak and lets it grow strong
among the trees of the forest. He plants a cedar and the rain nourishes it. ¹⁵ Then it becomes fuel
for a man. He takes a part of it and warms himself; he kindles a fire and bakes bread. Also he
makes a god and worships it; he makes it an idol and falls down before it. ¹⁶ Half of it he burns in
the fire. Over the half he eats meat; he roasts it and is satisfied. Also he warms himself and says,
“Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire!” ¹⁷ And the rest of it he makes into a god, his idol, and falls
down to it and worships it. He prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god!”

¹⁸ They know not, nor do they discern, for he has shut their eyes, so that they cannot see, and their
hearts, so that they cannot understand. ¹⁹ No one considers, nor is there knowledge or discernment
to say, “Half of it I burned in the fire; I also baked bread on its coals; I roasted meat and have
eaten. And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?” ²⁰
He feeds on ashes; a deluded heart has led him astray, and he cannot deliver himself or say, “Is
there not a lie in my right hand?”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
Hallelujah, let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God are for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

❖ Please hold the elements until we can all partake together. (For those with diet restrictions
gluten-free bread is offered).

To Thee I Come

Clint Wells | Samuel Medley

**To thee I come a sinner poor,
And wait for mercy at thy door;
Indeed I've nowhere else to flee;
O God, be merciful to me.**

**Chorus 1: To thee I come a sinner weak,
And scarce know how to pray or speak;
From fear and weakness set me free;
O God, be merciful to me.**

**To thee I come a sinner vile,
Upon me Lord vouchsafe to smile.
Mercy through blood I make my plea;
O God, be merciful to me.**

**Chorus 2: To thee I come a sinner great,
And well thou knowest all my state.
Yet full forgiveness is with thee;
O God, be merciful to me.**

ACT 4: COMMUNION

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER: *God invites us to a meal.*

- ❖ Christ Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sin, trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to receive the Holy Communion with us.
- ❖ If you are not sure if you should take Communion, or if you have come to believe in Jesus today, you are encouraged to meet with one of the elders who will be at the front of the sanctuary following the service.
- ❖ If you are not able to receive Communion, please use the prayers on page 14 as a guide.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

From Genesis 1, Isaiah 60

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord our God!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We thank you and praise you for being the Father of lights. In the beginning when the earth was formless and dark, you spoke and light came. And again when the earth was dark and all its people full of gloom, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be the light of the world. Nations have seen his glory; kings have opened their treasures to him; and our hearts are thrilled, for in him we have found salvation. Lord, as we come to this table, we seek to experience you as our beauty, our treasure, and our everlasting light. Arise and shine on us now by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ACT 2: RENEWAL

CONFESSION OF SIN: *We own our faults.*

Father, you gave us your Son to pay the penalty for our sins and to rescue us from evil.

Forgive us for undervaluing and perverting your Gospel. Instead of trusting in the sufficiency of your cross, we trust in our works of kindness, our self-sacrifice, our commitment, our obedience, and our service to put us in a right relationship to you.

Father, forgive us for deserting you out of a false sense of self-sufficiency. For the sake of Jesus, free us from our independent wills. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

From Isaiah 44:21-23

Remember these things, O Israel. You will not be forgotten by me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

Sing, O heavens, for the Lord has done it;

Shout, O depths of the earth, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it!

For the Lord has redeemed his people and we rejoice in his love.

ACT 3: COMMITMENT

Forever

Words and Music: Chris Tomlin

Give thanks to the Lord our God and King.
 His love endures forever.
 For he is good, he is above all things,
 His love endures forever,
 Sing praise, sing praise,
 Sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm
 His love endures forever.
 For the life that's been reborn
 His love endures forever,
 Sing praise, sing praise,
 Sing praise, sing praise.

Chorus Forever God is faithful,
 Forever God is strong,
 Forever God is with us,
 Forever, forever.

From the rising to the setting sun
 His love endures forever
 By the grace of God we will carry on
 His love endures forever,
 Sing praise, sing praise,
 Sing praise, sing praise.

Chorus

Bridge His love endures forever,
 His love endures forever,
 His love endures forever,
 Forever.

*Chorus**Act 3: Commitment**Hallelujah, What A Savior*

Bob Kaufflin | Philip Paul Bliss

Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Man of Sorrows! what a name
 For the Son of God, who came
 Ruined sinners to reclaim:
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
 In my place condemned he stood,
 Sealed my pardon with his blood:
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we;
 Spotless Lamb of God was he;
 Full atonement, can it be?
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die,
 "It is finished!" was his cry;
 Now in heav'n exalted high:
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King,
 All his ransomed home to bring,
 Then anew this song we'll sing:
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!
 Hallelujah! What a Savior!

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THE PREACHED WORD: *God brings us good news.***Reading: Galatians 1:1–10**

¹ Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**Sermon— “Cherishing the Gospel”*****Sermon Notes:*****RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS****The Beveridge Family: Marvin, Isabel, and Nathan**

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

Membership Vows**QUESTIONS FOR MARVIN AND ISABEL**

Do you acknowledge yourself to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?

Marvin and Isabel: I do.

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?

Marvin and Isabel: I do.

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as a follower of Christ?

Marvin and Isabel: I do.

Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Marvin and Isabel: I do.

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

Marvin and Isabel: I do.

QUESTION TO GOD’S PEOPLE

Members of Christ Presbyterian Church, will you do all in your power to uphold Marvin and Isabel in fulfilling their covenant vows?

God helping us, we will.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Let us welcome Marvin, Isabel, and Nathan into our fellowship.

Welcome! We give thanks to God for you, and for bringing all of us together in his Church, the very Body of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

GIVING: We commit our resources.

- ❖ *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). As Christians, we give because Christ gave, and because he continues to give us freely all that he is by his Spirit.*
- ❖ *If you are a visitor, please do not feel obliged to give. At this time, you may fill out the perforated form on the back of today's bulletin and place it in the offering bag. You may also use this form if you have prayer requests or praises to share with the elders, would like information about Christ Presbyterian Church or would like to update your contact information.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: We commit our concerns.

- ❖ *I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people (1 Timothy 2:1).*

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Words: Henry Lyte. Music: W.A.Mozart arr. Bill Moore

- ❖ *During the last verse of the following song, children from age three through first grade are dismissed for a time of teaching.*

**Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken, thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.**

**Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while thou do smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me, show thy face and all is bright.**

**Go, then, earthly fame and treasure, come disaster, scorn and pain.
In thy service, pain is pleasure; with thy favor, loss is gain.
I have called thee Abba Father, I have stayed my heart on thee.
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather; all must work for good to me.**

**Soul, then know thy full salvation, rise o'er sin and fear and care.
Joy to find in every station, something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee, child of heaven, can thou repine.**

**Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy life-long mission, soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.**