

Announcements

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

No Children's Church Today

We want to say thank you to our faithful volunteers who teach and care for our children each week. Today, children ages 3 and older will remain with their families during the entire service. Nursery care for infants through 2 years will be provided.

CPC Ladies' Christmas Party--December 3rd

All ladies high school age and older are invited to the CPC Ladies' Christmas party on Saturday December 3rd at 6:30pm at the church. Come for a night of food, friends and fun! We'll be serving a light dinner followed by Christmas desserts from around the globe. If you would like to contribute, we'll be collecting gifts to send to two of our missionaries who have just recently had babies (more details to follow). Come dressed in your most festive holiday sweaters, socks and/or jewelry--we'll be having a contest for the "most festive Christmas outfit!" Please RSVP to Pam Wells by email (pamelaswells@gmail.com) by Nov 30th if you'll be able to come. We hope you can make it!

Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00PM on December 24th. Nursery care will be provided, ages 3 and older will remain with their families.

CPC Children Are Egging Us On

Ask the children why! Let's keep filling the egg basket and box on the Missions table to help Hogar Providencia buy more chickens.

Service of Worship November 27, 2011 First Sunday of Advent

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

GATHERING SONG:

Jesus, Lord of Heaven

Words & Music: Philip Wickham

Sung by the band

Jesus, Lord of heaven, I do not deserve
The grace that you have given or the promise of your Word.
Lord I stand in wonder at the sacrifice you've made;
With mercy beyond measure, my debt you freely paid.

Chorus Your love is deeper than any ocean,
Higher than the heavens,
Reaches beyond the stars in the sky.

Jesus your love has no bounds,
Jesus your love has no bounds.

CCLI Song No. 4176073

ACT 1: APPROACH

CALL TO WORSHIP: *God summons us.*

Let the poor and needy praise the Lord!

He is our God and brings salvation to the earth!

Praise the Lord, our coming King!

Everlasting God

Words and Music: Brenton Brown and Ken Riley

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord.

Repeat

Our God, you reign forever;
Our hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

Chorus You are the everlasting God,
 The everlasting God.
 You do not faint,
 You won't grow weary.
 You're the defender of the weak,
 You comfort those in need,
 You lift us up on wings like eagles.

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ACT 5: COMMISSIONING

You Alone Can Rescue

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

Who, O Lord, could save themselves, their own soul could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea, your grace is deeper still.
(REPEAT)

Chorus And you alone can rescue, you alone can save.
 You alone can lift us from the grave.
 You came down to find us, led us out of death.
 To you alone belongs the highest praise.

You, O Lord, have made a way, the great divide you healed.
For when our hearts were far away, your love went further still.
Yes, your love goes further still.

Chorus

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes.
You're the giver of life.
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes.
You're the giver of life.

Chorus 2 And you alone can rescue, you alone can save.
 You alone can lift us from the grave.
 You came down to find us, led us out of death.
 To you alone belongs the highest praise,
 To you alone belongs the highest praise,
 To you alone belongs the highest praise.

CCLI# 5376377: © 2008 Thankyou Music, sixsteps Music...

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

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may you be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

Ancient of Days

Gary Sadler | Jamie Harvill

**Blessing and honor, glory and power
Be unto the Ancient of Days;
From ev'ry nation, all of creation
Bow before the Ancient of Days.**

***Chorus* Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth
Shall declare your glory,
Ev'ry knee shall bow
At your throne in worship;
You will be exalted, O God,
And your kingdom shall not pass away,
O Ancient of Days.**

Bridge

**Your kingdom shall reign
Over all the earth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days;
For none can compare
To Your matchless worth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.**

Chorus

INVOCATION: *We ask God to meet us.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 98

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

²The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together

⁹before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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).

Before the Throne of God Above

Words: Charitie Lees Bancroft; Music: Vikki Cook

**Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great high priest, whose name is love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heaven he stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within;
Upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless savior died my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.**

**Behold him there! The risen Lamb! My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the king of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.**

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

The Lord is coming!

He comes in power and glory!

The Lord is here!

He is with us by his Spirit!

Let us give him thanks and praise.

You sent your only Son, Jesus Christ, into the darkness of our world to bring us light. In humility and strength, he showed forth your love and followed your call, even to death upon a cross for the sake of our sins. Then you raised him from the dead to reign with you in glory, and promised that he would return to us in power to bring us into your everlasting kingdom.

For all this, we thank you.

We live in that hope and await Christ's coming.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Act 1: Approach

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Timothy 6:11–16

¹¹But as for you, O man of God...Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ!

ACT 2: RENEWAL

CONFESSION OF SIN: *We own our faults.*

Based on Philippians 3:12–21

Father, through Christ, you call us righteous. Yet, instead of pressing toward the prize of knowing him, we have looked behind, and lost sight of our goal.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us for allowing our prior sins, which you have forgiven, to wrongly consume our hearts and minds with shame.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us for focusing on our imperfections, which has stunted our spiritual growth and robbed us of deeper communion with you.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us for making our own gods, and setting our minds on earthly treasures.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us for neglecting our citizenship in heaven and for over-cherishing our earthly one.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Forgive us for being content with our spiritual progress.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Silent Confession

For the sake of your Son, forgive us our sin and help us to eagerly await the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Act 3: Commitment

Be Thou My Vision

Words and Music: 8th century Irish hymn

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.**

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THE PREACHED WORD: *God brings us good news.***Reading: Philippians 3:12–4:1**

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**Sermon— “Imperfection: Living in Light of His Coming”***Sermon Notes:****Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace***

Brian T. Murphy | Clint Wells | D. Herbert

**Come boldly to the throne of grace;
Ye wretched sinners come,
And lay your load at Jesus' feet,
And plead what he has done.**

**How can I come some soul may say;
I'm lame and cannot walk.
My guilt and sin have stopped my mouth,
I sign but dare not talk.**

**Come boldly to the throne of grace,
Though lost and blind and lame;
Jehovah is the sinner's Friend
And ever was the same.**

**He makes the dead to hear his voice,
He makes the blind to see.
The sinner lost he came to save
And set the prisoner free.**

**Come boldly to the throne of grace,
For Jesus fills the throne;
And those he kills he makes alive,
He hears the sign or groan.**

**Poor bankrupt souls who feel and know
The hell of sin within;
Come boldly to the throne of grace,
The Lord will take you in.**

CCLI Song No. 5397301

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT 3: COMMITMENT

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *We commit our allegiance.*

Apostles' Creed

Christian, what do you believe about God the Father?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Christian, what do you believe about God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Christian, what do you believe about God the Spirit?

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.

**The word catholic means universal. The creed confesses to the unity of Jesus Christ's church across the world and throughout the ages, regardless of denominational affiliation.*

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).*

Act 3: Commitment

One Day

Words: Wilbur Chapman Music: Michael Devereaux

❖ *Children ages 3 and older will remain with their families.*

**One day when heaven was filled with his praises,
One day when sin was as dark as could be,
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin;
Dwelt among us, my Example is he!**

**One day they led him up Calvary's mountain;
One day they nailed him to die on the tree;
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected:
Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is he!**

Chorus **Living, he loved me; dying, he saved me;
Buried, he carried my sins far away;
Rising, he justified freely forever;
One day he's coming – O glorious day!
One day he's coming – O glorious day!**

**One day they left him alone in the garden;
One day he rested from suffering free;
Angels came down and stood over his tomb;
Hope of the hopeless, my Savior is he!**

**One day the grave could conceal him no longer;
One day the stone rolled away from the door;
Then he arose, over death he had conquered;
Now is ascended, my Lord evermore.**

Chorus

**One day the trumpet will sound for his coming;
One day the skies with his glories will shine;
Wonderful day, my beloved one's bringing;
Glorious Savior, this Jesus is mine!**

Chorus 2x