

Announcements

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

Newcomers' Small Group—October 25th

If you are new to the church or have not found a small group, you are invited to the Newcomers' Small Group on Tuesday evenings from 6:30–8:30PM at Paul Ranheim's home (1616 Loma St.). We'll start with dinner together and then Randy Berg will be leading a sermon-connected Bible study and discussion. Contact Randy at 805-967-2839 for more information.

Men's Small Group

The Men's Small Group has been moved to Monday evenings at the church. Contact Mark Corazza for more information at 805-964-2430.

Friday Nights Out—October 28th & November 4th

Friday Nights Out is a program for parents and kids. Children enjoy an hour and a half of teaching and fellowship from 6:30-8:00PM while parents are encouraged to take time out to reconnect with one another over a meal or a walk around the town. Fill out a FNO registration card, Emergency Treatment Form and pick up a take-home packet at the table by the children's area today.

Volunteers needed: If you are interested in helping with Friday Nights Out and have been regularly attending the church for at least 6 months, please contact Debbie Corazza at mscdfh@cox.net. For the safety of our children and peace of mind for our parents, we require all volunteers who work with children to complete an application and provide references.

Service of Worship October 23, 2011 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

"One can know a man from his laugh, and if you like a man's laugh before you know anything of him, you may confidently say that he is a good man."

– Fyodor Dostoevsky

"If you are not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don't want to go there."

–Martin Luther

*When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."*

–Psalm 126:1–2

ACT 1: APPROACH

CALL TO WORSHIP: *God summons us.*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come before his presence with singing!

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 5: COMMISSIONING*****Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee***

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love.
 Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays.
 Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
 Field, and forest, vale, and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
 Chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest;
 Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest.
 Thou, our Father, Christ, our Brother, all who live in love are thine.
 Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
 Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
 Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
 Joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life.

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

Satisfied

Clara Tear Williams | Karl Digerness

Poor I was and sought for riches,
 Something that would satisfy.
 But the dust I gathered 'round me
 Only mocked my soul's sad cry.

Well of water ever springing,
 Bread of life so rich and free,
 Untold wealth that never faileth
 My Redeemer is to me.

Chorus Hallelujah! He has found me,
 The One my soul so long has craved!
 Jesus satisfies all my longings,
 Thro' his blood I now am saved.

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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.

One Day

Words: Wilbur Chapman Music: Michael Devereaux

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

INVOCATION: *We ask God to meet us.*

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Words: Thomas Chisholm; Music: William Runyan

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever will be.

Chorus Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Chorus

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

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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).

Satisfied

Clara Tear Williams | Karl Digerness

All my lifelong I had panted
For a drink from some cool spring
That I hoped would quench the burning
Of the thirst I felt within.

Chorus Hallelujah! He has found me,
The One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings,
Thro' his blood I now am saved.

Feeding on the filth around me,
Till my strength was almost gone,
Longed my soul for something better,
Only still to hunger on.

Chorus

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 Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is our greatest joy and highest privilege to give you thanks and praise, Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. For you spoke and all things came to be; you speak and all things continue to hold together. And by that same powerful word, you made promises to Abraham and Sarah. You broke the grip of death and hopelessness over their lives by bringing them a son of promise. And so too your word has brought us a son of promise, Jesus Christ. He has turned our tears into laughter and our sorrow into a joy ineradicable. Through this meal cause our hearts to rejoice in you, the source of all happiness. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and wine that through them we may be nourished with our Savior. Make us one with him and one with all who share this feast. Amen.

Act 1: Approach

SCRIPTURE READING: John 16:16–22

¹⁶ "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸ So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'?" ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ACT 2: RENEWAL

CONFESSION OF SIN: *We own our faults.*

Our Father in heaven, in Christ you have provided us with a joy that can never be taken away. And yet, how easily we forsake the everlasting joy you offer for momentary pleasures. We look to status, money, health, appearance, comfort, sex, food, alcohol, and a myriad of other things to find joy. And when these things fail us, we become despondent in our hearts, pessimistic about our situation, and angry with you. And yet you have wept, felt sorrow, and suffered that we might rejoice.

Silent Confession

Father, bring us back to the well of joy that you have given us in Jesus Christ. Cause us to rejoice in the forgiveness of sin, in victory over death, and in a future with you. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Act 3: Commitment

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Words and Music: Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns his face away,
As wounds which mar the chosen one
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon his shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

THE PREACHED WORD: *God brings us good news.***Reading: Genesis 17:15–17; 18:9–15; 21:1–7**

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." ¹⁷Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"

⁹They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." ¹⁰The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" ¹³The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son." ¹⁵But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "No, but you did laugh."

¹The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. ²And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." ⁷And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**Sermon— "The Birth of Laughter"***Sermon Notes****Unashamed***

Words and Music: Doug McKelvey | Jon Neufeld | Tim Neufeld

**I have not much to offer you,
Not near what you deserve.
But still I come because your cross
Has placed in me my worth.**

**O Christ my King of sympathy,
Whose wounds secure my peace;
Your grace extends to call me friend,
Your mercy sets me free.**

Chorus **(And) I know I'm weak,
I know I'm unworthy
To call upon your name.
But because of grace,
Because of your mercy
I stand here unashamed.**

**I can't explain this kind of love,
I'm humbled and amazed
That you'd come down from heaven's heights
And greet me face to face.**

Bridge **Here I am at your feet,
In my brokenness complete.**

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ACT 3: COMMITMENT

Act 3: Commitment

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

Blessed Be Your Name

Words and Music: Matt Redman

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

**Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.**

**Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say**

***Chorus* Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name,
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name.**

**Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.**

**Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say**

Chorus (2x)

***Bridge (2x)* You give and take away, you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be your name.**

Chorus

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