

Announcements

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

Small Groups

Small groups are beginning! Flyers are on the table in the back of the sanctuary or check our web site for details.

Newcomer BBQ–October 1st

If you are new to the church and are looking to check out or join a small group, you are invited to a BBQ next Saturday, October 1st at 6:00PM at Randy and Joyce Berg's home (3908 Via Diego, Unit A. Park on the street and walk down the driveway to the third condo on the left). Flyers are on the welcome table. Call them at 805-967-2839 for more information.

Mini-conference–October 7th & 8th

Mark your calendars! Kyle will be teaching on "John's Apocalypse–the Book of Revelation". Friday is from 7:00–9:00PM and Saturday from 8:30–11:00AM. Please bring a sweet or savory snack to share on Friday. A light breakfast will be provided on Saturday and childcare is provided both days.

Friday Nights Out–October 14th, 21st, 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. Contact Debbie Corazza for more information (mscdfh@cox.net).

Believer's Edge–October 4th

Believer's Edge is a movement of men who are being activated into their calling and destiny within the marketplace community. They will meet every Tuesday morning at 6:15am here at CPC beginning September 20th. For more information, check our website, or contact Tom Doty at tomdoty@mac.com or 805-451-8228.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet after worship next Sunday, October 2nd.

Service of Worship September 25th, 2011 Fifteenth 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

*As sure as night is dark and day is light,
I keep you on my mind both day and night;
And happiness I've known proves that it's right .
Because you're mine,
I walk the line.*

-Johnny Cash

If Mati'ilu sins against this treaty made under oath by the gods, then, just as this spring lamb, brought from its fold, will not return to its fold, ... alas Mati'ilu ... will not behold his country again. This head is not the head of a spring lamb; it is the head of Mati'ilu, the head of his sons, his nobles, the people of his land. If Mati'ilu sins against this treaty, then just as the head of this spring lamb is c[ut off,] his leg put in his mouth so may the head of Mati'ilu be cut off.

-An Ancient Covenant Treaty between Ashurnirari V of Assyria and Mati'ilu of Arpad.

ACT 1: APPROACH**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *God summons us.**Sing responsively****Come Christians Join To Sing***

Christian Henry Bateman

Come, Christians join to sing

Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King;

Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,
 Before his throne rejoice;
 Praise is his gracious choice.
 Alleluia! Amen!

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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.*

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.

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

Love the Lord

Words and Music: Lincoln Brewster

Love the Lord your God**With all your heart, with all your soul,****With all your mind, and with all your strength, (2x)**

Chorus 1 **With all your heart, with all your soul,
 With all your mind, with all your strength.
 Love the Lord your God
 With all your heart, with all your soul,
 With all your mind, and with all your strength.**

I will serve the Lord**With all my heart, with all my soul,****With all my mind, and with all my strength, (2x)**

Chorus 2 **With all my heart, with all my soul,
 With all my mind, with all my strength.
 I will serve the Lord
 With all my heart, with all my soul,
 With all my mind, and with all my strength.**

Bridge **I will love you, (I will love you)
 I will praise you, (I will praise you)
 I will serve you, (I will serve you)
 I will trust you Lord. (I will trust you)**

Chorus 2

CCLI Song #4572938; ©2005 Integrity's Praise! Music

INVOCATION: *We ask God to meet us.***RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS**

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

Humble King

Words and Music: Brenton Brown

**O kneel me down again, here at your feet.
 Show me how much you love humility.
 O Spirit, be the star that leads me to
 The humble heart of love I see in you.**

Chorus **You are the God of the broken,
 The friend of the weak.
 You wash the feet of the weary,
 Embrace the ones in need.
 I want to be like you, Jesus,
 To have this heart in me.
 You are the God of the humble,
 You are the humble king.**

CCLI Song #2650388 ©1999 Vineyard Songs

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER FOR APPROACHING THE TABLE

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercies. In ourselves, we are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But You, Lord, delight to show us mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, that by faith we might be nourished and edified by Jesus Christ, that we may dwell in him, and he in us.

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.

Act 1: Approach

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 4:3, 13–25

³For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness."

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ACT 2: RENEWAL

CONFESSION OF SIN: *We own our faults.*

Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

Lord, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Lord, have mercy on us.

We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone.

Father, you are compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, and merciful; there is always forgiveness with you!

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Act 3: Commitment

Sermon— “The Ceremony”

Sermon Notes

THE PREACHED WORD: *God brings us good news.***Reading: Genesis 15:1–21**

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." ⁴And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." ⁵And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ⁶And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

⁷And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ¹⁴But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, ¹⁹the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, ²¹the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION***In Christ Alone***

Words and Music: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

**In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
'Til he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!**

ACT 3: COMMITMENT

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *We commit our allegiance.*

Heidelberg Catechism—Question #60

Christian, how are you righteous before God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ: that is, although my conscience accuses me, that I have grievously sinned against all the commandments of God, and have never kept any of them, and am still prone always to all evil; yet God, without any merit of mine, of mere grace, grants and imputes to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never committed nor had any sins, and had myself accomplished all the obedience which Christ has fulfilled for me; if only I accept such benefit with a believing heart.

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

Give Us Clean Hands

Words and Music: Charlie Hall

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

**We bow our hearts, we bend our knees,
Oh Spirit come make us humble.
We turn our eyes from evil things,
Oh Lord we cast down our idols.**

***Chorus 1* Give us clean hands,
Give us pure hearts,
Let us not lift our souls to another. *(repeat)***