



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

April 30, 2023

Gathering Song: Lift Up, Lift Up Your Voices Now

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 27)

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

People: One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

Pastor: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

People: I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Unison: Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

† Hymn: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings
Isaiah 6:1-10 Responsive

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

³ **And they were calling to one another:**

**“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”**

⁴At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵**“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”**

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

⁸**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”**

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

⁹**He said, “Go and tell this people:**

**“Be ever hearing, but never understanding;
be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’**

¹⁰**Make the heart of this people calloused;
make their ears dull
and close their eyes.**

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed.”

John 12:23-43 Responsive

²³**Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.**

²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷**“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!”**

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

³⁴The crowd spoke up, "We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?"

³⁵Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. ³⁶Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

³⁷Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. ³⁸This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet:

**"Lord, who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"**

³⁹For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:

⁴⁰"He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their hearts,
so they can neither see with their eyes,
nor understand with their hearts,
nor turn—and I would heal them."

⁴¹Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.

⁴²Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved human praise more than praise from God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

† 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.

† Hymn: The Day of Resurrection

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Piano Sonata Op. 13 II. Adagio Cantabile"

By Beethoven

Yuta Sugano, Musician

† Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Second Scripture Readings

Matthew 22:41-46 Responsive

⁴¹While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴²“What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

⁴⁴**“The Lord said to my Lord:**

**“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.”**

⁴⁵If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Luke 18:35-43 Responsive

³⁵As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.”

³⁸**He called out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”**

³⁹Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁰**Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹“What do you want me to do for you?”**

“Lord, I want to see,” he replied.

⁴²**Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.” ⁴³Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.**

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Man Who Stopped Jesus

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: I Know Whom I Have Believed

† Responsive Litany (1 Corinthians 1:26-30)

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many influential; not many were of noble birth.

People: But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

Pastor: God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.

Unison: It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1ff

In Need of Prayer

Janet Young, hospice, continued peace
 Brenda, for her blood pressure
 Jennifer's father, chemo treatment
 Ed Steele, for mobility, back pain
 Nancy Hill, health
 Jane Kirkpatrick, encouragement
 Darlene Little, heart and dialysis
 Ron's brother, HIV, needs housing
 Maureen, dear friend of Lisa Lochrie
 Reagan, child with seizures
 Kay, hospice for peace and pain relief
 Kimi Muha, suffering

For those who grieve:

Donna Whiting, sister
 Bunny Rector, husband
 Ellen Dorman, husband
 Kelly Rende, wife
 Sam Hutson, wife
 Linda Szczepanek, multiple losses
 Engebretsons, daughter, brother
 Hartigs, son
 Electrica Woods, sister
 Linda Davis, 4 family members in 2 yrs.
 Reginia Higgs, mother
 Lucy McGuire, niece Joanna
 Teresa Lisowski, recent death of aunt

In Need of Prayer

Glad Smith, home
 Paul McGuire, home, but weak. For full healing
 Rosie, daughter of Linda Szczepanek, recent surgery
 Andy Bodnar, health
 Benita Puzzuoli, strength, ongoing treatments
 Linda & Ray Johnson's son Ryan, for health
 Felicia, breast cancer, relative of Sean Murphy
 Sean's family in death of Martin
 Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell cancer
 Emily, friend of Isles family, employment
 Don Rende's brother, Bob, failing health
 Sean's aunt & uncle, Sonja/Ronnie, heavy caregiving
 Debbie, Pam Paglino's friend, ovarian cancer returned
 Donna Whiting's sister's family in grief
 Judy Vershave and family in Florida
 Ken Lindsay's brother with cancer
 Lance, brother-in-law of Isles, liver failure
 Sue Isles, sister-in-law of Ron/Karen, on chemo
 Karen Isles, injured hip
 Pray for Nate Lochrie, a fire fighter, for safety each day
 Lee Paglino, breast cancer, mother of small children Ron
 Langford, age 34, heart failure, needs heart transplant
 Chuck, step-father of Lisa Lochrie, death, despondent
 Family of Jason, death following auto accident
 Trower family in sudden death of wife and mother

General Fund giving last week: \$1,725
 Giving to date in April: \$16,911

 Thank you for your faithful giving to the Lord.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Gordon Powers and family on the death of his wife, Barbara, on April 13, 2023. The funeral was on April 21, 2023.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 103 (continued). What is God's will for us in the Fourth Commandment? **A.** Second, that in every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through his Spirit, and so begin already in this life the eternal Sabbath.