CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
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Welcome to Worship

January 19, 2025

Gathering Song: The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power (Pages 6-7)

† Call to Worship (Psalm 66:1-5, 8 ESV)

Pastor: Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing to the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

People: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you."

Pastor: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name"

People: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

Unison: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard.

† Hymn: Wonderful Grace of Jesus (Pages 8-9)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

† Standing as you are able

First Scripture Readings

Reader: Sean Murphy

Isaiah 53 Responsive

[1] Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
[2] He grew up before him like a tender shoot,
and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
[3] He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

[4] Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
[5] But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.

[6]We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

[7]He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
[8] By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. >>>>>

[9] He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.
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[10] Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

[11] After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

[12] Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgresors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Romans 1:1-4, 16,17 Responsive

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—
[2] the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures [3] regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, [4] and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

[16] For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. [17] For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

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: Why Should He Love Me So? (page 10)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" 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.

Second Scripture Readings

2 Timothy 2:1-13 NIV

2 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. 5 An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 6 It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. 7 Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 11 The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
12 if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he also will deny us;
13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Responsive

[1]Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. [2] By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

[3] For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, [4] that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, [5] and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve.

[6] After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. [7] Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, [8] and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

[9] For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. [10] But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. [11] Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: What is the Gospel of Christ?

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Near the Cross (Page 11)

† Responsive Litany (Romans 5:1-2, 6-8)

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Pastor: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

People: Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though a good person someone might possibly dare to die.

Unison: But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Benediction

To Our Visitors

We welcome you and hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome among us. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Prayer needs

Brenda, for blood pressure
Joyce, for dialysis-access surgery
Maureen, new treatment for cancer
Patty Bodnar, health
Jenn, for improved health
Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer
Pastor Scott McKee
Elder Jack E, improving eyesight
Senie E, treatment this week
Our children, who are learning about Jesus at home and in Sunday School
Claudine's uncle, Richard, improving
Patty B's friend Patricia, brain cancer
Foster child, Julio, for love and behavior
Rosie, Linda's daughter with knee injury
Anna, kidney health, pain relief
Jen's friend's son, Everett, age 14
Cheryl Stevenson, Covid
Shiri, friend of Jen, traveling from Israel

Prayer needs

Benita, whose health is fragile, hospitalized
Bunny, for continued strength
Brother-in-law of Cheri and Ray Boone, for back surgery
Pray for our military as they serve in dangerous places
Sue Work, for continued lung improvement
Lisa, Pastor's niece, multiple cancers
Johnny, injury in a fall, not doing well, and wife, Betty
Emilee for a job, and for several family members' health
Lila's husband, David, for mercies, in hospice care.
Diane, friend of Cheri, fall with injury
Friend of Bruce's co-worker, Elaine, stage 3 ovarian cancer
Praise God for answered prayers, for jobs for Tarpinian sons
Pray for Francisco to be able to walk again
Jen's father traveling to Michigan, business concerns
Larissa, mother of 5 young children, all sick with colds
For war to cease in Syria and Lebanon, for mission safety
Tammi, dealing with Father's dementia

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Giving last week: $4,685
Giving so far this year: $8,864

Let us pray for the CA wild fire victims who have lost homes, churches, schools, businesses, and are displaced.

Also the NC victims of the hurricane and still need prayer as they try to recover for the devastation there.

Q 55: What do you believe concerning "the forgiveness of sins"? A. I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.