

Sunday, April 20, 2008
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM

Welcome to Communion Presbyterian! *(Announcements)*

- ♦ Welcome to the worship and celebration of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ! ♦
- ♦ We invite our visitors to sign the Guest Book located on the entry table. Please also visit our information counter. ♦
 - ♦ Children are invited to stay for the entire service; however, we also provide childcare for those who desire it. Please consult an attendant wearing a blue smock for assistance. ♦
- ♦ Today we will observe the sacrament of baptism. This sacrament is applied to believers and their children as a sign and seal of Christ's renewal and engagement to the one receiving. Children are invited to sit nearby to witness this ceremony. ♦
 - ♦ May the Lord be honored among us this day. ♦

Preparation for Worship & Canto

Sacrament of Baptism *[See back panel]*

***Opening Hymn – Praise to the Lord, The Almighty**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear – , now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration.

*Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen – , how thy desires e're have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life & breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the "Amen – !" sound from His people again,
Gladly for e're we adore Him.

***Call to Worship – Psalm 69:6–9**

Elder – *May those who hope in You not be disgraced because of me, O Lord, the LORD Almighty; may those who seek You not be put to shame because of me, O God of Israel. For I endure scorn for Your sake, and shame covers my face. I am a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons;*

Congregation – **For zeal for Your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult You fall on me.**

***Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon**

Song – How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.
My soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied, within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

*Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts, than thousands elsewhere...*

One thing I ask and I would seek, to see Your beauty;
To find You in the place Your glory dwells...

*My heart and flesh cry out, for You the living God,
Your Spirit's water for my soul.
I've tasted and I've seen, come once again to me,
I will draw near to You, I will draw near to You.*

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Old Testament Law – Exodus 23:14–17

(For three important feasts, the males of Israel were to "appear" before the Lord.)

Old Testament Prophet – Nehemiah 13:1–11

(In the day of Nehemiah, an abuse of the temple area required a "cleansing.")

Reader – *The word of the Lord.* **Congregation** – **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – 138:1,2 *(Amazing Grace)*

Thee will I praise with my whole heart, my Lord my God always;
E'en in the presence of the gods, I will advance Thy praise.

*Toward Thy holy temple I, will look and worship Thee;
And praised in my thankful mouth, Thy holy Name shall be.*

New Testament Gospel – Luke 2:41–52

(In his youth, Jesus' family complied with the law to make pilgrimages to Jerusalem.)

New Testament Epistle – 1 Corinthians 3:16,17

(Since the Spirit of God dwells in the believer, they are considered holy as the temple.)

Reader – *The word of the Lord.* **Congregation** – **Thanks be to God.**

Offertory – Holy of Holies

[Presenting an offering to the Lord is a meaningful act of worship. It demonstrates the sacrifice of thankful hearts from those who have been blessed with Divine provisions! Please pass the offering basket throughout your section toward the back. Thank you.]

Take me past the outer courts, into the holy place,
Past the brazen altar, where I long to see Your face.
Pass me by the crowds of people & the priests who sing Your praise.
I hunger & thirst for Your righteousness, and it's only found one place.

*Take me into the Holy of Holies, take me in by the blood of the Lamb.
Take me into the Holy of Holies, take the coal, cleanse my lips – here I am.
Take the coal, cleanse my lips – here I am.*

Affirmation of Faith – Second Helvetic Confession

Chapter 17 - The Church the Temple of the Living God.

Elder – *This holy Church of God is called the temple of the living God, built of living and spiritual stones and founded upon a firm rock, upon a foundation which no other can lay, and therefore it is called "the pillar and bulwark of the truth."*

Congregation – **The Church does not err as long as it rests upon the rock Christ, and upon the foundation of the prophets and apostles. It is no wonder if it errs when it deserts Him who alone is the truth.**

Elder – *This Church is also called a virgin and the Bride of Christ, and the only Beloved. For the apostle says: "I betrothed you to Christ to present you as a pure bride to Christ." The Church is also called a flock of sheep under the one shepherd, Christ.*

Congregation – **The Church is also called "the body of Christ" because the faithful are living members of Christ under Christ the Head.**

***Song – I Am Waiting** *(W Zlobie Lezy)*

I am waiting, I am willing, Thine and only Thine to be;
Make my heart Thy living temple, come today and dwell in me.
*Come to me in all Thy fullness, take possession of my soul;
Take my mind, my will, and heart, sanctify and cleanse my soul. [Con'd]*

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Loving Spirit, make me loving, melt my heart & cleanse from sin,
Satisfy my restless longings, make me fair and pure within.
*I believe Thee! I believe Thee! And Thy blessings now I claim
Of Thy fullness, gracious Spirit; Glory to Thy holy Name!*

Sermon: Real Temple Judaism

(Text: John 2:13–25; message by: Rev. Kent Moorlach)

Pastoral Prayer with Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Response – Cleanse Us, Lord *(Hendon)*

We are sinful, cleanse us, Lord; sick & faint, Thy strength afford;
Lost, until by Thee restored; Jesus Christ, our Lamb adored,
Jesus Christ, our Lamb adored.

*Gentle, awesome, holy Guest; make Thy temple in each breast;
Here Thy presence is confessed; Jesus Christ, our righteousness,
Jesus Christ, our righteousness.*

With us, for us, intercede; priestly service is our need.
Grant us favor now we plead; Jesus Christ, our life, our creed,
Jesus Christ, our life, our creed.

Elder's Response

***Hymn – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

*O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.*

On that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothèd then in blood wash'd linen, how I'll sing Thy sovereign grace;
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, take my ransomed soul away;
Send thine angels now to carry me to realms of endless day.

***Closing Prayer**

***Song of Simeon**

*Lord, bid your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, This child so long foretold.
This is the savior of the world, the nations' promised light.
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.*

***Benediction**

***Three-fold Amen**

**Those who are able, please stand. – CCLI #2831635*

♦ Please remember to silence all your communication devices. Thank you ♦
♦ Please join us after the service for refreshments followed with Sunday School for children and adults. ♦