

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

JANUARY 16, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Ben Phillips, Pastor of Ministries

The Song of Ascent

God's people sang together as they gathered and traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.

Congregation *Stand in Awe*

You are beautiful beyond description, too marvelous for words,
Too wonderful for comprehension, like nothing ever seen or heard.
Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom,
Who can fathom the depth of Your love?
You are beautiful beyond description, majesty enthroned above.

*And I stand, I stand in awe of You, I stand, I stand in awe of You;
Holy God, to whom all praise is due, I stand in awe of You.*

You are beautiful beyond description
Yet God crushed You for my sin
In agony and deep affliction
Cut off that I might enter in
Who can grasp such tender compassion?
Who can fathom this mercy so free?
You are beautiful beyond description
Lamb of God who died for me

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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. -Psalm 145.3-7

Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

Declaration of Truth:

Psalm 19.7,10; Deuteronomy 32.46-47

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you! They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

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.

The Gloria Patri's first line was sung in the church as early as the 2nd century to affirm that God is Triune. The second line was added in the 4th century to emphasize the eternal Deity of Jesus, refuting the Arian heresy that Jesus was not eternally God

Hymn of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy!

#100

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Mission Moment

Pastoral Prayer

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offering

The Doxology

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Testimony

There is a Hope

(Children ages three through third grade may be escorted to Children's Church)

There is a hope that burns within my heart,

That gives me strength for ev'ry passing day;
a glimpse of glory now revealed in meager part,
Yet drives all doubt away:
I stand in Christ, with sins forgiv'n; and Christ in me, the hope of heav'n!
My highest calling and my deepest joy, to make His will my home.

There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
A consolation strong against despair,
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit,
I find the Savior there!
Through present sufferings, future's fear,
He whispers, "Courage!" in my ear.
For I am safe in everlasting arms, And they will lead me home.

There is a hope that stands the test of time,
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine When I behold His face!
When sufferings cease and sorrows die, and every longing satisfied,
then joy unspeakable will flood my soul, For I am truly home.

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God's Word

Psalm 137

By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. 2 On the willows there we hung up our lyres. 3 For there our captors required of us songs, and our tormentors, mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" 4 How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill! 6 Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you. if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy! 7 Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites the day of Jerusalem, how they said, "Lay it bare, lay it bare, down to its foundations!" 8 O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed, blessed shall he be who repays you with what you have done to us! 9 Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones and dashes them against the rock!

All: *The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

Exalt, Equip, Engage

Pastor John

Series: *Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow: The Book of Revelation*

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response

Only Trust Him

#675

Come, every soul by sin oppressed,
There's mercy with the Lord;
And He will surely give you rest,
By trusting in His word.

Refrain:

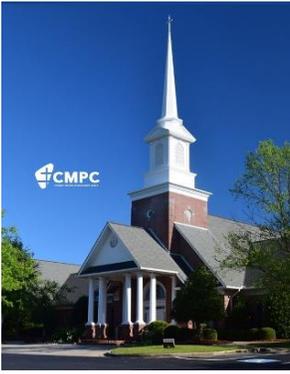
*Only trust Him, only trust Him,
Only trust Him now;
He will save you, He will save you,
He will save you now.*

For Jesus shed His precious blood
Rich blessings to bestow;
Plunge now into the crimson flood
That washes white as snow.

Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way,
That leads you into rest;
Believe in Him without delay,
And you are fully blest.

Come then and join this holy band,
And on to glory go,
To dwell in that celestial land,
Where joys immortal flow.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for January 16, 2022

- **Series:** Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow: The Book of Revelation
- **Message:** “Exalt, Equip, Engage”
- **Text:** Psalm 137, Ezekiel 1-3

A Caution

- Ancient apocalyptic literature is so different from anything usually encountered in modern literature that the casual reader finds it genuinely difficult to fathom.

Heartbreak in Exile

- Psalm 137... a sense of loss... a sense of rage...
- Loss of the familiar: home, temple, king, worship
- All they want is to go home.
- Derek Kidner: “Every line of this psalm is alive with pain, the intensity of which grows each strophe, all the way to the appalling climax.”

Why Did It Happen? Their sin, II Chronicles 36.15-21

- They were utterly unprepared for exile
- God’s people find themselves in Babylon, a picture of the most worldly, the most pagan, the most ungodly empire on this earth
- It seems God has forgotten- God’s plans defeated. Where is God?

The Glory of God... Exalt, Ezekiel 1

- A call to see the glory
- God’ transcendence- “I am the Lord” 72 of the 94 times found in the Old Testament are in Ezekiel
- God is here/ involved

The Word of God... Equip, Ezekiel 2-3

- The reliability of God’s word- “the word of the Lord” - 60 times in Ezekiel
- Eats- tastes like honey
- 2.10 words of mourning and lamentation and woe.
- We live in a world that wants their ears tickled.

Go... a Call to Engage, Ezekiel 3

- Difficult task- at times an impossible task
- We cannot compromise the message to reach a difficult world
- Thus says the Lord God, 2.4
- Holy Spirit mentioned 14 times in Ezekiel; cf. Zechariah 4.6
 - Chapter 1-3, prominent
 - 2.2 fills Ezekiel
- Holy/holiness 47 times
 - We cannot engage the world apart from holiness

A reprisal of glory and a Watchman, 3.12-14

So What About Us? •Repent of our sin •Exalt, Equip, Engage