

Sunday, February 15, 2009

Reflections

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” - Romans 12:1

I live in the spirit of prayer; I pray as I walk, when I lie down and when I rise, and the answers are always coming. - George Mueller

Sunday Worship Service Participants

February 15

Greeter - Denise Kingsley

Childcare Workers - Matt Oquist and Bill Townsend

Scripture Reading - Tiffany Brooks

February 22

Greeter - Bill Townsend

Childcare Workers - Allison Wakefield and Laura Sterrett

Scripture Reading - Janet Surprenant

March 1

Greeter - Allison Wakefield

Childcare Workers - Janet Surprenant and Michael Sterrett

Scripture Reading - Matt Oquist

Service of Praise

Prelude

We invite you to prepare your heart for the worship of our God.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 145:1, 10-13

Leader: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

People: All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you.

Leader: They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

People: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

***Hymn of Praise**

Come, Thou Almighty King
Number 101 in Trinity Hymnal

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn of Praise**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Number 302 in Trinity Hymnal

**Congregation standing*

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have been satisfied with ordinary things,
suspicious of unfamiliar things,
and blind to spiritual things.
As you came to a blind man and gave him sight,
come to us in our darkness
and show us the things we cannot see.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
and open us in faith to receive the renewing touch of your hand. Amen.

Worship Sourcebook (Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, © 2004, CRC Publications.)

A Moment of Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Ezekiel 36:26-27

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

* +Hymn of Thanks

My Heart is Filled

See next page

*Congregation standing

+Young children may be dismissed at this time.

Call to Commitment

Collection of Our Gifts to God and to His Church

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 5:1-14 (NIV)

¹ Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

² Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

⁴ Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. ⁵ "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. ⁶ The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

⁷ As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

⁸ When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

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¹¹ But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

¹³ Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

Prayer of Intercession

Sermon

Spiritual Blindness

John 9:1-41 (NASB)

¹As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.

²And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"

³Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

⁴"We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.

⁵"While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world."

⁶When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,

⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent) So he went away and washed, and came back seeing.

⁸Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, were saying, "Is not this the one who used to sit and beg?"

⁹Others were saying, "This is he," still others were saying, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the one."

¹⁰So they were saying to him, "How then were your eyes opened?"

¹¹He answered, "The man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went away and washed, and I received sight."

¹²They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who was formerly blind.

¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees also were asking him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

¹⁶Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath " But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division among them.

¹⁷So they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews then did not believe it of him, that he had been blind and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,

¹⁹and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?"

²⁰His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;

²¹but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself."

²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.

²³For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So a second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God; we know that this man is a sinner."

²⁵He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

²⁶So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

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²⁷He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear it again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?"

²⁸They reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.

²⁹"We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He is from."

³⁰The man answered and said to them, "Well, here is an amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes.

³¹"We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.

³²"Since the beginning of time it has never been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.

³³"If this man were not from God, He could do nothing."

³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you teaching us?" So they put him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you."

³⁸And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

³⁹And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

⁴⁰Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?"

⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

***Hymn of Response**

Amazing Grace (verses 1-3, 6)
Number 460 in Trinity Hymnal

**Congregation standing*

Service of Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Guidelines for Reception of Communion

Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, it is important that you carefully consider the claims of the gospel and the grace that is offered through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to talk with an elder of the church and spend this time now in prayer and meditation on the scriptures in the bulletin.

Scripture Verses for Those Not Communing

Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

- Isaiah 53:4-6

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

- John 3:16-18

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

- John 14:6

Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Romans 6:6-8, 22-23

***Confession of Faith**

Heidelberg Catechism

Question 1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

***God, All Nature Sing Thy Glory (verse 4)**

Number 122 in Trinity Hymnal

God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
we, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;
with our acts as with our voices, thy commandments to fulfill.

***Benediction**

Announcements

(Please be seated)

**Congregation standing*

Announcements*

Movers and Packers: We will be moving the CPC Office out of the Landmark Building on Saturday, February 21 and need help with packing up the office and moving its contents. If you can help with moving or packing, please let Jason know as soon as possible.

Thank you from the Upper Room for providing hats and gloves for their clients this winter.

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Life Together	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	6 p.m.	Sunday Night Live	Church office
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Small Group	Claggett house
	6:30 p.m.	Small Group	Wakefield house

Budget Information:

Eight (8) Months June 2008 thru January 2009

Regular Giving (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$49,373.40
Fund Raising	\$14,945.00
Total Giving	\$64,318.40
Actual Expenses (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$63,942.52
Adjusted Budget (1)	\$69,025.80
Excess to Expense (Income - Expense)	\$375.88
Shortfall to Budget (Income - Budget)	(\$4,707.40)

(1) Original budget minus Portuguese Outreach

**If you have any announcements, please contact the Oquists.
Phone: 603-881-3808, Email: announcements@nashuapca.org*

Kingdom Focused Prayer

Pray for God's name to be honored

- Our worship service would be honoring to him
- Thankful for God's provision of a facility to worship in and to be diligent in our care of it so that people will see Christ in us

Pray for His Kingdom to be extended

- For our friends and neighbors to come to know Christ
- That Nashua be changed to reflect the city of God
- For the fatherless, widows, orphans and homeless to be cared for by believers
- For justice to be established in Nashua in our courts and streets
- Pray for the work of the Mission To North America committee of our Presbytery as we seek to plant more churches in Northern New England.
- For the opportunity to meet and get to know more people of Nashua because the office is located in a downtown professional building.

Pray for His people to be fed and nurtured

- For the Word to be preached faithfully
- That the witness and ministry of our church leadership would be empowered by the Spirit
- That all those who hear would be receptive to the Holy Spirit
- Pray for the elder/deacon training

Pray for His forgiveness to be felt and extended to others

- That we become more aware of our sinfulness
- That we be burdened with the things that burden God
- That we may experience the width, length, height, and depth of God's love for us
- For us to be bold in sharing our faith

Pray for His Bride, the church, to be purified and kept from temptation

- That God would sanctify his church
- That God would guard us from discouragement
- That God would protect us from gossip and complaining
- For God to strengthen us in faith, that we might believe His promises in the gospel, particularly His delight in saving the lost

Mercy Ministry Opportunities

Care Net Pregnancy Center of Nashua
883.9355

Supplies

Baby items, diapers, etc.

Upper Room Compassionate Ministries (Katie)
595.2039

Volunteers

For sorting clothes or bagging food for 1 hour or more

Supplies

Clothing, particularly socks (mens, childrens), shampoo, toothpaste, diapers (size 4 &5), outdoor clothing, hats, mittens, etc.

"Only the ministry of the church of Jesus Christ and millions of "mini-churches" (Christian homes) throughout the country can attack the roots of social problems." - Tim Keller, *Ministries of Mercy*

