

Sunday, February 22, 2009

Reflections

“A service of public worship is not merely a gathering of God's children with each other, but before all else, a meeting of the triune God with His chosen people.”
- BCO 47-2

Our prayer must not be self-centered. It must arise not only because we feel our own need as a burden we must lay upon God, but also because we are so bound up in love for our fellow men that we feel their need as acutely as our own. To make intercession for men is the most powerful and practical way in which we can express our love for them. - Jean Calvin

Sunday Worship Service Participants

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

March 8

Greeter - Linda Mason

Childcare Workers - Aaron Brooks and April Claggett

Scripture Reading - Les Mason

Service of Praise

Prelude

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

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 33:1-5

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

People: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

***Hymn of Praise**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Number 53 in Trinity Hymnal

***Prayer of Adoration**

**Congregation standing*

Confession of Sin

Lord God, we have given more weight to our successes
and our happiness than to your will.
We have spoken without an effort to understand others.
We have kept silence instead of telling the truth.
We have judged others, forgetful that you alone are the Judge.
We have acted rather in accordance with our opinions
than according to your commands.
Within your church we have been slow to practice love of our neighbors.
And in the world we have not been your faithful servants.
Forgive us and help us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Savior. Amen.

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

A Moment of Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

* +Hymn of Thanks

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Number 252 in Trinity Hymnal

**Congregation standing*

+Young children may be dismissed at this time.

Call to Commitment

Collection of Our Gifts to God and to His Church

Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken, 1709
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.
Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Piano

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all crea- tures here be -

low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

A - - - - - men.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12 (NIV)

¹ When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

³ The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "but do not speak of it."

⁴ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho."

And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵ The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "but do not speak of it."

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan."

And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

⁷ Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

"Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

¹⁰ "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise not."

¹¹ As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.

Prayer of Intercession

Sermon

The Plot to Kill Jesus

John 11:45-57 (NASB)

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

⁴⁶But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.

⁴⁷Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, "What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs.

⁴⁸"If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

⁴⁹But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all,

⁵⁰nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish."

⁵¹Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation,

⁵²and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

⁵³So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

⁵⁴Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples.

⁵⁵Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves.

⁵⁶So they were seeking for Jesus, and were saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?"

⁵⁷Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he was to report it, so that they might seize Him.

***Hymn of Response**

To God Be the Glory

Number 55 in Trinity Hymnal

***Confession of Faith**

The 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*

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*

