

Sunday, August 30, 2009

Reflections

“Worship is the activity of the new life of the believer in which, recognizing the fullness of the Godhead as it is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ and His mighty redemptive acts, He seeks by the power of the Holy Spirit to render to the living God the glory, honor, and submission which are His due.” - Robert Rayburn

God's children should pray. They should cry day and night to Him. God hears every one of your cries in the busy hour of the daytime and in the lonely watches of the night. - Robert Murray McCheyne

Sunday Worship Service Participants

August 30

Greeter - Michael Sterrett

Childcare Workers - Tiffany Brooks and Linda Mason

Scripture Reading - Elizabeth Demeusy

September 6

Greeter - Matthew Demeusy

Childcare Workers - Pat Newman and Jonathan Claggett

Scripture Reading - Linda Mason

September 13

Greeter - Teck Hia

Childcare Workers - Laura Sterrett and Aaron Brooks

Scripture Reading - Michael Sterrett

Service of Praise

Prelude

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

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 36:5-9

Leader: Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O LORD, you preserve both man and beast.

Leader: How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.

People: They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

***Hymn of Praise**

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

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn of Praise**

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Number 32 in Trinity Hymnal

**Congregation standing*

Call to Renewal

Confession of Sin

O Lord, great God, we confess that we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways, we have rebelled against your wisdom, and we have rejected your fatherly guidance. Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy, in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. It is in his name that we pray, for he is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace. Amen.

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

A Moment of Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 1:18-21

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

* +Hymn of Thanks

Lamb of God

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

James 1:17-27 (NIV)

¹⁷Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

¹⁹My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. ²¹Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²²Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Prayer of Intercession

Sermon

Psalm 69 (NASB)

- ¹ Save me, O God,
For the waters have threatened my life.
- ² I have sunk in deep mire, and there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters, and a flood overflows me.
- ³ I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched;
My eyes fail while I wait for my God.
- ⁴ Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head;
Those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies;
What I did not steal, I then have to restore.
- ⁵ O God, it is You who knows my folly,
And my wrongs are not hidden from You.
- ⁶ May those who wait for You not be ashamed through me, O Lord GOD of hosts;
May those who seek You not be dishonored through me, O God of Israel,
- ⁷ Because for Your sake I have borne reproach;
Dishonor has covered my face.
- ⁸ I have become estranged from my brothers
And an alien to my mother's sons.
- ⁹ For zeal for Your house has consumed me,
And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.
- ¹⁰ When I wept in my soul with fasting,
It became my reproach.
- ¹¹ When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.
- ¹² Those who sit in the gate talk about me,
And I am the song of the drunkards.
- ¹³ But as for me, my prayer is to You, O LORD, at an acceptable time;
O God, in the greatness of Your lovingkindness,
Answer me with Your saving truth.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from the mire and do not let me sink;
May I be delivered from my foes and from the deep waters.

(continued on next page)

- 15 May the flood of water not overflow me
Nor the deep swallow me up,
Nor the pit shut its mouth on me.
- 16 Answer me, O LORD, for Your lovingkindness is good;
According to the greatness of Your compassion, turn to me,
- 17 And do not hide Your face from Your servant,
For I am in distress; answer me quickly.
- 18 Oh draw near to my soul and redeem it;
Ransom me because of my enemies!
- 19 You know my reproach and my shame and my dishonor;
All my adversaries are before You.
- 20 Reproach has broken my heart and I am so sick
And I looked for sympathy, but there was none,
And for comforters, but I found none.
- 21 They also gave me gall for my food
And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
- 22 May their table before them become a snare;
And when they are in peace, may it become a trap.
- 23 May their eyes grow dim so that they cannot see,
And make their loins shake continually.
- 24 Pour out Your indignation on them,
And may Your burning anger overtake them.
- 25 May their camp be desolate;
May none dwell in their tents.
- 26 For they have persecuted him whom You Yourself have smitten,
And they tell of the pain of those whom You have wounded.
- 27 Add iniquity to their iniquity,
And may they not come into Your righteousness.
- 28 May they be blotted out of the book of life
And may they not be recorded with the righteous.
- 29 But I am afflicted and in pain;
May Your salvation, O God, set me securely on high.

- 30 I will praise the name of God with song
 And magnify Him with thanksgiving.
- 31 And it will please the LORD better than an ox
 Or a young bull with horns and hoofs.
- 32 The humble have seen it and are glad;
 You who seek God, let your heart revive.
- 33 For the LORD hears the needy
 And does not despise His who are prisoners.
- 34 Let heaven and earth praise Him,
 The seas and everything that moves in them.
- 35 For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah,
 That they may dwell there and possess it.
- 36 The descendants of His servants will inherit it,
 And those who love His name will dwell in it.

***Hymn of Response**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Number 629 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**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Come Thou, Almighty King (verse 4)**

Number 101 in Trinity Hymnal

To the great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence, evermore.
His sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore!

***Benediction**

Announcements

(Please be seated)

**Congregation standing*

Announcements*

There will be an **informational congregational meeting** after the service today. Please plan to stay and hear how you can be involved in CPC's fall plans.

The **particularization service** is quickly approaching! It will be held September 20 at 4 p.m. at the Congregational Church in Merrimack. We will need people to help with setup (plan to arrive around 3:15) and cleanup, as well as food and drinks. We are providing finger foods, so things like chips and dip, cheese and crackers, vegetable and fruit trays, cookies, etc. would be great. Please sign up to help in some way! See Jason, Laura, or Jenn if you have any questions.

Mission trip: The Presbytery's MTW committee is putting together a mission trip to New Orleans for November 7-14. If you are interested or would like more information, let Jason know ASAP.

Conference: On Saturday, September 26, OMF International is sponsoring a conference called "Heart for Asia: Expanding the Kingdom through Prayer." The conference will be held at West Congregational Church, 27 Johnson St., Peabody, MA from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is \$15 and includes lunch and snacks. More information can be found at www.omf.org/us/events. Please let Jason know if you're interested in attending.

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
Tuesday	7 p.m.	Women's Book Club	Sterretts
Thursday	7 p.m.	Men's Book Club	Barnes & Noble

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

Budget Information:

Two Months Data June and July 2009

Regular Giving	\$11,989.10
<i>(excl. Mercy Fund, Building Fund and Marvis Memorial)</i>	
Fund Raising	\$710.00
Total Giving	\$12,699.10
Actual Expenses	\$16,160.48
Budget	\$16,504.57
Shortfall to Expense (Income - Expense)	(\$3,461.38)
Shortfall to Budget (Income - Budget)	(\$3,805.47)

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*