



April 7, 2024

Reflection

Q. Of how many parts does the true conversion of man consist?

A. Of two parts; of the mortification of the old, and the quickening of the new man.

Q. What is the mortification of the old man?

A. It is a sincere sorrow of heart, that we have provoked God by our sins; and more and more to hate and flee from them.

Q. What is the quickening of the new man?

A. It is a sincere joy of heart in God, through Christ, and with love and delight to live according to the will of God in all good works.

- Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 88-90

Welcome

Welcome to this service of worship. We invite you to slow down, quiet your heart, and to listen to the prelude as it directs your thoughts to God.

Prelude: Psalm 8 (How Majestic Is Your Name)

When I look at Your heavens, the moon and stars You set in motion
Oh God I sing all glory and honor, what is man that You are mindful
The son of man that You would care for Him, we sing all glory and honor

Chorus:

Oh Lord our Lord oh how awesome are Your ways
How majestic is Your name in all the earth
Oh Lord our Lord may we see Your kingdom come
Father may Your will be done in all the earth

All the earth You gave dominion to Your children, and You crowned them oh God
With glory and honor, so we'll sing of Your name
Live our lives for Your greatness oh God, and Your glory and honor

The earth is full of the glory of God, come make much of the name above all names
Creation cries out and every knee bows, Jesus we crown You oh Lord our Lord

Music and Lyrics: Shane Barnard

Call to Worship — Jeremiah 31:33-34

³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Psalm 92 (O Most High)

It is good to praise You Lord, and make music to Your name, O Most High. *(repeat)*

To proclaim Your love in the morning, and Your faithfulness at night. *(repeat)*

Chorus

Oh, I sing for joy at the sound of Your name, and the works of Your hands.

Oh, You make me glad; and, for all of my life, let my song to You rise

Oh, Most High.

It is good to praise You Lord, oh, Most High

Words and Music: Josh Varnadore, Paul Baloche and Corey Voss, 2016

Prayer of Adoration

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

How Deep The Father's Love For Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One, bring many sons to glory,

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there, until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts no power no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart; his wounds have paid my ransom.

Text and Music: Stewart Townend, 1995

Scripture Reading – Romans 7:21-25

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we confess that we are distracted by earthly things; our minds are set upon our bills, our work, and our obligations.

All: We live immoral, impure lives where we so often give in to our own evil desires and the things that we want more than we want you. Furthermore, we don't trust you to provide.

Leader: We need to be renewed in our knowledge, thinking, and behaviors. We need to put off the old self and its desires so that you will be everything in us.

All: Help us to have compassionate hearts, to be kind, humble, meek, and patient. Let us do everything in the love and peace of Jesus, to his glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon – Colossians 3:23-24

²³Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

God Is For Us

We won't fear the battle; we won't fear the night;
We will walk the valley with You by our side.
You will go before us; you will lead the way;
We have found a refuge only You can save.

Chorus

Sing with joy now: our God is for us!
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress.
Raise your voice now: no love is greater.
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Even when I stumble; even when I fall;
Even when I turn back still Your love is sure.
You will not abandon; you will not forsake;
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace. (*Chorus*)

Bridge

Neither height nor depth can separate us; hell and death will not defeat us;
He who gave His Son to free us, holds me in His love. (*Chorus*)

Music and Lyrics: James Ferguson, James Tealy, Jesse Reeves, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson, Tiarne Tranter

Congregational Prayer

Children's Recessional

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 1:12-20

¹² "When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? ¹³ Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations-- I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, ¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. ¹⁸ "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. ¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; ²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Sermon – The Core Value of Renewal

Figure A.

Mission Statement: Christ has called CPC to be a community that experiences the transforming power of Gospel and loves and serves our neighbors through the power of the Spirit all to the glory of God.

Figure B.

Core Values:

Renewal: The Scriptures tell us everything we know and believe about God and that the Christian life begins through faith and repentance. The Bible teaches that we grow in Christ in the same way. We're always repenting and always rejoicing.

Outline:

1. What are the means of renewal?
2. What are the fruits of renewal?
3. How do I begin anew today?

Figure C.

Those out of contact with God are forced to find their sense of value and identity elsewhere. They must get a black-market substitute for God's love from other human beings. But this need for love and dignity is so great that self-admiration and love of others cannot begin to satisfy it. We can cheer ourselves up only so long by repeating the pitiful fiction "I'm O.K. – You're O.K." Then we begin to check our own credentials, and our therapist's, for making such judgments.

Richard Lovelace, *Renewal as a Way of Life* (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1985)
p. 36

Figure D.

Mark 1:14-15 ¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Figure E.

The work of repentance is not the work of an hour, a day, or a year, but the work of a life. A sincere penitent makes as much conscience of repenting daily, as he does of believing daily; and he can as easily content himself with one act of faith, or love, or joy, as he can content himself with one act of repentance.

Thomas Brooks (1608-1680), *Smooth Stones taken from Ancient Books: Selections from the writings of Thomas Brooks by Charles Spurgeon, 1855* (Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 2011) p. 58 (no. 322)

Figure F.

Our pleasure and our duty, though opposite before
Since we have seen His beauty, are joined to part no more
It is our highest pleasure, no less than duty's call
To love Him beyond measure, and serve Him with our all.

John Newton, Olney Hymns

Figure G.

We can't share what's in our hearts with others if we don't know what's in them ourselves. We must be self-reflective, deepening in repentance and faith. We must have intimacy with God in order to have intimacy with others.

Tom Holliday

Figure H.

Until then (in my late 40s) I had never seen or admitted that I had neither strength nor righteousness. This is what I missed in my parenting. I was not a humble, needy sinner before my children. Since I did not see myself as a sinner, I did not know how to bring them to Christ. When I started to change, Barbara began to have hope that Christianity might be true.

Rose Marie Miller, *Nothing is Impossible with God: Reflections on Weakness, Faith, and Power* (Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2012) p. 194

Figure I.

God, I don't know what's really in my heart. Please show me. Please show me where I'm searching for significance, identity, and worth outside of you. Please show me where I'm deriving purpose and meaning apart from you. Please show me where I'm seeking ultimate happiness and satisfaction away from you. Please show me where I'm grasping for security separate from. Grant me deeper repentance and fresh faith in Jesus my Savior. Amen.

The Lord's Table

It Was Finished Upon That Cross

How I love the voice of Jesus, on the Cross of Calvary.
He declares his work is finished; He has spoken this hope to me;
Though the sun had ceased its shining, though the war appeared as lost,
Christ had triumphed over evil; it was finished upon that Cross!

Now the curse, it has been broken; Jesus paid the price for me.
Full, the pardon He has offered; great, the welcome that I receive.
Boldly I approach my Father, clothed in Jesus' righteousness.
There is no more guilt to carry; it was finished upon that Cross!

Death was once my great opponent. Fear once had a hold on me;
But the Son who died to save us, rose that we would be free indeed.
Free from ev'ry plan of darkness; free to live and free to love;
Death is dead and Christ is risen. It was finished upon that Cross!

Onward to eternal glory; to my Saviour and my God.
I rejoice in Jesus' victory: it was finished upon that Cross!
It was finished upon that Cross!

Lyrics and Music: Jonny Robinson, Nigel Hendroff and Rich Thompson

Benediction

Announcements

- Youth Group will meet this evening from 5-7:30pm at the Roberts' home
- Community Groups schedule:
 - Clarksburg/Gaithersburg – April 7 (Routenberg Home); April 21 (Hillah Home)
 - Gaithersburg/Olney – April 5 and 19: Location TBD
 - Germantown – April 10: Hein's Home
- Spring BBQ, Saturday, April 27, 12-3pm, Hein's home
- Please consider serving as an usher or set-up team member in April
- UpCounty HUB Service Project, Tuesday, May 14, 1-4pm. This is the day of the Maryland primary election. MCPS is closed. Students are encouraged to invite friends and gain SSL hours.
- Our YTD expenses have been \$61,947.34 and giving \$60,035.00.

A Communiqué from the Elder Board

The Elder Board (i.e. Session) would like to communicate about three changes in CPC. These changes stem from a desire to provide the Roberts family with rest. Matt and Katy have ministered continually in Germantown for the past sixteen years. First, expressing our deep gratitude for the Lord's provision in Pastor Matt's teaching and leadership and for his many years of service in the Lord's Kingdom and to CPC, the Session has encouraged Pastor Matt to take a prolonged time of rest called a Sabbatical. This will take place from June to August. Elders and guests from outside our church will preach during these weeks and appropriately ordained guests will bring us to the Lord's Table. Second, Pastor Matt has asked to take a break from moderating the Session; the Session has granted this request. Any questions about policy, programs, and the stewardship of CPC should bypass Pastor Matt and be directed to the elders. Third, in order to begin to diminish Pastor Matt's weekly responsibilities, the Session will write and lead the worship service each Sunday and minister the early service. The first change will begin in June. The second and third changes will begin immediately.

Greeting One Another