



April 14, 2024

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: A Christian's Daily Prayer

As morning dawns and day awakes, to You I bring my need.
O gracious God, my source of strength, in You I live and breathe.
Each hour is Yours by wisdom planned, each deed empowered by sovereign hands,
Renew my spirit, help me stand; be glorified today.

As day unfolds, I seek Your will. In all of life's demands.
And though the tempter tries me still, I cling to Your commands.
Let every effort of my life; display the matchless worth of Christ.
Make me a living sacrifice; be glorified today.

As sun gives way to darkest night. Your Spirit still is here,
And though my strength fades like the light. New mercies will appear.
I rest in You; abide with me. Until our trials and suffering,
Give way to final victory; be glorified, today; be glorified, I pray.

Call to Worship — Psalm 18:1-2, 6, 46,

Minister: I love you, O LORD, my strength.

All: The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Minister: In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

All: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of thy Name.

Jesus, the Name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, He sets the pris'ner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me. *(Refrain)*

He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

To God all glory, praise and love, be now and ever given
By saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, Music: Carl G. Glaser, Arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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.

Lord I Need You

Lord I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest;
And without You I fall apart; You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus:

Lord I need You, oh I need You. Ev'ry hour, I need You;
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found, that's where You are;
And where You are, Lord I am free. This holiness is Christ in me. *(Chorus)*

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You, when temptation comes my way;
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You; Jesus You're my hope and stay. *(Chorus)*

Confessional Scripture Reading – Psalm 130:1-4

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.

Goodness Of God

I love You Lord, oh, Your mercy never fails me;
All my days, I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up, until I lay my head,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful; all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire,
In darkest night, You are close like no other.
I've known You as a father; I've known You as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God. (*Chorus*)

Bridge

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now; I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

Music and Lyrics: Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson

Shepherding Prayer

Children's Recessional

Scripture Reading – Luke 11:1-4

¹ Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ² And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
³ Give us each day our daily bread,
⁴ and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation.”

Sermon – The Core Value of Prayer

Figure A.

Core Values:

Prayer: Though prayer we seek to follow the Lord’s lead, depend upon His power, and bear one another’s burdens. We believe that God's eternal plan is accomplished in response to the prayers of His people.

Outline:

1. Prayer is commanded
2. Prayer is difficult
3. Prayer is shameless
4. Prayer is confident

Figure B.

Exodus 20:1-5 ¹ And God spoke all these words, saying, ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³ "You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them

Figure C.

Westminster Larger Catechism 104: What are the duties required in the First Commandment?

Answer: The duties required in the First Commandment are, the knowing and acknowledging of God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly, by . . . calling upon him, giving all praise and thanks. . . .

Figure D.

“To pray, as the Second Commandment teaches, is to call on God in every need. This He requires of us. It is not a matter that is to be left to our choice; but we should and must pray if we want to be Christians . . . do not consider prayer an optional work and act as if it were no sin for you not to pray and as if it were enough that others pray.”

Martin Luther, *Works*, Weimar Edition, 30 I, 193 f; 46, 81 f

Figure E.

“Prayer is a difficult and hard work. It is far more difficult than preaching the Word or performing other official duties in the church.”

Martin Luther, *Works*, Weimar Edition, 43, 381

Figure F.

Sunday Morning Prayer, 7:30, Online

Meeting ID: 898 5473 8150, Passcode 123456

Figure G.

Among U.S. adults, 30% claim to attend religious services on a regular basis, down from 42% two decades ago. Church attendance will likely continue to decline in the future, given younger Americans’ weaker attachments to religion. Specifically, more 18- to 29-year-olds, 35%, say they have no religious preference than identify with any specific faith, such as Protestant/nondenominational Christian (32%) or Catholic (19%). Additionally, young adults, both those with and without a religious preference, are much less likely to attend religious services – 22% attend regularly, eight points below the national average.

Jeffrey Jones, “Church Attendance Has Declined in Most U.S. Religious Groups”
Gallup News, March 25, 2024

Figure H.

Mark 10:47-48 ⁴⁷ And when Bartimaeus heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Figure I.

[In Mark 10:47-48] the evangelist teaches us the real art of begging, teaches us to be positively obtrusive, unabashed, and endlessly persistent before God. For he who is timid soon permits himself to be turned away and is not fit for begging.

Martin Luther, *Works*, Weimar Edition, 52, 169

Figure J.

Psalm 13:1 A Psalm of David. How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?

Psalm 44:23-24 ²³ Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever! ²⁴ Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?

Figure K.

“At the right hand of God in heaven . . . Christ makes continual intercession for all that come to God in his name; so that their prayers come to God the Father through his hands . . .”

Jonathan Edwards, Sermon “The Most High A Prayer-Hearing God,” January 8, 1735

Let Your Kingdom Come

Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts.
May Jesus Christ be known. Wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown.
The cross has saved us, so we pray your kingdom come!

Chorus

Let Your kingdom come; let Your will be done,
So that ev'ryone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard ev'rywhere on earth,
Till Your sov'reign work on earth is done.
Let Your kingdom come!

Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak.
Perform Your wondrous deeds; through those who are weak.
Lord use us as You want; whatever the test.
By grace we'll preach Your Gospel till
Our dying breath (*Chorus*)

Benediction

Announcements

- Congregational Prayer, Sundays, 7:30am, Online via Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 898 5473 8150, Passcode 123456
- Youth Group will meet this evening from 5-7:30pm at the Roberts' home
- Community Groups schedule:
 - Clarksburg/Gaithersburg –April 21: Hillah Home
 - Gaithersburg/Olney – April 19: Hurtado Home
 - Germantown – May 15: Crosley Home
- Spring BBQ, Saturday, April 27, 12-3pm: Hein's home
- Please consider serving as an usher or set-up team member in May
- 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.

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