

POTTSVILLE ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE LORD'S DAY
MARCH 24, AD 2019

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!”
Psalm 100:4

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For Reflection

"Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?

Look and see

if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,

which was brought upon me,

which the Lord inflicted

on the day of his fierce anger. – Lamentations 1:12-13

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep... No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." -- John 10:14, 18-19

"All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."

Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me."

– Psalm 41:7-9

A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- We believe that Christian Worship is a renewal of covenant vows between Christians and the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit -- a gracious and thankful conversation between God and His people. Consequently, our worship contains lots of congregational participation. Your part is in bold, but don't worry if you get a little lost. Just keep your bulletin handy throughout the service.
- We are a family of families worshipping together. We are teaching our children to worship as they worship with us. If they cry or squirm, it's OK; God has ordained "praise" from our children and infants.
- Restrooms are located both in this building and in the Fellowship Hall.

Welcome and Preparation

Silent Prayer of Preparation: Gracious and merciful Father, quiet our hearts, our hands, our minds and our souls as we draw near to You. Give rest where there is weariness, peace where there is conflict, and assurance where there is anxiety. Grant us faith to believe that you speak, ears to hear what you say and a will to live as you desire. Prepare us now to delight in you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In Christ's name, Amen.

Preparation:
In worship, God speaks. He is not merely spoken about. Listening and responding require our preparation. Take a moment to be still and know that He is God.

God Calls Us to Worship

Psalm 42:1-6

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and appear before God?
My tears have been my food day and night,
while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"
These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I would go with the throng
and lead them in procession to the house of God
with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.
Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Call to Worship:
We need to be called to come and worship because we are prone to think we are at the center of all things. Or perhaps we struggle to believe that God wants us to draw near. So God takes the initiative and calls us to come and worship Christ who is the center.

We Respond to God's Call

Psalm 42:7-8, 11

Pastor: Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls;
People: All your breakers and your waves have gone over me.
Pastor: By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
People: And at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
Pastor: Why are you cast down, O my soul,
People: And why are you in turmoil within me.
Pastor: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
People: My salvation and my God.

Prayer of Adoration

Worship through singing.
Worship is a gracious conversation between God and His people. He speaks grace through His Word and we respond together in gratitude through prayer and praise as a congregation. Singing is an important way we express our love for God and remind ourselves of our place in His redemptive story.

What Wondrous Love Is This

Public Domain. Music: American folk tune. CCL# 11359088

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

Call to Confession

Romans 7:18-20, 24-25

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.... Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Confession of Sin

Gracious and merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, mind, soul, or strength. Our thoughts, words, and actions have crossed the lines you told us not to cross. And we have failed to think, say and do what you have commanded, through carelessness and rebellion. None of our works or words can earn your forgiveness. But you demonstrated your love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Grant us faith and repentance that we might be forgiven and made clean. Show us your steadfast love and plentiful redemption.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:1, 32, 37

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.... He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Q1

Pastor: What is thy only comfort in life and in death?

People: That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me, that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must work together for my salvation. Where-fore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready henceforth to live unto Him.

Confession of Sin. God calls us to draw near, but our sin is a barrier we cannot cross on our own. The good news is that God has provided a way of reconciliation through Jesus. Confession of sin both acknowledges our need for God's mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

Assurance of Pardon: God declares in the gospel that everyone who repents and believes in Jesus Christ is forgiven and made clean.

Confession of Faith.: Creeds, confessions and catechisms are summaries of what we believe the Bible teaches about the central truths of the Christian faith. We confess them together in worship as a way of professing our common faith.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, It is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, amen.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 43

Pastor: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly
people,

People: From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

Pastor: For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you rejected
me?

People: Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the
enemy?

Pastor: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

People: Let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

Pastor: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

People: And I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

Pastor: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil
within me?

People: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

I Love to Tell the Story

Word: Catherine Hankey, Music: William Fischer, Public Domain, CCL# 11359088

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
and that is just the reason I tell it now to thee. [Refrain]

3 I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

4 I love to tell the story; for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest,
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

Sermon Notes: Matthew 26:20-56, 69-75, "Betraying Jesus"

Sermon: Some view the sermon as a way to get principles for right living. Others see it as an interesting or inspirational talk.

In reality, as we open the Scriptures we encounter Jesus Christ. Therefore, as you listen, pray to be open to his leading, exhortation, encouragement and healing.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

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. 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, Amen

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Words: Elizabeth Celphane, Music: Fredrick Maker. Public Domain. CCL# 11359088

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty Rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noon-tide heat
and the burden of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me:
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess,
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place:
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss;
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.

Offering: The offering is not about money. All that we are, have, and hope belong to God. While we take this time to receive tithes and offerings for the support of the gospel ministry, we also use this time to recognize God's authority over all our life and commit again to love Him with all our hearts, minds, souls and strength

What is the Lord's Supper? The Lord's Supper is a covenant meal celebrating Christ's atoning work; as it is also a means of strengthening our faith as we look to him, and a foretaste of the future feast.

But those who take part with unrepentant hearts eat and drink judgment on themselves.

Worship Through Giving

Silent Prayer of Commitment: Gracious God and Giver of every good and perfect gift, help me to recognize all that you have given and not complain about what you have withheld. Grant me wisdom to faithfully use Your gifts for Your glory and not misuse them for my own. By your Spirit help me now to offer my heart, my life, my all, sincerely and promptly with joy and thanksgiving and without anxiety, fear or grumbling. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Table is a table of remembrance, in which we remember that God's mercy to us comes at a high cost. Jesus' body was broken and His blood poured out on the cross as he bore the wrath and curse of the judgment of God that we deserved because of our sins.

The Lord's Table is also a table of fellowship. By his gracious work in saving us, he has adopted us into His Body, the Church. He has placed us in His Covenant Family to live life together. Christ is spiritually and really present with us in this meal to fellowship with us as we fellowship with one another.

The Lord's Table is a table of nourishment. Just as other meals and tables nourish our bodies, this meal and this table nourishes our souls as we feed by faith on God's goodness, His promises, and His presence with us.

The Lord's Table is a table of expectation. As often as we eat of the bread and drink of the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. By faith, we lift up our heads as our redemption draws ever nearer.

But it is the Lord's Table. It is for those who are His, for those who have been baptized in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who have professed their faith before the Church, who are not under the lawful discipline of the Church and who are not unwilling to repent of their sins.

Psalm 133

“Christian Unity”

Bible Songs 280

Behold how good a thing it is
And how becoming well
Together such as brethren are
In unity to dwell. In unity to dwell

As precious ointment on the head
Which down the beard did flow.
Ev’n Aaron’s beard and to the skirts
Did of his garments go. Did of his garments go.

As Hermon’s dew, the dew that doth
On Zion’s hills descend;
For there the blessing God commands,
Life that shall never end. Life that shall never end.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-25

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Response

from Psalm 72

Now blessed be the living God, The God of Israel
Who only doeth wondrous works, In glory that excels
Who only doeth wondrous works, In glory that excels.

And blessed be His glorious Name, To all eternity;
The whole earth let His glory fill, Amen: So let it be.
The whole earth let His glory fill. Amen: So let it be.

The Last Word:
God always has
the last word. A
benediction is a
“word of
blessing.” God
sends us out, but
not before He
reminds us that
wherever the
coming week
may take us,
physically,
emotionally or
spiritually, He
goes with us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Men's Bible Study will meet this coming Wednesday, March 27, at 8:00 pm at Campus Perks on the U of O Campus in Clarksville.
- Join us for the Choices Pregnancy Resource Center Gala, Tuesday March 26 at 6:00 pm at the First Baptist Church, Russellville as we support the cause of life, here in the River Valley.
- Did you know that you can now Give Online? To find out more go to <http://pottsvillearp.org/> and click on the "Giving Link."

CONTACT US

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