

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

December 27, 2020

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

John Batusic, *Pastor*

The Song of Ascent

God's people sang together as they gathered and traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.

Congregation

Joy to the World

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders, of His love.

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness."
- Psalm 96.11-13

Quieting of Hearts, Confession of Sin and Invocation

Declaration of Truth: (Responsively)

Isaiah 40.12-15

Leader: Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

All: *Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel?*

Leader: Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding?

All: *Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.*

Hymns of Praise *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent*

Let all mortal flesh keep silent and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Mission Moment

Pastoral Prayer

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

Emeşe and Mark Toth

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offering

The 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Testimony

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Children ages three through third grade may be escorted to Children's Church)

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood, with all their lives and cares,
are carried downward by your flood, and lost in foll'wing years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come:
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God's Word

Psalm 90

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. **3** You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" **4** For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. **5** You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: **6** in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. **7** For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. **8** You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. **9** For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. **10** The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. **11** Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? **12** So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. **13** Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! **14** Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. **15** Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. **16** Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor[d] of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

The Favor of the Lord

Pastor Dee Hammond

Psalm 90

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response

Satisfied

Satisfied

All my life long, I had panted For a drink from some cool spring
that I hoped would quench the burning of the thirst I felt within.

Refrain: *Hallelujah! He has found me the One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings Through his blood I now am saved.*

Feeding on the filth around me till my strength was almost gone
Longed my soul for something better only still to hunger on.

Poor I was and sought for riches something that would satisfy.
But the dust I gathered 'round me only mocked my soul's sad cry.

Well of water ever springing Bread of Life so rich and free.
Untold wealth that never faileth, my Redeemer is to me.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for December 27, 2020

Pastor Dee Hammond

Message: "The Favor of the Lord"

Text: Psalm 90

My younger years as a youth pastor and my great zeal for the Lord...

- Is it guilt or grace?
- "The Night They Burned Shanghai" by Robert Abrahams
- The challenge of God's Word: listening to Moses pray

God is not like us (vs. 1-2)

- Adoring the God of eternity
- Dwelling place, refuge, help, home: We need not leave God ... *EVER!*
- What we are vs. what God is
- "The Beekeeper of Aleppo" by Christy Lefteri: Living like a refugee
- Be comforted this morning: God is a home for us

We are not like God (vs. 3-6)

- Confessing that we are fragile human beings
 - We are from dust to dust (Genesis 2.7 & 3.19)
 - We exist inside time (Acts 17.24-26)
 - We have a beginning and an end (James 4.14)
- The hard work of thinking about death and dying
- The CMPC family through 2020 (Psalm 116.15; Philippians 1.21; John 11.25-26)

➤ **The chasm grows wider & deeper** (vs. 7-11)

- Confessing the seriousness of sin: out in the open for God to see
- Singing "Joy to the World" for the believer and non-believer is quite different
- Genesis 3.16-18
- The chasm between God and us has been brought together by the cross of Jesus Christ
 - "The Size of Sin," Beautiful Eulogy
- As the people of God, do we marvel? (Isaiah 38.17 & 43.25)

➤ **O God, help us live for eternity** (vs. 12-17)

- The posture of petitioning
- What really matters in light of eternity? Or, how can we pray toward eternity?
- What does Moses ask for vs. what he does NOT ask for?
- When we become aware of how short our lives are, the way we live and the way we pray begins to take on new meaning
- Life is short, make sure you hug your loved ones? Yes, and ...
- My prayer for CMPC as we move into 2021