

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

MARCH 6, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Please silence all phones and electronic devices.

Welcome and Announcements

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." — Isaiah 52.7

elevation

Congregational Response *Our God Reigns*

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him
Who brings good news, good news
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.
Our God reigns; our God reigns!

Refrain: *Our God reigns; our God reigns! x2*

Invocation

Declaration of Truth (unison):

Revelation 4.11-14

Leader: Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

All: ***"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"***

Leader: And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

All: ***"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"***

Leader: And the four living creatures said,

All: ***"Amen!"***

Leader: And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Hymn of Praise

Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's commands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,

all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Doxology and Prayer

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.

Hymn of Testimony

His Mercy is More

(Children ages 3 thru 3rd grade may be escorted to Children's Church)

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Refrain: *Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness New every morn'
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

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THE WORD AND THE SACRAMENT

Reading of God's Word

li Kings 7.1-11

Pew Bible, p. 939

But Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord: thus says the Lord, Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria." ² Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, "If the Lord himself should make windows in heaven, could this thing be?" But he said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat of it." ³ Now there were four men who were lepers at the entrance to the gate. And they said to one another, "Why are we sitting here until we die? ⁴ If we say, 'Let us enter the city,' the famine is in the city, and we shall die there. And if we sit here, we die also. So now come, let us go over to the camp of the Syrians. If

they spare our lives we shall live, and if they kill us we shall but die.”⁵ So they arose at twilight to go to the camp of the Syrians. But when they came to the edge of the camp of the Syrians, behold, there was no one there.⁶ For the Lord had made the army of the Syrians hear the sound of chariots and of horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, “Behold, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to come against us.”⁷ So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their tents, their horses, and their donkeys, leaving the camp as it was, and fled for their lives.⁸ And when these lepers came to the edge of the camp, they went into a tent and ate and drank, and they carried off silver and gold and clothing and went and hid them. Then they came back and entered another tent and carried off things from it and went and hid them.⁹ Then they said to one another, “We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news. If we are silent and wait until the morning light, punishment will overtake us. Now therefore come; let us go and tell the king's household.”¹⁰ So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city and told them, “We came to the camp of the Syrians, and behold, there was no one to be seen or heard there, nothing but the horses tied and the donkeys tied and the tents as they were.”¹¹ Then the gatekeepers called out, and it was told within the king's household.

All: *The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

The Value of the Mission: Too Good to Keep

Pastor John

Series: 2022 Mission Conference - Engage Until He Comes

The Invitation to the Lord's Table: Those who have not yet come to the place in their lives of trusting Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord are requested to let the elements pass. Please use this time to read Isaiah 53 (p. 613 in the Pew Bible) and I Corinthians 1.18-25 (p. 952), asking God to show you the glory of His Son Jesus Christ. If you are unsure about your relationship with Christ, please see a member of the pastoral staff or one of the elders after the service.

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn of Preparation

How Sweet and Awesome is the Place (1-4)

#469

How sweet and awesome is the place with Christ within the doors,
While everlasting love displays the choicest of her stores.

While all our hearts and all our songs Join to admire the feast,
Each of us cry, with thankful tongue, “Lord, why was I a guest?”

“Why was I made to hear your voice, and enter while there's room,
When thousands make a wretched choice, and rather starve than come?”

‘Twas the same love that spread the feast that sweetly drew us in;
Else we had still refused to taste, and perished in our sin.

Receiving the Bread and Cup: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. —I Corinthians 11.26

Please note: the wafers in the small cup in each tray are gluten-free. Also, our custom is that we take each element in unison after everyone has been served.

OUR RESPONSE

Hymn of Celebration*Lift High the Cross*

#263

Refrain: *Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred Name.*

Come brethren, follow where our Savior trod
Our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. (Refrain)

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw men unto thee. (Refrain)

Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace. (Refrain)

For thy blest cross which doth for us atone,
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.

Word and Deed Offering: Today's word and deed offering will be used to meet the needs of Ukrainian refugees.

Declaration of Hope (Unison)

II Kings 7.9

Then they said to one another, "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news. If we are silent and wait until the morning light, punishment will overtake us. Now therefore come; let us go and tell."

Hymn of Parting*How Sweet and Awesome is the Place (5-6)*

#469

Pity the nations, O our God, constrain the earth to come;
Send thy victorious Word abroad, and bring the strangers home.

We long to see your churches full, that all the chosen race
May, with one voice and heart and soul, sing your redeeming grace.

The Benediction and Three-fold Amen



Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian, PCA

cmpca.org

CMPC Sermon Notes for March 6, 2022

- **Introduction to the 2022 CMPC Mission Conference Season**
- **Message:** *The Value of the Mission: Too Good to Keep*
- **Text:** II Kings 2.1-11

Short Kingdom Parable by Jesus: pearl of great price
Matthew 13.45-46

DEFINITIONS:

Vision: Seeing things as they should be in contrast to the way they are.

Mission: Make the vision a reality... (cf. Jesus, Luke 19.10)

Passion: the desire to bring the vision about.

Principle: Passion grows when it is driven by and/or embraces the value – or the worth- of the mission and vision

Vision: Seeing things how God intends them to be instead of the way things are

Our vision: for the glory of Christ to fill the earth so that the whole world may know the true God (in contrast to them not knowing that now).

Our mission is to take the good news of the gospel to the world; The Great Commission

Our passion is our desire to carry out the mission so that the vision is accomplished.

The Situation, II Kings 6.24-31

- How desperate the world really is.
 - Ben-hadad's power
 - Bad economy
 - Starvation
 - Cannibalism
- Do we grasp?
 - Paralyzed leadership: Sackcloth but hidden
 - Blames Elisha!

The Confrontation, 6.32-33- 7.2

- Elders meet with Elijah
- Messenger arrives, King soon follows
- Elisha seizes on that- watch what he says, 7.1-2
- Elisha's prophecy: food tomorrow at a good price, 2 Kings 7.1
- The captain doubts Elisha
- The issue: can God really provide for our needs? Can God really keep his word?

The Siege Lifted, 7.3-9

- Lepers discover the food.
 - Initially, they indulge themselves
 - What's the problem with that?
 - It will not keep them alive.
- Good news is for sharing.

- Good news brings an obligation to share.
- Given the desperation of the city (cannibalism), they want to share.
- What good does it do for us to keep the good news for ourselves and simply be consumers of the gospel?

Who does God choose to be His witnesses? 7.10-11

- They deliver the good news with a sense of urgency- during the night!
- There is an urgency to the gospel!
- People are dying without it.
- Passionate about the gospel and proclaiming the gospel so that the whole world will know of the fame of God.
- What if: when John Ryland heard William Carey talking about becoming a missionary to India, and told him, "Sit down, young man. When God decides to save the heathen, He will do it without your help."

By the way, how did it turn out? 7.12-20

- *Isaiah tells us God's word does not return empty but accomplishes the purposes for which He sent it.*
- How passionate are we to share the gospel- to see the vision come to pass?

Charles Wesley's Radical and Fruitful Risk

- Reward
- Risk

The power of the gospel.

So What About Us?

- How do we build our passion?
 - Desire for the glory of God
 - The value of the good news of the gospel
 - A passion for people