
Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship¹

Sunday, January 18, 2009

** Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude

Greetings & Life of the Church

Meditation

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even as I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 23

God Gathers His People ...

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Psalm 103:19-22

God's People raise their voices in Praise ...

**All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

#1

**Invocation & Lord's Prayer*

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in 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.

Amen²

God encourages the Heart of His People ...

... by the Power of His Word...

Psalm 2

... through Declaring our Faith...

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:15-20

... resulting in Praise to our God through Christ our Lord

**Lord I lift Your Name on High*

Insert

**He is Exalted*

Insert

... God Strengthens the Heart of His People...

... through Scripture Reading

Acts 14:19-23

... the Preached Word

Making Our Way to the Kingdom

** ... the Response of Faith ...*

O Father, You are Sovereign

**75*

... and the Feast at His Table ...

God's People Respond to His Word by Faith...

** ... praise ...*

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

... and Tithes and Offerings of Thanksgiving ...

... Presenting Our Selves and Resources to Him

God Sends His People on His Way by His Grace ...

** ... with Rejoicing*

Be Thou My Vision, #642

** ... and the Benediction³ of His Grace*

Leader: May the grace, mercy and peace of God the Father in Jesus Christ his Son be poured upon you in full by his Spirit so that you can say together with all the saints, 'the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want,' so that all the peoples may see and say,

Congregation: "Amen! Our LORD is faithful!" Praise the LORD.

¹ "Worship" is not something that WE initiate; not primarily something that WE do for GOD; rather, God calls us to worship as a means of His grace by which to shape and tune US to declare and display HIS glory in Christ for HIS pleasure and our good.

² "Amen" grows from the Hebrew root meaning "true and faithful;" we pray with hope and confidence because our covenant God is "true and faithful" to his covenant promises.

³ "Benediction" is the "good Word" of God's blessing by which He secures, sustains and equips his people by his steadfast, covenantal love in Christ for the display of His glory

For Individual & Family Worship

Week of January 18 – 24, 2009

As we systematically read through the Bible together following this plan, we will gain an appreciation for God's story of Glory, Grace and Truth displayed through the ages among and through his people. It is a story filled with intrigue, deception, colossal failures and even greater stories of redemption. Once this becomes a part of our normal routine, we will be amazed how these stories come to mind in the face of daily life challenges.

Scripture Reading:	Morning	Evening
Sunday:		Prov 1
Monday:	Gn 26, Ps 23&24, Mt14:1-21	Prov 2
Tuesday:	Gn 27, Ps 25&26, Mt 14:22-15:20	Prov 3
Wednesday:	Gn 28&29, Ps 26, Mt 15:21-39	Prov 4
Thursday:	Gn 30, Ps 27, Mt 16	Prov 5
Friday:	Gn 31, Ps 28, Mt 17	Prov 6
Saturday:	Gn 32, Ps 29&30, Mt 18:1-20	Prov 7

Similarly, as we participate in the hymns and prayers of God's people in Christ from throughout history, we will gain an appreciation for the continuing, present unfolding of God's story of Glory and Grace in Jesus among his people by his Spirit.

Hymn: O Father, You Are Sovereign (Trinity, #75)

1. O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made; your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed. Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore, sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.
2. O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man; no pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan. All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space, you hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.
3. O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain, transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain. All evil overruling, as not but Conqu'ror could, your love pursues its purpose – our souls' eternal good.
4. O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now, but soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow. With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew: our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you!

Prayer in Fellowship with the Church:

O God, the light of the hearts that see you, the life of the souls that love you, the strength of the minds that seek you; from whom to turn is to fall, to whom to turn is to rise and in whom to abide is to stand fast forever: grant us your blessing as we offer up our confessions and supplications, and though we are unworthy to approach you or to ask anything of you at all, hear and forgive us, for the sake of our great High Priest and only Mediator, Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

-- Augustine of Hippo (354-430 A.D.)

Sermon Notes

Passage: Acts 14:19-23

Message: *Making Our Way to the Kingdom*

When Jesus issued the call to discipleship saying, as Luke records it just before Jesus 'set his face to go to Jerusalem,' 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me,' did any of us think he was serious? Or, did we sleepily dismiss it as simply another parable, another attempt to have his message rise above the din of competing messages? And were we surprised to find that he wasn't exaggerating? And did we then remake the gospel in our own, more reasonable image?

The Kingdom way ...

... Passes Through Tribulation ...

... Requires Strength & Courage ...

... is Safeguarded by Grace

How does knowing the necessary place and function of tribulation in God's a good plan for the peace, future, and hope for his people in his world encourage & strengthen you in your circumstances today?

CVPC CONTACT INFORMATION

... if the Body of Christ @ CVPC may be praying for or otherwise serving you, please call ...

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Welcome to

CHATTANOOGA VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

By God's Grace, For God's Glory

... to see Chattanooga Valley and the Nations overwhelmed by the glory of God and transformed by the grace and peace of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ working in His people empowered by His Spirit for His glory.

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