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## Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship<sup>1</sup>

Sunday May 17, 2009

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*\* Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude

Greetings & Life of the Church

Meditation

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. *John 3:16-17*

God's compassion is my story, Is my boasting all the day;  
Mercy free and never failing Moves my will, directs my way.  
God so loved us, God so loved us That His only Son He gave.  
*Chinese Hymn*

### God Gathers His People ...

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!  
For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all  
the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.  
He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. God  
has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.  
Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing  
praises!

Psalm 47

God's People Join their Voices in Praise ...

*\*Come Christians Join to Sing*

#302

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<sup>1</sup>At the center of God's strategy "to reconcile to himself all things," is a whole, new creation by and in Jesus Christ and him crucified. The heartbeat of this new creation is worship, a provision of God's grace in Christ, by which we learn to feel, think, speak, and act as God's good people.

### \*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.

Amen<sup>2</sup>

### God Tunes the Heart of His People ...

*... through Declaring our Faith...*

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

*Psalm 123*

*... through our Declaration of Praise ...*

*\*Wonderful Merciful Savior*

*\*Shout to the Lord*

*Insert*

*Insert*

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<sup>2</sup>"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.

### ... God Teaches His People...

Scripture Reading

*Acts 17:10-15*

Message

*Kingdom Strategies: Godly Open-Mindedness*

*\* Break Thou the Bread of Life*

#146

*Celebration of Communion*

### 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! Amen.

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

*... Committing our Resources to Him*

### God Sends His People ...

*\* ... with Rejoicing*

*Be Thou My Vision, #642*

*\* ... and the Benediction<sup>3</sup> of His Grace*

**Leader:** The Grace, Mercy, and Peace of God the Father, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever so that all people may say,

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

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<sup>3</sup>"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 May 17 – May 23, 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:		
Monday:	Deut 1, Ps 1&2	Lk 7
Tuesday:	Deut 2, Ps 3	Lk 8
Wednesday:	Deut 3, Ps 4	Lk 9
Thursday:	Deut 4, Ps 5	Lk 10
Friday:	Deut 5, Ps 6&7	Lk 11
Saturday:	Deut 6, Ps 8	Lk 12

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:** Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! (Trinity, #498)

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|---|--|
| 1. Jesus! What a Friend for sinners!<br>Jesus! Lover of my soul; friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole. <i>Refrain</i>           | 4. Jesus What a guide and keeper!<br>While the tempest still is high, storms about me, night o'ertakes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry. <i>Refrain!</i> |
| 2. Jesus! What a strength in weakness!<br>Let me hide myself in him; tempted, tried, and most times failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins. <i>Refrain</i> | 5. Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find; he hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine. <i>Refrain</i>                  |
| 3. Jesus! What a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll, even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul. <i>Refrain</i>                |  |

- REFRAIN -

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Hallelujah! What a Friend!

Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

### Prayer in Fellowship with the Church:

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, look on us and have mercy on us, you who are both sacrifice and priest, reward and redeemer, keep safe from all evils those whom you have redeemed, O Savior of the world. Amen.

– Old Gallican Missal

## Sermon Notes

Passage: Acts 17:10-15

Message: *Godly Open-Mindedness*

*Mysterious portraits; phantom tests; miracle cure-alls – what CAN we believe? In a world of super-abounding options, who can you trust? How can we recognize truth – and what's the point anyway; after all, what difference does it make?*

*... eagerly receive ...*

*... carefully examine ...*

*... readily commit ....*

### CVPC CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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Sikkema

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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