

Preparing Your Heart for Worship

November 21, 2021

“What people revere, they resemble, either for ruin or restoration.”

– G.K. Beale

† CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 148

Pastor: Though the fig tree should not blossom,
nor fruit be on the vines,

**Congregation: though the produce of the
olive fail and the fields yield no food,**

Pastor: though the flock be cut off from the fold
and there be no herd in the stalls,

**Congregation: Yet, we will rejoice in the
LORD; I will take joy in the God of my
salvation.**

**Together: God, the Lord, is our strength;
he makes our feet like the deer's; he leads
us to tread in the high places!**

† *Please stand if able*

+HYMNS OF PRAISE

“This is My Father’s World”

Trinity Hymnal #111

This is my Father’s world, and to my list’ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father’s world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker’s praise.

This is my Father’s world: He shines in all that’s fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father’s world. O let me ne’er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father’s world: The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav’n be one.

“Heart of Worship”

When the music fades
All is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring
Something that’s of worth
That will bless Your heart

Chorus:

I’ll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You’re looking into my heart
I’m coming back to the heart of worship
And it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Jesus
I’m sorry, Lord, for the thing I’ve made it
When it’s all about You, it’s all about You, Jesus

King of endless worth
No one could express
How much you deserve
Though I’m weak and poor
All I have is Yours
Every single breath!
(Chorus)

Tag:

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Because Christ Jesus died in your place,
for your sins, you are forgiven.

People: Hallelujah! Praise God!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

*Children ages 3 through 4th grade dismiss with their
teachers for Sunday school. They will return at the end
of the service.*

† OFFERTORY

+HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“My Jesus I Love Thee”

Trinity Hymnal #648

My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus ‘tis now

I love Thee because Thou has first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary’s tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus ‘tis now

I’ll love Thee in life and I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus ‘tis now

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I’ll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright
I’ll sing with the glittering crown on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus ‘tis now

SERMON TEXT

John 3:1-20

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10 Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand

continued on the next page

these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 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. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

Leader: This is the word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

**SERMON: “Face to Face With Jesus:
Nicodemus”**

Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt

John 3:1-20

THE LORD’S SUPPER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father, Almighty;
maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and sitteth
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

Prayer of Humble Access

I do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but only in your righteousness credited to me. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose manner is always to show mercy. Grant me, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live with him and he in me. Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“We Will Feast”

Chorus:

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
“He has done great things,” we will say together
We will feast, and weep no more.

We will not be burned, by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up.

Chorus

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long
O God of Jacob, be my strength.

Chorus

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed
You are the faithful One
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom.

Chorus

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The 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.
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.

+ 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. Amen. Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt, *Senior Pastor*
alec@covenantpresmobile.org

Rev. Lanier Wood, *Executive Pastor*
lanier@covenantpresmobile.org

Marty O’Gwynn, *Director of Children’s Ministry/ Pastoral Assistant*
marty@covenantpresmobile.org

Whitney Myers, *Director of Music*
whitney@covenantpresmobile.org

Kitty York, *Director of Women’s Ministry*
kitty@covenantpresmobile.org

Rob Still, *Director of Youth Ministry*
rob@covenantpresmobile.org

Brynn Outlaw, *Assistant Director of Youth Ministry*
bbenak0001@gmail.com

Cameron McFatter, *Director of Community Ministries/
Facilities Manager*
cameron@covenantpresmobile.org

Bobby Crow, *Controller/Business Administrator*
bobby@covenantpresmobile.org

Karen Curry, *Receptionist*
karen@covenantpresmobile.org

THE SESSION

2021: John Bell, Bobby Crow, Robbie Turnipseed

2022: Bubba O’Gwynn, Brad Hoffman, Stephen Fitts,
Jimmy Dawood

2023: Lance Covan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendship Pads – Friendship pads are at the end of each aisle. Please sign and pass.

Crichton Table Thanksgiving – Crichton Table will be serving a Thanksgiving meal with all the fixings Tuesday at 11:00.

Advent Family Devotionals – Covenant Families with kids ages 3-12 please pick up an Advent Devotional book from the tables in and around the Sanctuary as well as in the Education building. Advent begins Sunday, November 28.

Covenant Christmas Party – Sunday December 5 from 5-7pm at Camp Grace, 11081 Wanda Drive. Lots of fun, fellowship, as well as dinner and a campfire with s'mores!! Email marty@covenantpresmobile.org if you plan to come!

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule – Come and worship the coming of Christ on Christmas Eve at 4 and 5:30 p.m.!

Ushers/Greeters – Interested in serving the church by ushering or greeting? Email karen@covenantpresmobile.org