







Lord's Day, May 17, 2020

The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

(Acts 17:10-15)

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Order for Engaging with God in Worship

This Lord's Day, May 17, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship: Psalm 1

Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.
The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Praise song: Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Trinity Psalter: Psalm 119:1-8

How blest the blameless in their way who from God's law do not depart,

Who, holding fast the word of truth, seek Him with undivided heart.

Yea, they are kept from paths of sin who walk in His appointed way;

Thy precepts Thou hast given us that we should faithfully obey.

My wav'ring heart is now resolved Thy holy statutes to fulfill; No more shall I be brought to shame when I regard Thy holy will.

To Thee my praise sincere shall rise when I Thy righteous judgments learn;

Forsake me not, but be my guide, and from Thy statutes I'll not turn.

Confession of Sin

Our gracious and loving heavenly Father, God of all majesty, dominion, glory, and power. We thank you for the most incredible gift of Your inspired revelation to us, the holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments of our Bible. Yet we must all confess, most holy and omnipotent Lord, that through the convicting work of Your Holy Spirit, we have sinned against You by not searching Your Scriptures as we ought; nor meditating upon Your Word as we ought; nor hiding Your truth in our hearts as we ought. We humbly beseech You to forgive us for failing to seek out Your salvation, Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, as He is so wonderfully revealed to us in the covenants, promises, prophecies, poetry, wisdom sayings, Gospels, and Epistles. We thank You, for we believe Your promise and Your person—that You are the God Who hears and answers the prayers of Your people. In Jesus' mighty, conquering name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 86:4-6

Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:10–16

Confession of Faith: Westminster Confession of Faith I.1,4

Although the light of nature, and the works of creation and providence do so far manifest the goodness, wisdom, and power of God, as to leave men inexcusable; yet are they not sufficient to give that knowledge of God, and of His will, which is necessary unto salvation: therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in divers manners, to reveal

Himself, and to declare that His will unto His Church; and afterwards, for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the Church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing; which maketh the Holy Scripture to be most necessary; those former ways of God's revealing His will unto His people being now ceased.

The authority of the Holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed, and obeyed, dependeth not upon the testimony of any man, or Church; but wholly upon God (who is truth itself) the author thereof: and therefore it is to be received, because it is the Word of God.

Hymn: O Word of God Incarnate

O Word of God Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O light of our dark sky; we praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page, a lantern to our footsteps shines on from age to age.

The church from her dear Master received the gift divine, and still that light she lifteth o'er all the earth to shine. It is the golden casket, where gems of truth are stored; it is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner before God's host unfurled; it shineth like a beacon above the darkling world. It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea, 'mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold, to bear before the nations thy true light, as of old.
O teach thy wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace, till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Sermon: Searching the Scriptures
Acts 17:10-15 Rev. Martin Hawley

Hymn: How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply; the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"E'en down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love; and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

*Benediction

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Three-fold Amen

*Denotes times when those members of the congregation who are able shall stand.

Words to hymns and choruses printed in the bulletin, using license CCLI #440621

Directions for Worship and Considerations Concerning the Corona Virus:

- 1. Please situate your couple or family group as efficiently as possible as the chairs and rows have been arranged (i.e. individuals and couples, as well as couples with one child ought to use the center row of 3 chairs until all of those locations are filled)
- 2. Please refrain from shaking hands, embracing, or otherwise physically contacted persons not in your family.
- 3. Please maintain the 6 foot social distancing guidelines and the spacing established in our sanctuary's rows of chairs.
- 4. You may wear masks or not wear masks as you and your family prefer.
- 5. Hand sanitizer is located in our entrance area and on the bulletin table.
- 6. We request that one person at a time use the bathroom areas.
- 7. You may place your offering in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary.
- 8. At the end of the service, we will dismiss by rows so as to limit crowding.

Announcements

Memorial Day Picnic

Christ Covenant Church is holding a Memorial Day picnic on May 25th, and Hope Presbyterian Church is invited. It will be held at the Jones' home. More details will follow by email.

Postponed Events

Adult Sunday School Sunday Evening Bible Study Women's Evening Bible Study Men's Evening Bible Study

Virtual Events

Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

A weekly study on Contentment by Melissa Kruger at 11 a.m.

Women's Tuesday Evening Prayer and Fellowship

A time to share prayer requests and fellowship. 7 p.m. See Shari for details about women's virtual events.

FATSAT Men's Study on First and Third Saturdays

Our First and Third Saturdays men's group meets online at 8:00 a.m. See George for details.

Our Welcome Guests for May and June



Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.
(Psalm 133)

We take great joy in sharing our worship space and our Lord's Day services of worship in May and June with our daughter congregation, Christ Covenant Presbyterian of Woodstock, Georgia.

Christ Covenant began meeting on Sunday evenings in June 2009, then on Sunday mornings in February 2010 as a mission or church plant of Hope. After growing sufficiently, in July 2013 they were formally organized as a church by the Northwest Georgia Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

The church's founding pastor was our own Rev. Ted Lester, who had previously founded Cherokee Presbyterian Church, and who also served for several years as an assistant pastor at Hope. Brother Ted recently took honorable retirement through the Northwest Georgia Presbytery.

Christ Covenant Presbyterian is now pastored by the Rev. Job Dalomba. Job was raised in North Mississippi, and recently relocated to Woodstock. He is a graduate of Ole Miss in 2006 with a B.A. in Liberal Arts. He then graduated Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in 2009. Before coming to Christ Covenant Presbyterian, he spent almost 9 years in pastoral ministry. Job has been married to Brittany for 13 years and they have four children: Reid, Grace, Sam and Mary Kate.