



City PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Discovering The Riches Of Christ

Sunday 13th September 2020

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Welcome to City Presbyterian Church! During this time of physical isolation we believe it is as important as ever to engage with God together and through our worship service shared online we employ a variety of means by which to do so. **We invite you to participate with us.** If you wish to pray, and sing along or just observe and listen you are welcome to. If you have any questions about why we do any of the things we do please don't hesitate to reach out to us through Facebook or email David directly. Thanks for joining us this morning. We hope you find the time both encouraging and thought provoking. Thank you!

Call to Worship: Isaiah 2:2-5¹

² *It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,*

³ *and many peoples shall come, and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."*

*For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*

⁴ *He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.*

⁵ *O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.*

Opening Prayer

¹ All passages of Scripture taken from the *English Standard Version*.

Songs of Praise and Adoration: *All Must Be Well*

Authors: Mary Bowly Peters, Matthew Smith

Through the love of God our Saviour, all will be well
Free and changeless is His favour, all is well
Precious is the blood that healed us
Perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
Happy still in God confiding
Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

Nothing But The Blood of Jesus

Author: Robert Lowry

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:

O precious is the flow
That makes us white as snow;
No other fount I know;
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this I see:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this my plea:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

Nothing can for sin atone:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

(Chorus)

Call to Repentance: Romans 12:9-18

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honourable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Silent Reflection & Confession of Sin

Assurance of Grace: Romans 5:6-11

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Profession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism Q&A²

1 Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong –
body and soul, in life and death –
to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall
from my head without the will of my Father in heaven:
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly
willing and ready from now on to live for him.

² The Heidelberg Catechism is a teaching resource summarising Biblical content that has been used in churches since the 16th century.

Song of Response: *Jesus Lover Of My Soul*

Authors: Charles Wesley, Greg Thompson

Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Til lifes storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
I helpless, hang on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone,
Support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
In the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want,
Here more than all I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;
For all eternity.

Prayers for the People, the Church, and the World

Message: *Gracious Aspiration*

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

- Matthew 5:43-48

Notes, Thoughts, Questions:

Song of Response: *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

Author: Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That he should give his only Son
To make a wretch his treasure
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the chosen one,
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Benediction

Announcements

City Pres Retreat 2020: Our 3rd annual all church retreat to Mangawhai Heads is next weekend the 18-20th September! We look forward to a wonderful time as we get away to spend time catching up, studying God's Word, eating good food, having fun, and relaxing together. The church covers all costs for anyone who wants to go. Sign-ups have been emailed, please contact Gretchen (gretchenabruner@gmail.com) if you have not yet received the form.

Man Adventure: Thanks to the initiative of some of our intrepid lads the men of City Pres will be planning some varied events to help us re-focus on our calling and identity as men of faith. First up will be a sunrise hike up the Pinnacles on the Coromandel the 26th of September. Please contact Jeremy for more details.

Rock Climbing: If you'd like to participate in a day of climbing fun, mark your calendars for the 17th October. We're planning to head to Extreme Edge in Panmure for the day which offers climbing fun for everyone of any age experience or ability. Email Gretchen for details.

Community Groups: Our CGs will continue to meet online during lockdown on Tuesday and Thursday nights. These fortnightly groups are a key aspect of our church's life and mission as they are a means of following Christ and applying the Gospel in life and mission shared with one another. If you would like to join a CG or have any questions please just email David (davidbruner@citypres.org.nz).

City Presbyterian Church Giving Information: The Bible teaches that the giving of tithes and offerings has always been seen as a part of the believer's worship to God. Apart from other charitable giving it's important for Christians to help financially sustain the ministry of the local church they are a part of. The easiest way to give for those wishing to support the work of City Presbyterian Church is online through automatic deposit. The City Presbyterian Church bank account number is 12-3066-0402436-00. If you have any questions regarding giving please talk with our pastor, David (davidbruner@citypres.org.nz), or with our church Treasurer James Stolten (treasurer@citypres.org.nz).

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