

Worship 10:30 am

Morning Worship

December 20, 2020

Reflection

Christ is the meeting point between the Trinity and sinner's souls.

~ J.C. Ryle

Between us and eternal life there are two great obstacles. One is that we are spiritually lifeless and dead. The other is that we are sinfully corrupt and guilty. We cannot inherit life as children of God if we are dead and if we are guilty. But God so loved us that he did two things. He sent his Spirit to cause us to be born again, to quicken us and make us pass from death to life. And so he overcomes the first obstacle. But in perfect harmony with the work of his Spirit God sent his Son to die for our sin (John 1:29) and remove the guilt of all who believe in him. So the moment we believe in him, even though we are sinners, we are authorized in him to lay hold on the inheritance of the children of God. And so the second obstacle is removed.

~John Piper

Approach to God

Prelude — He Who is Mighty

Welcome

Call to Worship — Isaiah 9:1-3 (responsive)

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness.

on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.



Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin — Galatians 3:10-12

¹⁰ For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." ¹¹ Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." ¹² But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."

Assurance of Pardon — Galatians 3:13, 4:4-7

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Response in Song — He Who is Mighty

Oh, the mercy our God has shown To those who sit in death's shadow The sun on high pierced the night Born was the Cornerstone

PRE-CHORUS

Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born

CHORUS

He Who is mighty has done a great thing Taken on flesh, conquered death's sting Shattered the darkness and lifted our shame Holy is His name

Oh, the freedom our Savior won. The yoke of sin has been broken Once a slave, now by grace, no more condemnation

BRIDGE

Now my soul magnifies the Lord, I rejoice in the God Who saves I will trust His unfailing love, I will sing His praises all my days

Children's Message — Matthew 2:11-14

¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. ¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt

Response in Song — Oh, Come All You Unfaithful

O come, all you unfaithful, Come, weak and unstable Come, know you are not alone

O come, barren and waiting ones Weary of praying, come see what your God has done Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you

O come, bitter and broken, Come with fears unspoken Come, taste of His perfect love

O come, guilty and hiding ones, there is no need to run See what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you

He's the Lamb who was given, Slain for our pardon His promise is peace, for those who believe (2x)

So come, though you have nothing Come, He is the offering Come, see what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you

Congregational Prayer

Offering*

*You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org and click on the green "give" button in the corner.

Sermon Text — John 1:9-13

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Sermon — The Legal Right of Christmas ~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Hymn — Angels We Have Heard on High (page 8)

Benediction

Postlude

Christmas' Glorious Right

John 1:9-13

1. The Brilliant Light (9-10)

2. The Rejected Light (10-11)

3. The Christmas Right (12-13)

Closing Hymn — Angels We Have Heard on High



Traditional French carol

GLORIA 7.7.7.7.ref. Traditional French melody

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for Jon & Linnea Taylor as they are in the process of moving to the Chicago area in the early part of 2021. Pray for a smooth transition for them and their children and pray for all the many details of moving to go smoothly.
- Pray for peace and unity in our nation as the many difficulties of the past year continue.
- Give thanks for our pastor and our leadership as they love, care for, and serve the flock. Pray for continued grace and strength to carry out the calling God has given them.
- Pray for Hannah Willman and her fiancé, Tyler, who are getting married January 9th. Pray for them as they begin their lives together and pray that the Lord would be at the center of it.
- Pray for those who are lonely or struggle during the holiday season that God would meet them in their need, would bring joy in the midst or sorrow, and would bring comfort through His word and the church.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: Christopher Burden, the Vidal family, Scott Innes, Kim Hanlin's father, John & Muriel Hadidian's daughter-in-law, the Wright family, Bill Wright, Ron Oakes, Ed Rodatus and those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones. Pray for strength to bear their difficult trials.

Frederick Area

- Pray for the missions that we support financially: CareNet Pregnancy Center, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and the Frederick Rescue Mission. Pray that God will continue to provide for all their needs.
- Pray for the churches in the Frederick area as they minister to the local people during the Christmas season. Pray for dedication to preaching the truth that can only be found in God's Word.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month, the Frederick Rescue Mission.
 Pray for this ministry to seeks to serve those in the community who are physically and spiritually needy. Pray that the Lord would bless their work and would provide for all of their needs particularly during this difficult time.
- Continue to pray for Claire Hall as she serves the Lord in a scheme in Merkinch, Scotland. Pray for her and her team as the minister to people during the Christmas season. Pray that many will be saved and come to know the saving power of Jesus.
- Pray for Brad & Lucy Myers as they continue to work with RUF at UNC in Wilmington but look to transition out at the end of the school year. Pray for the students they have been ministering to that the Lord would continue to water the gospel seeds that have been sown.
- Pray for Benny & Liesl Boyed as they prepare to leave for Nepal in January to work with a missionary there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention New Hope kids aged 4-10, The Edification committee would like to invite you to participate in contest just for you! Build a diorama of your favorite Bible story and send us a picture. Please see the attachment in the Friday News for details. There will be prizes!

2020 Donation Deadline - Please note the following deadlines for donations to New Hope to be counted toward the 2020 tax year:

- <u>Cash</u> must be received in the offering basket on any Sunday through 12/27/2020 and must be in an envelope with your name and contact information marked in order to be recorded on your donor contribution statement. Mailing cash is not advised.
- <u>Checks</u> must be properly dated (no later than 12/31/2020). They can be put in the offering basket on any Sunday through 12/27/2020 or mailed to the church with a postmark of no later than 12/31/2020 and received by 1/7/2021. Mailed checks received after 1/7/2021 will be recorded for tax year 2021, regardless of check date, unless there is a clear postmark of 12/31/2020 or earlier.
- <u>PayPal Donations</u> must be processed no later than 11:59pm ET on 12/31/2020.

Contribution statements for 2020 will be provided no later than 1/31/2021. These statements will be emailed to everyone this year unless requested otherwise. If you have any questions, please contact Elease Layman at treasurer@newhopeopc.org.

Building Fund, don't forget...we still have a building fund! As we look toward the future and to a larger facility, please consider giving to the building fund. Just write "building fund" in the memo line.

Help Needed!, if you attend either the outdoor or indoor worship services, we could use some help! Please see the needs below and contact the appropriate person if you are able to serve:

- Musicians Ron Socash, ronsocash66@gmail.com
- Ushers Brian Burden, bricumbur@gmail.com
- Sound technicians Dan Poppert dan.poppert@gmail.com, Ed Wright wright.ed@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sign Language Class Offering Thursdays 2:00-3:00 1/14-2/25 at the Cruzan Homestead. In this 7 week class, we'll introduce basic vocabulary, conversational signs, fingerspelling & some history of Deaf culture. All ages welcome. Taught by myself (ASL Interpreter/CODA) & Joseph (Deaf) we'll immerse you in this rich language & have fun in the process. Suggested donation is \$35/person or \$50/family. 50% of profits go to the Rinehart adoption fund. A PE class immediately follows the ASL class Contact Cathy Cruzan for additional information. dnccruzan@gmail.com.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text— John 1:4,5 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Westminster Confession 12.1 All those that are justified, God vouchsafes, in and for His only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption, by which they are taken into the number, and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God, have His name put upon them, receive the spirit of adoption, have access to the throne of grace with boldness, are enabled to cry, Abba, Father, are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by Him as by a Father: yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption; and inherit the promises, as heirs of everlasting salvation.

Monday: John 1:9. How does v 9 contrast with v 8? "True" here is "genuine, real." How is Jesus the true, genuine light (1:1-4, 8:12-30)? There are false, or partial lights too -consider how prosperity, wellness, fandom, are false or partial lights. Can you think of others? Contrast these to Christ, his power, and his soul-satisfaction.

Tuesday: How does John 1:9-10 speak of the incarnation? Marvel at it by contrasting his glory (the world was made through him) and humility (he was coming into the world) in the following verses: Christ's power in John 1:3, Col 1:16, and Christ's glory: Mt 17:2, 5, Rev 1:12-16. Contrasted with Gal 4:4-5, Lk 2:6-7, 11-12, 16.

Wednesday: John 1:9-10. How does Christ "enlighten everyone" (Ps 19:1ff, Rom 1:19-21, Acts 14:17? Why did the world not know him (Jer 17:9, Rom 1:18, 21)? Grieve this, and pray for the Spirit to enlighten specific people. What is even more shocking in v 11? Why (Rom 9:1-5, Lk 20:13-17)? How does Jn 1:9-10 reveal the depravity of mankind? If you turn away from the True Light, what happens? What if you turn to the True Light?

Thursday: According to John 1:12-13, what "right" is granted to those who receive Jesus? This is where the incarnation impacts you. Are you a child of God? What high privileges does that entail (see 1 Jn 3:1-3, Gal 4:5-7, 2 Cor 6:17-18, Rom 8:14ff). Absorb these truths before God in prayer. Consider also the WCF 12.1 above.

Friday: What three ways does John 1:12-13 describe faith in Christ? To "receive" is to welcome -how is that more than knowing truths about Jesus? What does it mean to believe (see WCF 14.2 below)? To believe "in his name"? What does being "born of God" communicate (John 3:5-6, 14f)? Consider how grace has the last word in the darkness -the gift of God in Immanuel to all who believe (Eph 2:8). Do you believe?

WCF 14.2 But the principal acts of saving faith are accepting, receiving, and resting upon Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life, by virtue of the covenant of grace.

Saturday: Reflect on the Gift of gifts in Christ become flesh. Praise God!