

WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am & 5:00 pm

Morning Worship

July 19, 2020

Reflections

What is proclaimed concerning the mercy of God is seized by some as an occasion of licentiousness; while others are hindered by slothfulness from meditating on 'newness of life.'

~ Harry Schaumburg, *Undefined*

Entering into joyful praise is a by-product of meditation on His mercy and grace, magnificence, holiness, justice, and kindness.

~ Elyse Fitzpatrick, *Idols of the Heart*

Approach to God

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship — Psalm 99:1-5 (responsive)

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

² **The Lord is great in Zion;**

he is exalted over all the peoples.

³ Let them praise your great and awesome name!

Holy is he!

⁴ The King in his might loves justice.

You have established equity;

you have executed justice

and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Exalt the Lord our God;

worship at his footstool!

Holy is he!

Hymn of Praise — Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Prayer of Invocation

Confession of Sin — Micah 6:6-8

⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Assurance of Pardon — Hosea 2:18-20

¹⁸ And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you lie down in safety. ¹⁹ And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. ²⁰ I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.

Response in Song — All I Have is Christ

I once was lost in darkest night
Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life
Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own
A rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first
I would refuse You still

But as I ran my hell-bound race
Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state
And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed
You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me
Now all I know is grace

*Hallelujah! All I have is Christ
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life*

Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone
And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands
Could never come from me
Oh Father, use my ransomed life
In any way You choose
And let my song forever be
My only boast is 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 — 2 Samuel 14:1-33

Now Joab the son of Zeruiah knew that the king's heart went out to Absalom. ²And Joab sent to Tekoa and brought from there a wise woman and said to her, "Pretend to be a mourner and put on mourning garments. Do not anoint yourself with oil, but behave like a woman who has been mourning many days for the dead. ³Go to the king and speak thus to him." So Joab put the words in her mouth.

⁴When the woman of Tekoa came to the king, she fell on her face to the ground and paid homage and said, "Save me, O king." ⁵And the king said to her, "What is your trouble?" She answered, "Alas, I am a widow; my husband is dead. ⁶And your servant had two sons, and they quarreled with one another in the field. There was no one to separate them, and one struck the other and killed him. ⁷And now the whole clan has risen against your servant, and they say, 'Give up the man who struck his brother, that we may put him to death for the life of his brother whom he killed.' And so they would destroy the heir also. Thus they would quench my coal that is left and leave to my husband neither name nor remnant on the face of the earth."

⁸Then the king said to the woman, "Go to your house, and I will give orders concerning you." ⁹And the woman of Tekoa said to the king, "On me be the guilt, my lord the king, and on my father's house; let the king and his throne be guiltless." ¹⁰The king said, "If anyone says anything to you, bring him to me, and he shall never touch you again." ¹¹Then she said, "Please let the king invoke the LORD your God, that the avenger of blood kill no more, and my son be not destroyed." He said, "As the LORD lives, not one hair of your son shall fall to the ground."

¹²Then the woman said, "Please let your servant speak a word to my lord the king." He said, "Speak." ¹³And the woman said, "Why then have you planned such a thing against the people of God? For in giving this decision the king convicts himself, inasmuch as the king does not bring his banished one home again. ¹⁴We must all die; we are like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God will not take away life, and he devises means so that the banished one will not remain an outcast. ¹⁵Now I have come to say this to my lord the king because the people have made me afraid, and your servant thought, 'I will speak to the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his servant. ¹⁶For the king will hear and deliver his servant from the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together from the heritage of God.' ¹⁷And your servant thought, 'The word of my lord the king will set me at rest, for my lord the king is like the angel of God to discern good and evil. The LORD your God be with you!'"

¹⁸Then the king answered the woman, "Do not hide from me anything I ask you." And the woman said, "Let my lord the king speak." ¹⁹The king said, "Is the hand of Joab with you in all this?" The woman answered and said, "As surely as you live, my lord the king, one cannot turn to the right hand or to the left from anything that my lord the king has said. It was your servant Joab who commanded me; it was he who put all these words in the mouth of your servant. ²⁰In order to change the course of things your servant Joab did this. But my lord has wisdom like the wisdom of the angel of God to know all things that are on the earth."

²¹Then the king said to Joab, "Behold now, I grant this; go, bring back the

(Continued on page 8)

Half Restored?

2 Samuel 14:1-33

1. Bring Back the Banished (vs 1-20)
2. Held Half Way (vs 21-27)
3. Kissed by the King (vs 28-33)

young man Absalom.”²² And Joab fell on his face to the ground and paid homage and blessed the king. And Joab said, “Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord the king, in that the king has granted the request of his servant.”²³ So Joab arose and went to Geshur and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.²⁴ And the king said, “Let him dwell apart in his own house; he is not to come into my presence.” So Absalom lived apart in his own house and did not come into the king's presence.

²⁵ Now in all Israel there was no one so much to be praised for his handsome appearance as Absalom. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.²⁶ And when he cut the hair of his head (for at the end of every year he used to cut it; when it was heavy on him, he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head, two hundred shekels by the king's weight.

²⁷ There were born to Absalom three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman.

²⁸ So Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, without coming into the king's presence.²⁹ Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but Joab would not come to him. And he sent a second time, but Joab would not come.³⁰ Then he said to his servants, “See, Joab's field is next to mine, and he has barley there; go and set it on fire.” So Absalom's servants set the field on fire.³¹ Then Joab arose and went to Absalom at his house and said to him, “Why have your servants set my field on fire?”³² Absalom answered Joab, “Behold, I sent word to you, ‘Come here, that I may send you to the king, to ask, “Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still.” Now therefore let me go into the presence of the king, and if there is guilt in me, let him put me to death.”³³ Then Joab went to the king and told him, and he summoned Absalom. So he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom.

Sermon — Half Restored?

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Song — In Christ Alone (page 8)

Benediction

Prelude

Closing Hymn — In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, what strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone!—who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied—
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Praise God that Russell Beeman is now home with his family!
- Give thanks for the grace that the Lord continues to give us. Pray that He will help us to see and admit to our pride and give us wisdom in our humility.
- Pray for our session as they shepherd the flock. Pray that the Lord will give them wisdom, unity, and hearts of service.
- Pray for the leaders of our country and state that they will lead with wisdom, grace, and care. Pray for our nation — that there will be peace and unity and understanding.
- Pray that, as a church body, we will love, care for, and serve each other despite differences in thought or ideology. Pray that we will humbly consider others more significant than ourselves.
- Pray for those who are expecting: Katie Poortenga, Lauren Mendez, Colleen Forsee, and Jessica Bendy. Pray for the health and well-being of both moms and babies. Pray that these little ones will grow to love and serve the Lord all their days.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: the Vidal family, Scott Innes, Kim Hanlin's father, John & Muriel Hadidian's daughter-in-law, Karyn Lynerd's father, 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 local ministries we support financially — CareNet Pregnancy Center, the Frederick Rescue Mission, and Child Evangelism Fellowship. Pray that the Lord will continue to sustain, provide for, and bless these ministries during this uncertain time.
- Pray for the churches in Frederick that they will continue to bring hope through the gospel to the people in the community. Pray for peace and love and truth to be evident to all in the churches.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month: the home missions of the OPC. Pray particularly for the Arroyo, Puerto Rico, church plant and its pastor, Bradney Lopez. Give thanks that the people of Iglesia Presbiteriana Sola Escritura were able to return to public worship with much energy and enthusiasm.
- Give thanks that Claire Hall has raised 94% of the funds that she needs to go to Scotland with 20Schemes! Pray for her as she plans to move to Scotland in October of this year.
- Pray for Kristen Lalley as she prepares to go to England in September. Pray that the Lord would provide for all her needs including the remaining 6% of her monthly support. Pray for the visa process she is beginning and that both the UK and the US governments will look favorably upon her requests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moving Help, Mary Troxel is moving Tuesday, July 21st at 4PM from 519 Valley Street to 315 Thomas Avenue and needs assistance. If you are willing and able to help Mary move, you can contact her at 301.789.3795 or simply show up. Thank you in advance!

Ways to Help and Support Hannah Vidal and Family:

- **Prepared meal delivery** - bit.ly/HannahMeals - New openings next week! Plus there may be more to come in August; stay tuned!
- **Home improvement, maintenance, and mowing** - bit.ly/HannahHouse - The sign-up is a living document, with items being removed as they're finished and new items being added as they crop up. Can you help? If you have handyman or lawn/garden skills, please continue to check the sign-up for new areas to help!
- **Domestic and everyday life helpers** - bit.ly/HannahLife - Choose a date to help Hannah around the house or run errands!
- **Financial support** - bit.ly/HannahFunds - Want to help in a tangible way but not able to fix a toilet or seal a driveway? Every donation (minus credit card fees) given through this link goes directly to Hannah to use to support her family in Pete's absence.
- **Emotional support** - bit.ly/PeteVidalStory - Help Pete's kids have a living memory of who their dad was, even in little, everyday life ways! Did you ever encounter Pete? Would you share a short story about him to his kids? Please take a short video of your story and upload it at this provided link. You can also email the video story or write out a story and send it to Hannah.

Note: Please do not visit Hannah at home before 11am. Contact Elease Layman (elease.layman@gmail.com or 301.767.6848) with any questions.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text: 2 Samuel 22:1 — David sang to the LORD the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.

Westminster Confession 12.1 Of Adoption 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: 2 Samuel 14:1-20. What is Joab after? How does the woman compel David to do it? Like Nathan (12:1-7) she tells a story. What was Nathan's story accomplish (12:13, Ps 51)? What did the woman's story accomplish (14:21, 32, 15:4-6)? "Nathan's parable was designed to rouse the king's conscience as against his feelings; the woman's to rouse his feelings as against his conscience." Beware that story is powerful today -don't tell me truths, tell me a compelling story that hits feelings.

Tuesday: 2 Sam 14:12-17. What would justice be for Absalom (Gen 9:6, 2 Sam 14:32, Ex 21:12-14)? Why might David find this hard to do? What results from his compromising justice with both Amnon (13:21ff) and Absalom (ch 15)? How does God justly forgive sinners (Rom 3:25-26)? Does Absalom show any repentance? Do you?

Wednesday: David has a parenting pattern of permissiveness. Where do you see this in 2 Sam 14:12-33? Can you see aspects of this in our culture? Our church? Your own parenting? With yourself? Is the "solution" to permissiveness strict discipline? How do you see this in Jesus (John 1:14, 17)? Pray about this.

Thursday: Reflect on 2 Sam 14:13-14. Is there a way in which these verses are true? How has God made a way for the banished (i.e. Gen 3:24) to come home (Isaiah 56:6-8, Lk 15:20-24)? Have you ever felt like you were half-way home, half-banished, barely welcome by God? Although that may be our feeling, review the answer "Of Adoption" above for what is true in Christ by faith.

Friday: Wisdom is brought up several times in this chapter, causing us to ask "is this wisdom?" V 2 -is the wise woman's words really wisdom? What is it? Vv 17, 20 -is David full of wisdom here, especially in his action to restore Absalom? What is it? Manipulation and pragmatism seem to replace true wisdom. What is true wisdom? "It is possible to have all the signs of wisdom -plans, strategies, accomplishments -and yet be utterly devoid of it." The question remains -is it pleasing in God's eyes, and in accord with his word. Pray toward this end!

Saturday: Read 2 Samuel 15 in light of the consequences of justice ignored.