

WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am & 5:00 pm

Morning Worship

August 23, 2020

Reflections

We need...reminders about God's goodness. We are programmed to focus on what we don't have, bombarded multiple times throughout the day with what we need to buy that will make us feel happier or sexier or more at peace. This dissatisfaction transfers over to our thinking about God. We forget that we already have everything we need in Him. Because we don't often think about the reality of who God is, we quickly forget that He is worthy to be worshipped and loved.

~ Francis Chan

My sin was all the more incurable because I did not think myself a sinner.

~ Augustine of Hippo

"The ultimate purpose of life is to show that Jesus is more precious than life."

~ John Piper

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 1:1-3 (responsive)

¹Blessed 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;

²**but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.**

³He 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.

Song of Praise — Come Ye Sinners

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love and pow'r.

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.

Come, ye weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

I will rise and go to Jesus, He'll embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, Oh, there are ten thousand charms

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin — Genesis 17:3, Matthew 12:33,35

¹⁷ And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of
your wife

and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,'

cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

³³ "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad
and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. ³⁵ The good person
out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of
his evil treasure brings forth evil.

Assurance of Pardon — Galatians 3:12-14

¹² But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live
by them." 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"— ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come
to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through
faith.

Response in Song — I Will Rejoice in the Lord (Hab.3)

Lord, I have heard of your fame;
I stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord.
Renew them in our day, in our time make them known;
In wrath remember mercy.

*And I will rejoice in the Lord!
I will be joyful in God my Savior.
I will rejoice in the Lord! Again I say rejoice!
I will rejoice in the Lord! I will rejoice in the Lord!*

Though the fig tree does not bud
And there're no grapes on the vines,
Though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food,
Though there're no sheep in the pen,
And no cattle in the stalls.

Yet I will rejoice...

Lord, in your presence who can stand?
My deeds before you are as filthy rags.
There's nothing I can bring but a heart full of sin.
Yet through the mercy of Your Son
I can enter in.

So I will rejoice...

Scripture Reading — Revelation 22:1-2

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Missions Moment — Luke Hake

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 18:1-19:8

Then David mustered the men who were with him and set over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds. ²And David sent out the army, one third under the command of Joab, one third under the command of Abishai the son of Zeruijah, Joab's brother, and one third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the men, "I myself will also go out with you." ³But the men said, "You shall not go out. For if we flee, they will not care about us. If half of us die, they will not care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us. Therefore it is better that you send us help from the city." ⁴The king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood at the side of the gate, while all the army marched out by hundreds and by thousands. ⁵And the king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders about Absalom.

⁶So the army went out into the field against Israel, and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷And the men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the loss there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸The battle spread over the face of all the country, and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword.

⁹And Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak, and his head caught fast in the oak, and he was suspended between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. ¹⁰And a certain man saw it and told Joab, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak." ¹¹Joab said to the man who told him, "What, you saw him! Why then did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have been glad to give you ten pieces of silver and a belt." ¹²But the man said to Joab, "Even if I felt in my hand the weight of a thousand pieces of silver, I would not reach out my hand against the king's son, for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, 'For my sake protect the young man Absalom.'" ¹³On the other hand, if I had dealt treacherously against his life (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof." ¹⁴Joab said, "I will not waste time like this with you." And he took three javelins in his hand and thrust them into the heart of Absalom while he was still alive in the oak.

¹⁵And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him and killed him.

¹⁶Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the troops came back from pursuing Israel, for Joab restrained them. ¹⁷And they took Absalom and threw him into a great pit in the forest and raised over him a very great heap of stones. And all Israel fled every one to his own home. ¹⁸Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself the pillar that is in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance." He called the pillar after his own name, and it is called Absalom's monument to this day.

¹⁹Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Let me run and carry news to the king that the LORD has delivered him from the hand of his enemies." ²⁰And Joab said to him, "You are not to carry news today. You may carry news another day, but today you shall carry no news, because the king's son is dead." ²¹Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." ²²Then Ahimaaz the son of

Zadok said again to Joab, “Come what may, let me also run after the Cushite.” And Joab said, “Why will you run, my son, seeing that you will have no reward for the news?” ²³ “Come what may,” he said, “I will run.” So he said to him, “Run.” Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and outran the Cushite.

²⁴ Now David was sitting between the two gates, and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he lifted up his eyes and looked, he saw a man running alone. ²⁵ The watchman called out and told the king. And the king said, “If he is alone, there is news in his mouth.” And he drew nearer and nearer. ²⁶ The watchman saw another man running. And the watchman called to the gate and said, “See, another man running alone!” The king said, “He also brings news.” ²⁷ The watchman said, “I think the running of the first is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.” And the king said, “He is a good man and comes with good news.” ²⁸ Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, “All is well.” And he bowed before the king with his face to the earth and said, “Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king.” ²⁹ And the king said, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” Ahimaaz answered, “When Joab sent the king's servant, your servant, I saw a great commotion, but I do not know what it was.” ³⁰ And the king said, “Turn aside and stand here.” So he turned aside and stood still.

³¹ And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, “Good news for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you this day from the hand of all who rose up against you.” ³² The king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like that young man.”

³³ And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”

¹⁹ It was told Joab, “Behold, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom.”

² So the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the people, for the people heard that day, “The king is grieving for his son.” ³ And the people stole into the city that day as people steal in who are ashamed when they flee in battle.

⁴ The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, “O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!” ⁵ Then Joab came into the house to the king and said, “You have today covered with shame the faces of all your servants, who have this day saved your life and the lives of your sons and your daughters and the lives of your wives and your concubines,

⁶ because you love those who hate you and hate those who love you. For you have made it clear today that commanders and servants are nothing to you, for today I know that if Absalom were alive and all of us were dead today, then you would be pleased.

⁷ Now therefore arise, go out and speak kindly to your servants, for I swear by the LORD, if you do not go, not a man will stay with you this night, and this will be worse for you than all the evil that has come upon you from your youth until now.” ⁸ Then the king arose and took his seat in the gate. And the people were all told, “Behold, the king is sitting in the gate.”

Sermon — Oh, My Son Absalom!

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Hymn — Jesus Paid it All

D G D A Bm A D

1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,
 2. Lord, now in - deed I find your power, and yours a - lone,
 3. For noth - ing good have I where - by your grace to claim—
 4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,

G D G D/A A7 D

child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."
 can change the lep - er's spots, and melt the heart of stone.
 I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
 "Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re - peat.

REFRAIN
 D G D G D A

Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;

D G D D7 G E7 D/A A7 D 7

sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

Benediction

Postlude

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for Pastor Francis that the Lord would give him wisdom, courage in leading, and a big view of God.
- Continue to pray for Hannah Vidal and her family as the realities of Pete being gone hit home. Pray for strength, for peace, and for continued trust in the Lord and His goodness and care for them.
- Give thanks that Lindsey Seiver came through her surgery well and is at home recovering. Continue to pray for her through this time.
- Give thanks that Patti Deschamps came through her cataract surgery well and is recovering nicely.
- Give thanks for those who are willingly giving of their time to make sure the worship service happens each week — the musicians, the sound techs, the ushers, and the pastors. Pray that the Lord will bless the work of their hands.
- Pray for our session that they will eagerly shepherd the flock, being good examples to them, as they lead and oversee them.
- Pray for those who are expecting: Katie Poortenga (who is having twins), Lauren Mendez, and Colleen Forsee. 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: Foreign missionaries of the OPC.
- Pray for Luke Hake as he prepares to go to Mexico with Radius.
- Pray for Claire Hall and Kristen Lalley as they prepare to go to the United Kingdom this fall to serve as missionaries. Pray that the Lord will bless the work of their hands.
- Pray for Brad Myers as he serves with RUF at the University of NC at Wilmington. Pray especially for the student leaders as they focus more on small group and one to one ministry due to restrictions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Information for Fall, as we look ahead to the fall, we have the following information for you:

- **Sunday School**, currently there are no Sunday school classes during the fall semester for children or adults. (There is a very good possibility of offering an adults only, in person class at some point but not immediately). While we considered providing some virtual Sunday school lessons, the edification committee decided to provide you with resources that you can use for your family that are free and very good.
 - Ligonier Ministries, you can find many free resources and teaching series at Ligonier.com.
 - Great Commissions Publications, the ministry that provides our children's Sunday school curriculum has resources for parents that are either free or for charge at gcp.org
 - Another option for children would be to use some of the Sunday school curriculum we have on file at the church. If you are interested in something, please contact Giny in the office.
- **Worship Services**, as long as weather permits, we will continue to hold two worship services:
 - 9:00 am service, outdoors on the lower parking lot under a tent. This service will run until 10:00 am and will be "mask optional." We ask that people continue to social distance during worship.
 - 10:30 am service, indoors and livestreamed. This service will be the usual service and will continue to require masks.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study**, will continue to zoom this Bible study.
- **Saturday Children's Message**, every Saturday at 4:00 pm, Pastor Francis does a Children's Church message on Facebook live.
- **Youth Activities**, there are plans to do a youth retreat in the fall as well as other activities. Stay tuned for details.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text — **2 Samuel 22:4:** ⁴ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

Westminster Confession 33.1. *God has appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world, in righteousness, by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given of the Father. In which day, not only the apostate angels shall be judged, but likewise all persons that have lived upon earth shall appear before the tribunal of Christ, to give an account of their thoughts, words, and deeds; and to receive according to what they have done in the body, whether good or evil.*

Monday: 2 Sam 18:1-8. What lesson can you learn from King David's response to his men in v 4? Is David's command in v 5 gracious or foolish? How do you think it would affect the troops? Would it affect the outcome of the battle (17:14)? How do you see God's hand in protecting his kingdom in v 8? He is our Shield!

Tuesday: 2 Sam 18:9-18. Is Joab's action in vv 11-14 justified? What evidence could you point to that argues that Absalom died as one cursed by God (v 9 and Deut 21:23, v 17 and Josh 7:25-26, 8:29, v 18 and Ps 109:13). Absalom rejected God and his covenant King. What will happen to all who reject Christ (Rev 19:11, 15-16)? Pray for their salvation and look for opportunities to share the gospel!

Wednesday: 2 Sam 18:19-29. How do both Ahimaaz and the Cushite describe what happened that day (28, 31)? What has God done for David? Is there a parallel to Christ's work here (Mt 4:9f, or Rev 12:10-11)? What is David's response to this news (v 29, 32)? What should it have been? Meditate on Jesus' victory over Satan for you.

Thursday: 2 Sam 18:33-19:8. How does David respond to the news of Absalom's death? Why is this understandable? Why was it inappropriate (19:2-6)? What might all be included in David's sobbing for his son (2 Sam 13:10, 28, 38, 17:3-4)? "David failed to see himself as the head of the covenant here, as a type of Christ, and Absalom as a covenant breaker." Pray for those who have unbelieving family and their salvation. How is Jesus' grief over Jerusalem different than David's (Luke 13:34)?

Friday: 2 Sam 18:9. Contrast Absalom and his death with Jesus and his death (Gal 3:10, 1 Pet 3:18). Look at how Jesus cries the same cry as David in v 5, but in a much different way (Luke 23:34). If you are in Christ, he is more devoted to you and loves you more deeply than David did Absalom -and he has taken care of your sin and guilt!

Saturday: Read 2 Samuel 19:9-42. How does David treat his enemies?

