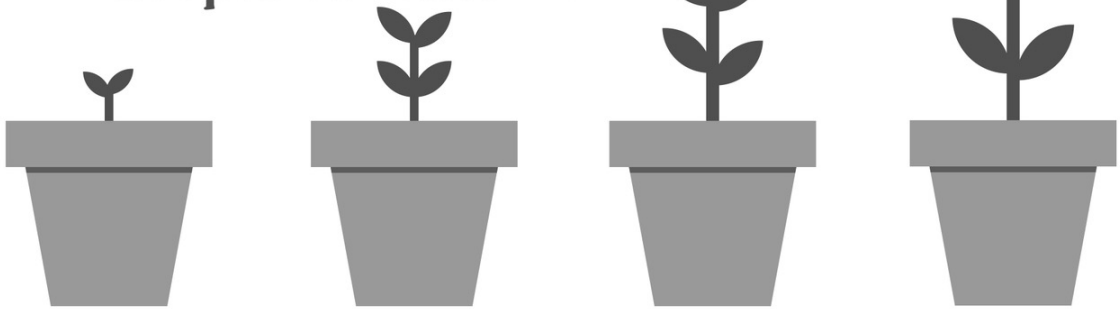




Stories of Growth

Parables from the Gospel of Luke



8:30 service + September 16, 2018

Worshiping as a Family

Corporate worship is for people of all ages, and the presence of children is a gift to the church.

All are welcome here. Other options for children include nursery (ages 8 weeks — 2 years), the cry room, and children's worship during the sermon at the 8:30 service (ages 3 — 1st grade).

Ushers or greeters can give you directions.

"Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.'" (Mark 10:14)

Order of Worship

Liturgist is Rev. Charles Godwin

Themes and keywords: pride, self-righteous, mercy, humble/humility

Prelude

Prelude in D Major

J. S. Bach

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God calls us to worship

from Psalm 149:1-2, 4-5

Liturgist: Praise the LORD!
Sing to the LORD a new song!

All: *Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!*

Liturgist: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

All: *he adorns the humble with salvation.
Let the godly exult in glory.*

We praise God

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Hymnal #97

Text: Edward Perronet
Tune: Oliver Holden

We pray for God to help us worship

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: *He is risen indeed!
He died for us that we might live for him.*

God calls us to confess our sin

from James 4:7-8, 10

Liturgist: Submit yourselves to God.
Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
Cleanse your hands and purify your hearts.
Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

We confess our sin

Liturgist: You are Lord and King over all things,
and you humbled yourself to serve us.

**All: *But we often think too highly of ourselves
and refuse to take a humble place.***

Liturgist: You taught us that in your kingdom:
Blessed are the poor in spirit.

All: *But we have been rich in pride.*

Liturgist: Blessed are those who mourn.

All: *But we have not known much sorrow for our sin.*

Liturgist: Blessed are the meek.

All: *But we are rebellious by nature.*

Liturgist: You exalt the humble.

**All: *But we often exalt ourselves
and seek praise and honor from everyone.
Lord, have mercy on us.***

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Father, forgive our self-righteous conceit.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we will have the humble mind of Christ
and grow more and more into his image and likeness as humble servants of all.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God declares our forgiveness

from John 1:29; 1 Peter 2:24

Liturgist: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By his wounds you have been healed.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift.
In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you,
and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

All: *Hallelujah, Amen!*

We praise God

O for a Thousand Tongues
Hymnal #76

Text: Charles Wesley 1739

Tune: Carl G. Gläser 1828

SEATED

The Last Words of David
Chancel Choir

Randall Thompson

He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.
And he shall be as the light of the morning when the sun riseth,
even a morning without clouds,
as the tender grass springing out of the earth,
by clear shining after rain.
Alleluia. Amen.

God baptizes his children

We remember our baptism by professing our faith

*I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.*

Apostles' Creed

*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

* "hell" here means the place or state of the dead, not a place or state of punishment.

The creed affirms that Jesus experienced the full reality of human death as his soul was severed from his dead body until his resurrection restored the full unity of his person.

** "catholic" here means universal, not Roman Catholic.

New baptized members

Emmaus Jowe Tzeng

Jemima Morning Tzeng

Titus Daniel Tzeng

Sons and daughter of Ben and Annie Tzeng

We greet one another with the peace of Christ

SEATED

God instructs us in scripture reading

Luke 14:1-11
(pew Bible p. 873)

God instructs us in preaching

"The Wedding Feast"
Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

We offer ourselves in gifts and song

Prior to singing, we will take a moment of silence to reflect and pray.

The Humble Hold Your Kingdom's Key Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 2009

© 2009 Hope Publishing Co.

Tune: Traditional English melody, *Forrest Green*

1. The hum - ble hold your king - dom's key. The poor are count - ed blest,
2. The mer - ci - ful your mer - cies find. The pure in heart you bless,
3. How blest are those who grow in grace as chil - dren of the Lord,
who mourn their spir - its pov - er - ty, by self and sin op - pressed;
who hun - ger for a con - trite mind, who thirst for righ - teous - ness;
to see the bright - ness of your face, their un - de - served re - ward.
who see their lives as lit - tle worth, to them your word is given.
and blest are those who, mak - ing peace, the prince of peace pro - claim;
As those for whom the Sav - ior died they tread the path he trod,
The low - ly shall pos - sess the earth, the meek shall reign in heaven.
con - tent as false at - tacks in - crease to suf - fer for his name.
and look to Je - sus glo - ri - fied, their Sav - ior and their God.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

We pray for the church and the world

Liturgist: (prayers for the church and the world)

All: *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

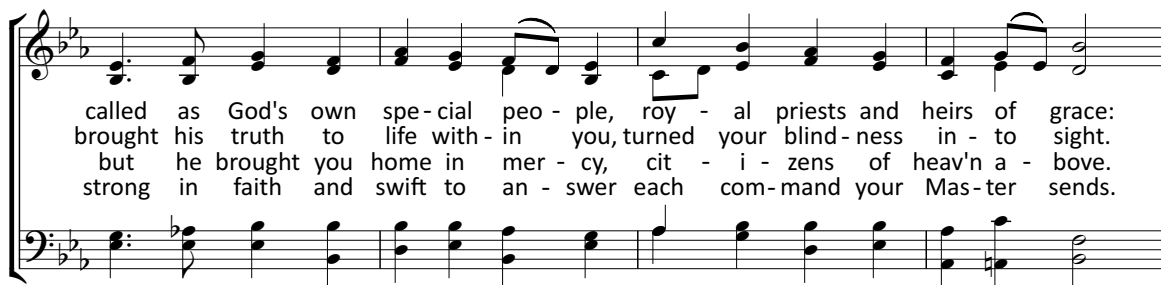
We praise God

Church of God, Elect and Glorious

Text: J. E. Seddon 1982
Tune: Franz Joseph Haydn 1797



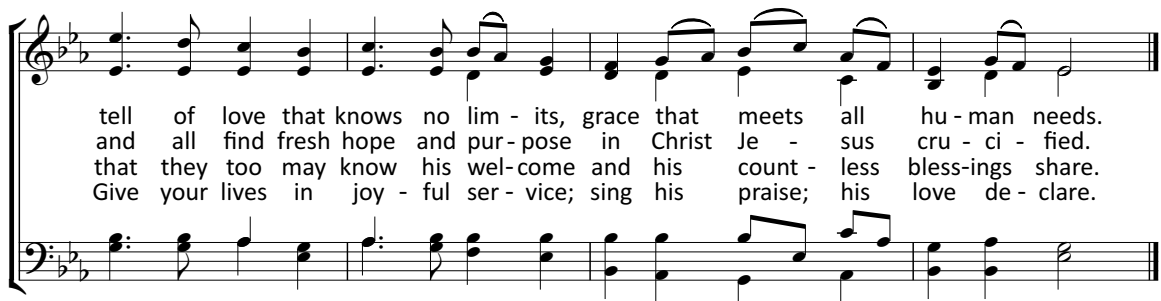
1. Church of God, e - lect and glor - ious, ho - ly na - tion, ho - ly place,
2. God has called you out of dark - ness in - to his most mar - velous light,
3. Once you were an a - lien peo - ple, stran - gers to God's heart of love,
4. Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, be the peo - ple he in - tends,



called as God's own spe - cial peo - ple, roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
brought his truth to life with - in you, turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
but he brought you home in mer - cy, cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
strong in faith and swift to an - swer each com - mand your Mas - ter sends.



know the pur - pose of your call - ing; show to all his might - y deeds;
Let your light so shine a - round you, that God's name is glor - i - fied,
Let his love flow out to oth - ers; let them feel the Fa - ther's care,
Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing through your sac - ri - fice and prayer.



tell of love that knows no lim - its, grace that meets all hu - man needs.
and all find fresh hope and pur - pose in Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
that they too may know his wel - come and his count - less bless - ings share.
Give your lives in joy - ful ser - vice; sing his praise; his love de - clare.

God blesses us and sends us out

Pastor: And all God's people said . . .

All: **Hallelujah! Amen.**

Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken 1709

Tune: Louis Bourgeois, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise Him a - bove, ye heavn' - ly hosts; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

Postlude

Toccata in F

D. Buxtehude

Sermon discussion questions are available in paper copies at the Hanley Road entrance, on the table outside the Choir Room, and online at www.centralpres.com as sermon "Notes."

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