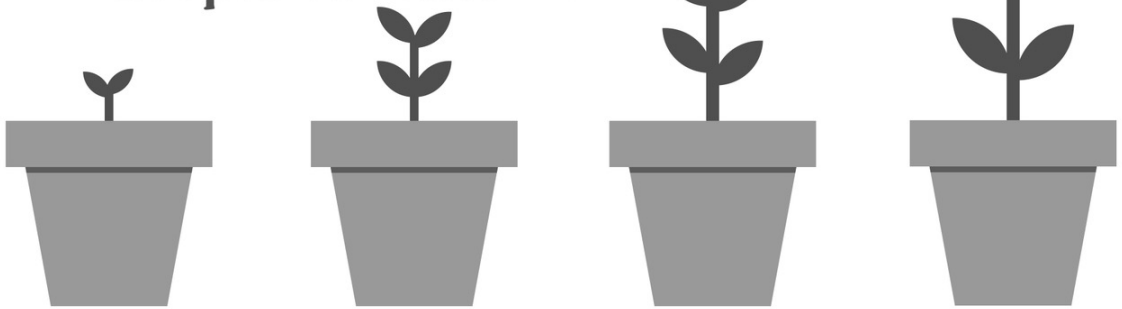




Stories of Growth

Parables from the Gospel of Luke



8:30 service + October 14, 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. Randy Mayfield
Themes and keywords: love, liberate

Prelude

Meditation on “Beautiful Savior”
Chancel Ringers

Silesian folk tune
Arr. by Cathy Moglebust

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God calls us to worship

from Psalm 50:15; 34:3, 8, 10

Liturgist: The sovereign Lord says, “Call upon me in the day of trouble
and I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

So come, magnify the Lord with me,

All: and let us exalt his name together.

Liturgist: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**All: Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him,
for those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

We praise God

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Hymnal #8

Text: Joachim Neander
translated by Catherine Winkworth
Tune: *Stralsund Gesangbuch* 1665

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.

SEATED

God calls us to confess our sin

from Joel 2:12-13

Liturgist: The Lord says: “Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping,
and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

We confess our sin

All (sing): stanzas 1, 2, and 3 of "Come, Ye Sinners"

Come, Ye Sinners

Text: Joseph Hart 1759

Tune: Anonymous 1835 and D. Gill 2015



1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and wretch - ed, weak and wound - ed,
2. Come, ye need - y, come and wel - come, God's free boun - ty
3. Come, ye wear - y, heav - y lad - en, bruised and bro - ken
4. Lo! th'in - car - nate God, a - scend - ed, pleads the mer - it
5. Saints and an - gels, join'd in con - cert, sing the prais - es



sick and sore. Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
by the fall. If you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
of his blood. Ven - ture on him, ven - ture whol - ly,
of the Lamb, while the joy - ful courts of heav - en



full of pit - y joined with pow'r: He is a - ble,
ev' - ry grace that brings you nigh. With - out mon - ey,
you will nev - er come at all. Not the righ - teous,
let no oth - er trust in - trude. None but Je - sus,
sweet - ly ech - o with his name, Hal - le - lu - jah!



he is a - ble, he is will - ing; doubt no more.
with - out mon - ey, come to Je - sus Christ and buy.
not the righ - teous, sin - ners Je - sus came to call.
none but Je - sus, can do help - less sin - ners good.
Hal - le - lu - jah! Sin - ners here may sing the same.



Liturgist: Our patient Father, you have made us your children by grace.
All: *But we have prodigal hearts, prone to wander and run from you and from all that is good for us.*

Liturgist: You offer us fatherly love and a place at your side.
All: *But we seek the illusion of freedom apart from you, and we seek our own loves and longings in other places. So we live with hearts far from you, following at a distance or running away where we think you cannot see.*

Liturgist: You offer us fatherly wisdom.
All: *But we prefer the folly of our own reckless path. Lord, have mercy on us.*

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Gracious Father, in your mercy, liberate us from believing the lie that the world's corruption will truly satisfy and from spurning the way of eternal love that you freely offer us. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes to see what is true and capture our hearts again by your great love and goodness so that we will run to you and receive the abundant life you give us in Christ.

All (sing): stanzas 4 and 5 of "Come, Ye Sinners" (previous page)

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God declares our forgiveness

from Psalm 103:8, 10-13

Liturgist: The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

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

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Text: Samuel Medley 1775

Tune: John Hatton 1793

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives;
2. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave;
3. He lives to grant me rich sup - ply;
4. He lives to si - lence all my fears;
5. He lives and grants me dai - ly breath;

what com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives!
He lives e - ter - nal - ly to save;
He lives to guide me with his eye;
He lives to wipe a way my tears;
He lives, and I shall con - quer death;

He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives all - glo - rious in the sky;
He lives to com - fort me when faint;
He lives to calm my trou - bled heart;
He lives my man - sion to pre - pare;

He lives, my ev - er liv - ing Head.
He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
He lives all bless - ings to im - part.
He lives to bring me safe - ly there.

SEATED

O, for a Closer Walk with God

Text: William Cowper
Tune: C. V. Stanford

O, for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame;
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn
and drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame,
so purer light that marks the road
that leads me to the Lamb.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

We greet one another with the peace of Christ

SEATED

God instructs us in scripture reading

Luke 15:11-32
(pew Bible pp. 874-875)

God instructs us in preaching

“The Wandering Lost Son”
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.

Though the World and Many Idols

Text: Gina Tuck 2010, © 2010 Gina Tuck

Tune: Sherdonna Denholm 2010,

© 2010 Sherdonna Denholm

1. Though the world and man - y i - dols all de - mand my loy - al - ty,
2. Though the dev - il wields temp - ta - tion like a dag - ger to my faith,
3. Though my sin, my self - ab - sorp - tion wa - ges bat - tle in my breast,
4. On that day of Christ's re - turn - ing, I shall see him as he is.

clam - or for my heart's al - le - giance, mock my faith - less pi - e - ty,
and he whis - pers ac - cu - sa - tions of my grim, un - love - ly state.
I do not the good I want to; I live not what I con - fess.
No more tears or death or sor - row; all cre - a - tion back to bliss.

God, my Fath - er, my Cre - a - tor, sought to ran - som back his own,
Christ, my Lov - er, my Re - deem - er, while I strayed, for me he died,
Yet my Sa - vior, he trans - forms me, heart of flesh, for heart of stone;
I will wor - ship him un - hin - dered and be - hold his lov - ing smile.

paid the price for my re - bel - lion, made me his by grace a - lone.
and his truth holds firm for - ev - er, right - eous - ness to me ap - plied.
his own Spir - it guides and com - forts, pleased to make in me his home.
I call him my Ab - ba, Fath - er; he calls me his pre - cious child.

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

Take My Life and Let It Be
Hymnal #379

Text: Francis R. Havergal 1874

Tune: Henri César Malan 1827

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

LOBE DEN HERREN

P. Manz

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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