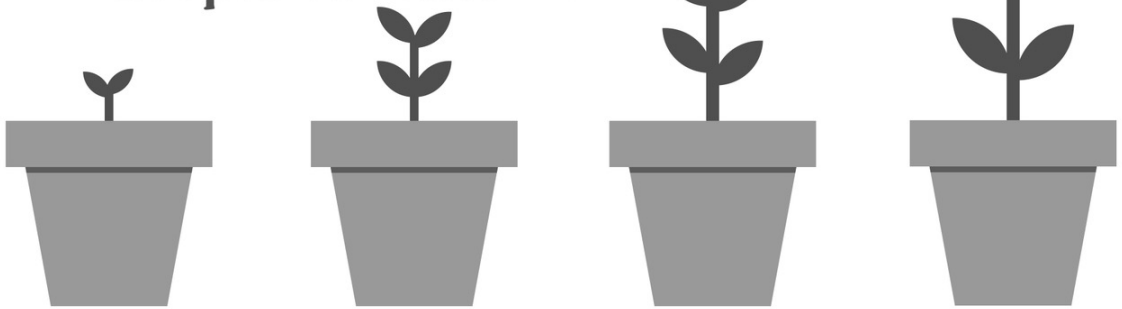




Stories of Growth

Parables from the Gospel of Luke



8:30 service + October 21, 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 Cole Lescher

Themes and keywords: self-righteous, slave, love

Prelude

Variations on Simple Gifts

Jennifer Mazzoni, flute

Aaron Copland

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God calls us to worship

from Psalm 95: 1-2, 7

Liturgist: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord.

All: *Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

Liturgist: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving.

All: *Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Liturgist: For he is our God,

All: *and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.*

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 Psalm 111:10; 51:17; Proverbs 28:14

Liturgist: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always,
but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

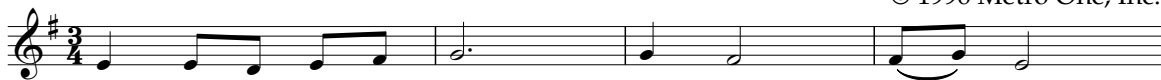
We confess our sin

All (sing): stanzas 1 and 2

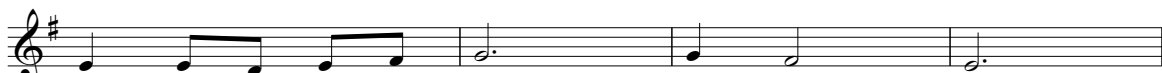
Come, O Redeemer, Come

Text and tune: Fernando Ortega 1996

© 1996 Metro One, Inc.



1. Fath - er, en - throned on high: "Ho - ly, ho - ly!"
2. Lord, save us from the dark of our stri - ving,
3. Look now up - on our need; Lord, be with us.



An - cient, e - ter - nal Light: hear our prayer. (to verse 2)
faith - less, trou - bled hearts weighed down. (to chorus)
Heal us and make us free from our sin. (to chorus)

Chorus



Come, O Re-deem-er, come; grant us mer cy. Come, O Re-deem-er, come; grant us peace.



All: *Gracious Father, we confess that we are often proud,
prone to think too highly of ourselves
and to credit ourselves when we do what is right.
And so we live with hearts far from you.
We feel entitled to be honored by others
rather than grateful to be loved by you.
We are reluctant to rejoice when others flourish,
and we bear grudges that make us slaves to bitterness.
We feel little sorrow for our sin, and we resist your gracious correction.
Lord, have mercy on us.*

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Father, forgive our self-righteously thinking too much of ourselves and too little of you. By your Spirit, lead us again to the cross of Christ where we may see our sin and your gracious love more clearly. Please set us free from bondage to a spirit of entitlement and bitter envy. Please make us more aware of our need for you and help us live daily with a spirit of humble gratitude for your generous love and mercy toward us.

All (sing): stanza 3 (previous page)

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God declares our forgiveness

from Ephesians 2:4-7

Liturgist: But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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

Before the Throne of God Above

Text: Charitie Lees Bancroft 1863

Tune: Vikki Cook 1997

© 1997 Sovereign Grace Music



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair and tells me of the guilt with -
3. Be - hold him there the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect spot - less righ - teous



plea, a great high priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for
in, up - ward I look and see him there, who made an end of all my
ness, the great un - change - a - ble I Am, the King of glo - ry and of



me. My name is grav - en on his hands; my name is writ - ten on his
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died my sin - ful soul is counted
grace. One with him - self I can - not die; my soul is pur - chased by his



heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands no tongue can bid me thence de -
free, for God the just is sa - tis - fied to look on him and par - don
blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Sav - ior and my



part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
me, to look on him and par - don me.
God, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

SEATED

God So Loved the World

Chancel Choir

Bob Chilcott

John 3:16

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son,
that who so believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

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 Nearby 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.

He Has Come to Reign

Text and tune: Sherdonna Denholm 2010



1. For the Lord our God He is strong to save, from the depths of sin,
2. In the dark-est night, on the low - est hill, though I feel Him not,
3. When ___ tri - als come and ___ weigh you down, you can catch a glimpse,
4. The ___ true and liv - ing ___ God we serve; His ___ truth will stand,



from the deep-est grave. Ev - er faith - ful is His a - bound ing Word:
He is ___ faith - ful still. He is com - ing in all His right eous ness;
you can hear the sound of the an - gels sing - ing ___ heav - en's song,
the ___ on - ly Word. He has come to reign, God's on - ly Son,



"Fear ___ not my child, I've o - ver - come the world.
I will wait for Him ___ in this lone - li - ness. **(chorus)**
say - ing "Child, hold on, ___ it ___ won't be long." **(chorus)**
Je - sus Christ, our King, ___ He has o - ver - come. **(chorus)**



Chorus: He has come to reign in our bro-ken hearts; we will doubt and fear no more.
He has come to reign in our bro-ken hearts; all we lost He will re-store.

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

Psalm 67

Text: Psalm 67; trans. James McGranahan 1890, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart 1836

1. O God, to us show mer - cy and bless us in your grace,
 2. Let all the peo - ples praise you, let all the na - tions sing;
 3. Let all the peo - ples praise you, let all the na - tions sing.

and cause to shine up - on us the bright-ness of your face,
 in ev - ery land let prai - ses and songs of glad-ness ring;
 Then earth in rich a - bun - dance to us her fruit will bring.

so that your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be known,
 for you will judge the peo - ples in truth and right-eous - ness, —
 The LORD our God will bless us, our God will bless-ing send, —

and un - to ev - 'ry peo - ple your sav - ing grace be shown.
 and on the earth all na - tions will your just rule con - fess.
 and all the earth will fear him to its re - mot - est end.

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

Trumpet Tune

A. Carter

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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