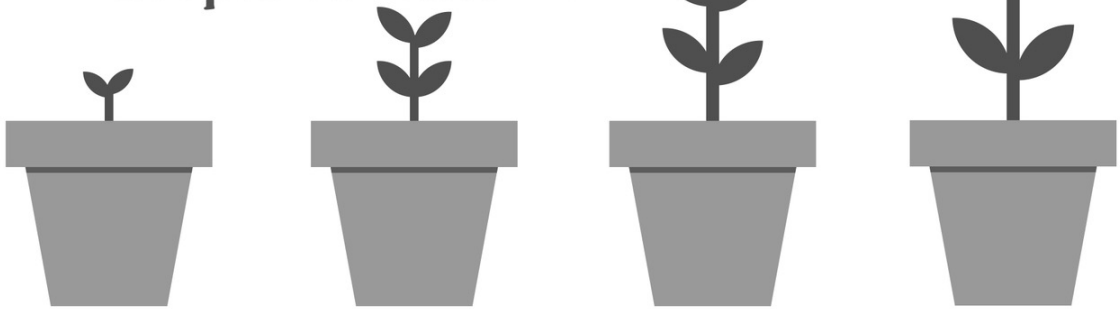




Stories of Growth

Parables from the Gospel of Luke



8:30 service + November 18, 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: morality, mercy, humble/humility

Prelude

Prelude in E-flat Major

J. S. Bach

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God calls us to worship

from Revelation 1:6; Psalm 106:1

Liturgist: Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church:
To Jesus who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood
and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father,
to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

All: *Hallelujah, Amen!*
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!

We praise God

O God, Our Help in Ages Past
Hymnal #52

Text: Isaac Watts 1719
Tune: attr. William Croft c. 1700

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 Isaiah 30:15, 18

Liturgist: For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In repentance and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." The Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all who wait for him.

We confess our sin

Lord, Have Mercy

from Parish Presbyterian Church, Franklin, TN

Text: Ancient Greek prayer

Tune: Gregory Wilbur 2009

Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -cy, have mer - cy, Lord.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -cy, have mer -cy, Lord.

Liturgist: Our gracious Father, it is easy for us to believe lies about you and about ourselves. We often think too little of your love and mercy and too highly of ourselves.

All: *We fear that you love us only if we are good enough. We are prone to believe that you accept us only if our morality merits your favor and only if our performance earns your praise. We are prone to credit ourselves when we do what is right. When we do wrong, we deal with our guilt and shame by offering you our own flawed record to earn a reward rather than humbly offering to you our need and receiving and resting in the gift of your love, the righteousness of Christ our Savior for us. Lord, have mercy on us.*

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Gracious Father, forgive us for believing lies about your love and our goodness. Lord, help us to cast all our guilt and shame upon you continually and to live each day with confident knowledge that our sins are freely and fully forgiven in Christ, that we are united to you in Christ only as a gift of your strong Fatherly love, and that your steadfast love for us as your beloved children endures forever.

Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -cy, have mer - cy, Lord.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God declares our forgiveness

from Romans 5:1-2; 8:33-34

Liturgist: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

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

**Amazing Grace
Hymnal #202**

Text: John Newton 1779
Tune: Traditional American melody
arr. Edwin Excell 1900

SEATED

Pilgrim's Hymn

Text: Michael Dennis Browne
Tune: Stephen Paulus

Chancel Choir

Even before we call on Your name to ask You, O God,
when we seek for the words to glorify You, You hear our prayer;
unceasing love, O unceasing love, surpassing all we know.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in we breathe Your name,
and through all the days that follow so fast we trust You;
endless Your grace, O endless Your grace beyond all mortal dream.

Both now and forever and unto ages and ages,
Amen.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

We greet one another with the peace of Christ

SEATED

God instructs us in scripture reading

Luke 18:9-14
(pew Bible p. 877)

God instructs us in preaching

“The Pharisee and the Tax Collector”
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.

Take My Life and Let It Be
Hymnal #379

Text: Francis R. Havergal 1874
Tune: Henry César Malan 1827

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

In Christ Alone

Text and tune: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend 2001

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1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less babe.
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the fier - est drought and storm.
This gift of love and right - eous - ness scorned by the ones He came to save.
Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain.
From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri - vings cease.
'Til on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied,
And as He stands in vic - tor - y, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand.



My Com - for - ter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
for ev - ery sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
'Til He re - turns or calls me home here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.

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 heav'n - ly hosts; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and

Ho - ly Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

Postlude

Fantasia in C Major

J. S. Bach

The flowers in the chancel are given in loving memory of Robby Maher,
from Mom, Dad, Holley, and Megan Maher Weitzel.

Central Presbyterian Church Pastoral Staff

Clay Smith — Senior Pastor

Mike Farley — Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation

Randy Mayfield — Pastor, Missions and Outreach

Eric Stiller — Associate Pastor, Church Planter — Central West End

Charles Godwin — Assistant Pastor, Congregational Care

Ben Tzeng — Assistant Pastor, Evangelism and Community

Ministry and Administrative Directors

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Jeff Brown — Director, Communications and Technology

Karen Brown — Director, Family Ministry

Julie Kraus — Director, Hospitality

Cole Lescher — Director, College Ministry

Matthew Mazzone — Director, Music Ministry

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Scott Wait

Jeff Waller

Deacons

Bob Church

Michael Dorsey

John Hamer

Mike Hentrich

Lawson Primm

Andy Roth

Ron Spielman

Don Stream

Steve Subracko

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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