

Christ Church - May 11, 2008

10:30AM Berkeley / 5:00PM Rockridge

Pentecost

REFLECTION

"The new rebel is a skeptic, and will not entirely trust anything. He has no loyalty; therefore he can never be really a revolutionist. And the fact that he doubts everything really gets in his way when he wants to denounce anything. For all denunciation implies a moral doctrine of some kind; and the modern revolutionist doubts not only the institution he denounces, but the doctrine by which he denounces it... As a politician, he will cry out that war is a waste of life, and then, as a philosopher, that all life is waste of time... The man of this school goes first to a political meeting, where he complains that savages are treated as if they were beasts; then he takes his hat and umbrella and goes on to a scientific meeting, where he proves that they practically are beasts. In short, the modern revolutionist, being an infinite skeptic, is always engaged in undermining his own mines. In his book on politics he attacks men for trampling on morality; in his book on ethics he attacks morality for trampling on men. Therefore the modern man in revolt has become practically useless for all purposes of revolt. By rebelling against everything he has lost his right to rebel against anything."

- G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*, 1909

PRELUDE

We appreciate your willingness to 1) come early out of respect for fellow worshipers and the one worshiped, 2) take seats toward the front and center to create space for latecomers, and 3) reserve seats in the rear and balcony for new parents.

CALL TO WORSHIP - Bart Garrett

All Hail the Power Of Jesus Name

All hail the power of Jesus name let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him LORD of all
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him LORD of all

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him LORD of all
Hail Him who saves you by His grace and crown Him LORD of all

Let every kindred every tribe on this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him LORD of all
To Him all majesty ascribe and crown Him LORD of all

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him LORD of all
We'll join the everlasting song and crown Him LORD of all

Edward Perronet, 1779

We Fall Down

We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus
The greatness of, mercy and love at the feet of Jesus

We cry holy, holy, holy

We cry holy, holy, holy

We cry holy, holy, holy, is the Lamb

Chris Tomlin; © 1998 worshiptogether.com songs

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.
Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and turn them into bonds of oppression.
Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Children in Kindergarten through 4th grade may be dismissed for Children's Church at this time.

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee, thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I thy true Son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Ancient Irish hymn attributed to Dallan Forgaill in the 8th century

SCRIPTURE - Psalm 8

Please remain standing for the reading of God's Word.

- ¹ LORD, our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!
 You have set your glory
 above the heavens.
- ² Through the praise of children and infants
 you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
 to silence the foe and the avenger.
- ³ When I consider your heavens,
 the work of your fingers,
 the moon and the stars,
 which you have set in place,
- ⁴ what are mere mortals that you are mindful of them,
 human beings that you care for them?
- ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the heavenly beings
 and crowned them with glory and honor.
- ⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
 you put everything under their feet:
- ⁷ all flocks and herds,
 and the animals of the wild,
- ⁸ the birds in the sky,
 and the fish in the sea,
 all that swim the paths of the seas.

⁹ LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi - The Prayer of Perspective
Jonathan St. Clair

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart. and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Words: John Stocker; Music: Sandra McCracken ©2001 Same Old Dress Music

COMMUNION

Guidelines for Reception of Communion

Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and/or reflection. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Communing

If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

God, if you are real and you care about me, please show up in my life. Open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of your character, your works, and your world that makes sense to me. If Jesus really is "the way, the truth, and the life," and, if Jesus really died for the sins of humanity, rose again from the dead, and will one day return, then I need you to persuade me and give me faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Confession of Faith - Colossians 1:15-20

The Son, Jesus Christ, is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from

among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution – 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Words of Response

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Closing Communion Prayer

Loving God,

we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament,

united us with Christ,

and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet

in your eternal kingdom.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to live and work to your praise and glory

for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Please help us by placing your plastic communion cups in the recycle bin in the back of the worship space at the conclusion of worship.

OFFERING

Checks for the offering may be made payable to Christ Church. Gifts are tax deductible with receipts issued at the conclusion of the tax year. New to Christ Church? Get connected by filling out a connection card and placing it in the offering basket.

Your Name Is Holy

You are the sovereign I Am,

Your name is holy.

You are the pure, spotless Lamb,

Your name is holy.

You are the Almighty One,

Your name is holy.

You are the Christ, God's own Son,

Your name is holy.

In Your name there is mercy for sin

There is safety within

In Your holy name.

In Your name there is strength to remain
To stand in spite of pain
In Your holy name.
In Your holy name.

Brian Doerkson; ©1999 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNITY LIFE

BENEDICTION

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Upcoming Events

Right Pathing Your Future Follow-Up Conversation - Monday, May 19 at 7pm

Perhaps this seminar leaves you with more questions than answers? How do my life history, temperament, skills, values, and passions converge to either uncover career objectives or career opportunities, and ultimately, to reveal my life purpose? We will help facilitate discussion around tables in small groups that will address this question. As the well-known Chinese Proverb reads: "I heard and I forgot. I saw and I remembered. I did and I understood." Hopefully this conversation will serve to give you action steps that will point you towards further personal development. We invite you to join us at The Gaia Arts Center (2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94704).

Summer Salon - The Bible For Everyone - Monday, June 2 at 7pm

Understanding the Bible isn't for the few, the gifted, the scholarly. The Bible is accessible; it's meant to be read and comprehended by everyone. A few essential insights into the Bible can clear up a lot of misconceptions, help you grasp the big picture of Scripture, and enable you to apply its original meaning to life in the twenty-first century. Our assumption is that there is always someone unfamiliar to Christianity, the church, and the Bible in attendance for any event that we do at Christ Church, so we will be careful in explaining technical and theological terms for those that you might invite. Childcare provided for this event contingent upon RSVP. We invite you to join us at The Gaia Arts Center (2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94704).

Day of Peace - Saturday, June 21, 9-12pm

Join us as we partner with Claremont Middle School (5750 College Ave, Oakland, CA 94618)- working in the garden, organizing supplies, and painting. For more details and RSVP, go to the Project Peace Web Site.

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Weekly Announcements

New to Christ Church?

We encourage you to take the outer worship folder home with you as it is complete with important contact information. Regular attenders may help us recycle by placing them in the re-use bin in the back.

Community Groups

We seek to create a welcoming and vibrant community by developing Community Groups of 6-12 people as the primary catalysts for nurture and mission in our church. Our groups meet weekly in homes during throughout the Bay Area. While community groups meet seasonally, they are always open and you can join one at any time. Visit our website to sign up for the group closest to you.

RUF at CAL - Thursday, 7-8:30pm

Are you a Cal student? Trying to figure out what Christianity is about? Looking to grow in your faith? We'd love for you and your friends to join us as we study the book of Genesis (Where is Jesus in Genesis?). RUF meets at the Wesley Student Center (Dana and Bancroft.) For more info contact Brent Webster (bwebster@ruf.org, 415-317-7111) or visit our website: www.rufcal.org. **RUF Year End Party-** Join us this Friday night for that 'pre-finals party' you so desperately need. We will be grilling out and hanging out on the Faculty Glade. Things get started at 5:30pm. Who knows when it will end. Good food. Good people. Good times. Bring your friends.

Parking

For those worshipping in Berkeley, parking is complimentary at the Allston Way Garage (2061 Allston Way) from 10am to 2pm. You will be responsible for covering any extra time (anything over \$3.00). Please validate your parking stub with the stamp located on the resource table in the foyer of the Gaia theater. For those worshipping in Rockridge, parking is available behind the church in the Dreyer's Parking Lot, accessible from Claremont Ave. or Chabot Road. Street parking is free on Sunday.

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WE NEED YOU... YES, YOU!!!

The church, as a volunteer organization, often falls into an unhealthy pattern and operates according to the 20/80 principle: 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work. However, when a church fails to "flex its muscles" in service and mission, it becomes weak, out-of-shape, atrophied, and selfish. Some people have gifts, don't use them, and become lazy. Others have gifts, overuse them, and get burned out. We seek to be a healthy, dynamic, and vigorous church modeled after the pattern of Jesus, who humbled himself to serve,

enrich, and exalt others. We also seek to be a church in which everyone is faithfully stewarding and exercising their passions, skills, and spiritual gifts in service to the people of God and the broader community. Thus, please note the following needs at Christ Church. If you think God may be calling you to serve in any of the following ways, please sign up at our volunteer table after the worship service or contact Anita Sunraj: anita@christchurchberkeley.org and indicate your area of interest.

Setup/Breakdown for Summer Salon on Monday Nights

Do you want to get to know people in our Christ Church community? Serving at the Summer Salon on Monday nights would be an easy way to do so. Our Community Groups will be responsible, but if you are NOT presently in a Community Group, we could use your help on any Monday night that you are available from June 2 to August 11. Please arrive around 6:15pm to help with set-up, or stay after the event to help with breakdown.

Hosts for Community Groups and Newcomer Groups for Fall 2008 & Spring 2009

Do you have a passion for community and hospitality? Do you desire to welcome people into your home and foster relationships? Do you have a living space that can comfortably accommodate 8-12 people? We want to create spaces and opportunities for small groups of people to gather in their respective neighborhoods throughout the week for spiritual and relational development. Our hope is to have groups in the following neighborhoods – Berkeley, North Berkeley, West Berkeley, San Francisco, Berkeley Hills, Albany, Rockridge, Emeryville, Piedmont, Lake Merritt, Alameda, and Walnut Creek.

Sunday Operations Coordinators for Community Groups for Fall 2008 & Spring 2009

Do you have a passion for hospitality and service? Do you desire to create a warm and welcoming environment for the church to gather in worship? Do you have skills and gifts for organizing people in order to make our worship and childcare even better? We want each of our Community Groups to have a Sunday Operations coordinator who can activate their group to serve the church on a 4-6 week rotation and make Sunday worship happen from start to finish.

Project Peace Coordinators for Community Groups for Fall 2008 & Spring 2009

Do you have a passion for mercy and justice? Do you desire to serve the broader community on a regular basis? Do you have skills and gifts for mobilizing people around a particular task? We want each of our Community Groups to have a Project Peace Coordinator who can activate their group to partner in an ongoing monthly relationship with a social service provider in or near your neighborhood.

Director(s) of Hospitality

Do you love creating environments that nurture relational and spiritual flourishing? Do you enjoy running errands, making coffee, setting the table, and leaving behind a clean space? We would greatly appreciate some relief in preparation for various events: Connection to Christ Church, Commitment to Christ Church, Community Dinners, Leader Development Saturdays, and the like.

Director(s) of Sunday Operations – Berkeley/Rockridge

Do you love protocols, spreadsheets, and other organizational tools? Are two of your favorite words “efficient” and “effective”? A Director of Sunday Operations will be responsible to 1) manage the schedule, manual, and supplies, 2) oversee and encourage coordinators, 3) organize and clean storage areas, and 4) think creatively and prayerfully about fostering a culture of hospitality and worship on Sundays.

Teaching Our Children

Teaching, encouraging, (and playing with!) our children is a vital component of the mission of Christ Church. This takes numerous volunteers including dedicated teachers. We are making plans for our summer season of Children’s Church. Many of our teachers teach September through May and take a break during the summer, which creates a wonderful opportunity to try teaching out if you have not taught in a while or have not taught before. The commitment would involve teaching once per month in June, July, and August. Our next teacher training will be Sunday, June 8th. In Berkeley we will begin at 9am (9:45 for returning teachers) and at Rockridge at 3:30pm (4:15 for returning teachers). Childcare will be provided. Please contact Angela Henson if you are interested or have any questions at angela@christchurchberkeley.org.

Audio Visual Team

Do you enjoy listening to our worship services on Sunday? Our worship service sound is made possible by an Audio/Visual Team comprised entirely of volunteers. We really need your help! If you are interested in joining the A/V ministry, or if you would just like to learn more, please talk to or email your interest to Pam Vanderzalm (Berkeley) and Ricky Shin (Rockridge) avteam@christchurchberkeley.org.

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