

Christ Church

Fourth Sunday in Epiphany

January 31, 2010
10:30am Berkeley, 5:00pm Rockridge

Gathering and Reflecting

"I am bold in saying this, but I believe that no one is ever changed, either by doctrine, by hearing the Word, or by the preaching or teaching of another, unless the affections are moved by these things. No one ever seeks salvation, no one ever cries for wisdom, no one ever wrestles with God, no one ever kneels in prayer or flees from sin, with a heart that remains unaffected."

- Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758), *Religious Affections*

"The whole law of human existence lies in this: that man be able to bow down before the infinitely great."

- Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881), *The Devils*

Prelude

Today's Worship Pastor: Eric Gilbert
Today's Teaching Pastor: Jose Figueroa

Call to Worship - Psalm 111

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Praise the LORD.
I will extol the LORD with all my heart
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

**Great are the works of the LORD;
they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

**He has shown his people the power of his works,
giving them the lands of other nations.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

**They are established for ever and ever,
enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

He provided redemption for his people;
he ordained his covenant forever—
holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.
To him belongs eternal praise.

Phos Hilaron

Hail Gladdening Light, sun so bright
Jesus Christ, end of night
Alleluia.

Hail Gladdening Light, Eternal Bright,
In evening time, 'round us shine,
Alleluia, alleluia.

Chorus

We hymn the Father, we hymn the Son,
We hymn the Spirit, wholly Divine.
No one more worthy of songs to be sung,
To the Giver of Life, all glory is Thine.

Hail Gladdening Light, such joyous Light,
O Brilliant Star, forever shine,
Alleluia, alleluia.

Chris Tomlin, David Crowder, and Louie Giglio; © 2004 worshiptogether.com songs / sixsteps music

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing
tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
sung by flaming tongues above
Praise his name I'm fixed upon it
name of God's redeeming love

Hitherto Thy love has blest me
Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me
safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
bought me with His precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal
it seal it for Thy courts above

Robert Robertson, 1758

Confession of Sin

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Silence is kept for private confession of sin.

Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleans us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

- from Psalm 51

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the Solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Words: Edward Mote, 1834, Music: William Bradbury, 1863, Arrangement Eric Gilbert 2009

Prayer of Adoration

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Welcoming One Another

Children in kindergarten through fourth grade may be dismissed for Children's Church at this time.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One.

As it was in the beginning,
Is now and forever, Amen. Amen. Amen.

Gloria Patri, 2nd cent.

Music by Karl Diggermess, 2009

The Lord's Word

The Bible (from 'papyrus, scroll'), consists of the books of the Old Testament (Law, Prophets, and Writings) and the New Testament (Gospels, Acts, Letters, and Revelation). The Scriptures are God's words – his powerful, authoritative self-expression and revelation. The prose and poetry of the various genres of the Bible tell the story of God's redeeming love for the world, making us "wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ... thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3). Listen to God's voice calling, shaping, energizing, and directing his church in her mission to bless the world and build the kingdom of God "on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6).

New Testament Lesson

A reading from Ephesians 3:14-21.

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Teaching

Series: Resolved

Title: To Exalt God

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

- *We offer our gifts in gratitude and faith in response to God's gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.*
- *The Christian church has historically taken up alms for the poor, weak, and needy during worship.*
- *Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources -time, talents, treasures - as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace, which enables the church to continue doing God's work in the church, the city, and the world.*
- *Those who are not Christians should feel under no compulsion to give; your presence is a good gift to us.*
- *Many members and regular attenders give tithes and special offerings through automatic bill payment via bank check; your bank will gladly set that up for you. Checks for the offering may be made payable to Christ Church. All gifts are tax deductible with receipts issued at the conclusion of the tax year.*

A Debtor to Mercy Alone

A debtor to mercy alone, of covenant mercy I sing;
Nor fear, with Thy righteousness on, my person and off'ring to bring.
The terrors of law and of God with me can have nothing to do;

My Savior's obedience and blood hide all my transgressions from view.

The work which His goodness began, the arm of His strength will complete;
His promise is Yea and Amen, and never was forfeited yet.
Things future, nor things that are now, nor all things below or above,
Can make Him His purpose forgo, or sever my soul from His love.

My name from the palms of His hands eternity will not erase;
Impressed on His heart it remains, in marks of indelible grace.
Yes, I to the end shall endure, as sure as the earnest is giv'n;
More happy, but not more secure, the glorified spirits in heav'n

Words: Augustus M. Toplady, 1773; Music: Eric Gilbert, 2010
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Prayers of the People

As we prepare to come to Jesus in the feast of the Lord's Supper, we also bring the church, the city, and the world before the throne and table of our King. We pray together with one heart and mind, agreeing with the prayers offered, and adding our own silent prayers.

Let us pray for the church...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the city...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the world...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give ear to our prayers, O Father,
for the sake of your son Jesus,
our only mediator and advocate.
Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The signature celebratory feast of Christians has many names: the Love Feast, the Freedom Meal, the Bread Breaking, the Lord's Supper, Communion (from 'sharing'), the Eucharist (from 'thank you'), and the Mass (from 'Go, you are sent out'). This adaptation of the Jewish Passover has always been a common, shared, joyous family meal for those who follow Jesus, looking back to his once-for-all sacrificial death and looking forward to his return. When we celebrate the feast we commune with the risen Lord Jesus who stands as our host to offer forgiveness, healing, and life; we also commune with one another, participating together in the reconciling grace of God.

We invite all who follow Jesus to partake of the Lord's Supper – Baptized Christians who confess the faith, are at peace with God and neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not yet a Christian, or if you are a Christian who is not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage your prayerful observation in the hopes that you may consider your relationship with Jesus and with his church.

The order of our celebration follows the four actions Jesus performed with the bread and wine when he gathered his disciples around the table: he took, he blessed, he broke, and he gave.

He Took

Let us all confess our faith from The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

He Blessed and Broke

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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!

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

As our Savior taught us, so we pray,
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.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

He Gave

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

- *You may come by rows, beginning with the front row, to receive Holy Communion. Eat the bread when you are ready and hold onto the cup (red wine or white grape juice) so we can drink it together as a symbol of our unity in Christ.*
- *Those who are not receiving communion are encouraged to come to the servers to receive a blessing. You may fold your arms across your chest to indicate that you will not receive bread and wine.*
- *Please place your communion cups in the recycle bin in the back of the worship space at the conclusion of the service.*

Prayers During Communion

Prayer for Truth

God, if you are real and you care about me, please show up in my life. Give me understanding of mind and experience of heart to know who you are, who I am, and what life in this world is about. If Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life," then I need you to persuade me. If it is true that "Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again," then give me faith. Amen.

Prayer for Repentance and 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 Renouncing Sin

Lord Jesus, you have called us to be poor in spirit, meek, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, merciful, and pure in heart. Grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the bread of life. Enable me to love you with my whole heart and love my neighbor as myself. Amen.

Prayer for Renewal and Commitment

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

Communion Prayer

Let us give thanks to God.
We thank you, O God,
that through Word and sacrament
you have given us your Son,
who is the true bread from heaven
and food of eternal life.
So strengthen us in your service
that our daily living may show our thanks,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Mighty To Save

Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing;
Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior;
The Hope of Nations.

Chorus

Savior, He can move the mountains,
My God is Mighty to save, He is Mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures,
Fill my life again.
I give my life to follow everything I believe in,
Now I surrender.

Shine your light and let the whole world see,
We're singing for the glory of the risen King,
Jesus.

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding, ©2006 Hillsong Publishing

Blessing and Sending

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Those who regularly worship with us may help us recycle the outer worship folder by placing them in the re-use bin in the back.

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New to Christ Church?

Christ Church exists to lead people into a deeper relationship with Christ and his Church through community for the city. We hope you will join us in the mission.

Welcome Table

At the conclusion of the worship service, please stop by the Welcome Table on your way out. You will meet someone who can give you more information about the church and help you fill out a card for the upcoming Newcomer Meal.

Newcomer Meal - Sunday, Mar 7

We invite you to join the pastors, other newcomers, and folks from the Christ Church community for a casual meal within the first several weeks or months of your first visit to Christ Church. You will get to know others in our community, hear the story, vision, and mission of Christ Church, and learn how you can be more involved in our worship and work. Fill out a Newcomer Card at the Welcome Table to let us know you are interested.

Newcomer Class - Sundays, Jan 31 to Feb 21, following worship services

After you have come to our Newcomer Meal, please join the pastors and other newcomers for a four-week, one-hour class to get to know one another, explore what we believe about Christianity, and discover how you can partner with Christ Church to put those beliefs into practice in your life, church, community, and city. We meet immediately following each worship service.

Weekly Emails about Upcoming Events

Sign up on our home page for "This Week at Christ Church," a weekly or bi-weekly email about upcoming events in the life of our community. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Upcoming Events

For a complete listing of announcements and information, please visit our announcements page and website calendar at www.christchurchberkeley.org.

New Family-Friendly Community Group - Starting Thursday, Feb 4, 6-7:30pm

Do you have to fall off the face of the earth when you have young children? Do significant relationships and a substantive spiritual life have to go out the window? The Christ Church pastors will lead a family-friendly group at College Avenue Presbyterian Church through March; we hope that by April the group will be established with everyone serving in different capacities. Dinner will be shared from 6:00-6:30; childcare will be shared among the group from 6:30-7:30 so that parents can pray and engage in a guided discussion without distractions. Kids will be home and in bed at a reasonable time. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Day of Peace - Saturday, Feb 6, 9-12pm

Join us at LeConte Elementary School in Berkeley and Claremont Middle School in Oakland, helping their PTAs with various buildings and grounds projects. Snacks and drinks will be provided; wear your work clothes & bring your friends! Please RSVP at the Project Peace Website (www.projectpeaceeastbay.org). NOTE: Both sites are family friendly; no childcare provided, but supervised children welcome.

Lenten Prayer Retreat - Mar 5-7

The season of Lent is a time to draw closer to God in prayer. This co-ed retreat will involve corporate prayer, reflections on prayer, and directed silence in which to be alone with God for reading, journaling, and prayer. The retreat will be at St. Columba Retreat House near Point Reyes. There is space for thirty people, and the cost is \$80 per person. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Parenting Roundtable - Saturday, Mar 6, 9-11am

Bart and Katie Garrett will host this interactive morning of learning and discussion at College Avenue Presbyterian Church (5951 College Avenue). This is a great opportunity to spend time with other parents in our church while discovering and discussing what it means to love our kids and families well. The cost of the event is \$8 per adult and \$3 per child, and covers brunch, childcare and materials. Please RSVP by February 25 to Emily George at emily@christchurchberkeley.org.

Teachers for Children's Church

We need teachers for Children's Church at the Rockridge worship service. You will be given curriculum and training to teach once per month or be a substitute. Please contact Ann.Ellistonann@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Baptism and Beliefs - Sundays, Time TBD

Are you wondering whether you or your child should be baptized? Do you want to explore the meaning of baptism and the basics of the historic Christian faith?

Feb 28: Watch and discuss a video about baptism

Mar 14: "I believe in God the Father"

Mar 21: "I believe in Jesus Christ"

Mar 28: "I believe in the Holy Spirit"

Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Saving Your Marriage Before (and After) It Starts – Mar to May, Day & Time TBD

Nearly married? Newly married? Can't remember how long you have been married? In this 8-week group we will view and discuss videos from Drs. Les and Lesslie Parrott. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Enroll in Financial Peace University – Mar to Jun, Day & Time TBD

This life-changing 13 week video program teaches you how to make the right decisions with your money and empowers you with the practical skills and confidence needed to achieve your financial goals and experience true financial peace. The average family pays off

\$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 in the first 91 days of Financial Peace University. Please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org if you are interested.

Weekly Worship

Morning Prayer - 7:15 to 7:45am on Tuesdays & Thursdays

Join us for morning prayer based on a simple structure of The Book of Common Prayer. You may leave early as needed or stick around for coffee and conversation. We meet at the Figueroa's home (Tuesdays - 2820 Fulton St, Berkeley 94705) and St. Clairs home (Thursdays - 5945 Keith Avenue, Oakland 94618).

Next Teaching in this Series "Resolved"

Title: To Shape the Church

Text: Ephesians 4:1-16

Teaching Notes

Christ Church Staff

Please contact office@christchurchberkeley.org to schedule an appointment with a pastor or to submit prayer requests, questions, or concerns for the Christ Church staff.

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| Rev. Bart Garrett | Lead Pastor |
| Rev. Jonathan St. Clair | Pastor of Spiritual Formation |
| Rev. Jose Figueroa | Pastor of Community Development |
| Rev. Eric Gilbert | Pastor of Worship Arts |
| Rev. Brent Webster | Pastor of Students (RUF at UC Berkeley) |
| Ann Elliston | Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Berkeley) |
| Emily George | Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Rockridge) |
| Kate Key | Administrator, Finance, Events |
| Anita Sunraj | Administrator, Office Manager |

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