

Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship
June 6, 2021

Liturgist: Scott Kennedy | Sermon: Rev. Dennis Louis | Lead Musician: Scott Finch

Meditation: Romans 9:14-24

What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills. You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?

Call To Worship: Isaiah 52:7-10

L: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

ALL: The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

L: Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

ALL: The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: This is the Word of the LORD!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn: God Himself is With Us | 382

1. God himself is with us: let us now adore him, and with awe appear before him.
God is in his temple—all within keep silence, prostrate lie with deepest reverence.
Him alone God we own, him, our God and Saviour; praise his Name for ever.

2. God himself is with us: hear the harps resounding! See the crowds the throne surrounding!
"Holy, Holy, Holy"—hear the hymn ascending, angels, saints, their voices blending!
Bow thine ear to us here: hear, O Christ, the praises that thy church now raises.

3. O thou fount of blessing, purify my spirit; trusting only in thy merit,
like the holy angels who behold thy glory, may I ceaselessly adore thee,
and in all, great and small seek to do most nearly what thou lovest dearly.

Pastoral Prayer Followed by The Lord's Prayer

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.

Responsive Psalter Reading: Psalm 72

L: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

ALL: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

L: May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

ALL: In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth!

L: May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

ALL: May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him! For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.

L: He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

ALL: Long may he live; may the gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!

L: May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field!

ALL: May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!

L: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

ALL: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

Song of Preparation: You Shall Go Out With Joy!

You shall go out with joy and be let forth with peace.

The mountains and the hills will break forth before you.

There will be shouts of joy and the trees of the fields will clap, will clap their hands.

And the trees of the fields will clap their hands; the trees of the fields will clap their hands; the trees of the fields will clap their hands, while you go out with joy. (3x)

Sermon: "Being Gracious"

Word: Philippians 4:8-9

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. **9** What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Questions for Reflection:

1. The word "just" in the passage means "what is the right thing to do." How do we as believers determine what is the right thing to do? If God's word doesn't give explicit instructions, how do we determine what is the right thing to do? What other methods or means can we use to determine the right thing to do?
2. By encouraging the Philippians to consider what is the just or right thing to do in every situation, Paul is challenging their cultural perceptions of what the law allows and what Christians are supposed to do. Can you think of some things that are lawful in our culture but wouldn't be the right thing to do biblically?
3. We often use the term, "being gracious" to describe doing the right thing. What does it mean to be gracious and how does it connect to the word "just" in Phil. 4:8?
4. In Phil. 4:2-3, Paul encouraged Euodia and Syntyche to "agree in the Lord," he encouraged the true companions to assist with reconciliation. How ought the principle of being gracious/doing the right thing help to resolve this conflict?
5. Would those close to you, your friends, church family, or co-workers describe you as a gracious person—not just a person who obeys the law or a rule follower—but as a gracious person (someone who is forgiving, seeks reconciliation, willing to go above and beyond to reconcile)?
6. How did Jesus model graciousness in his earthly ministry? Give very specific examples.
7. What lessons have you learned this past year, in view of the pandemic, on being an instrument of God's grace in the world?

The Gathering of Tithes & The Sending Hymn: I Know Whom I Have Believed | 705

1. I know not why God's wondrous grace to me he has made known,
nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.

Refrain: But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able
to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."

2. I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
nor how believing in his Word wrought peace within my heart. (*Refrain*)

3. I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing men of sin,
revealing Jesus through the Word, creating faith in him. (*Refrain*)

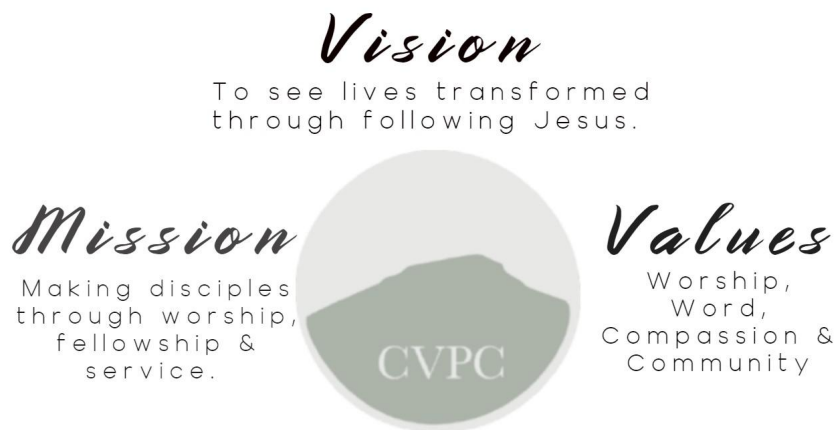
4. I know not what of good or ill may be reserved for me,
of weary ways or golden days, before his face I see. (*Refrain*)

5. I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noontide fair,
nor if I walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air. (*Refrain*)

Benediction: Revelation 1:4-6

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first born from the dead, and the rulers of the kings of the earth.....*so that all the peoples will say ...*

ALL: Amen, our LORD is faithful; praise the LORD!



Please join us in wishing a Happy Birthday to the following CVPC family:

Samuel Staven & Jessica Hansen | June 6

Kelly Henry | June 9

Elijah Sterkel | June 10

Liz Topping | June 12

Happy Anniversary to Bobby & Laura Dueitt on June 5, and to Brad & Kelli Voyles on June 6!

CVPC would love to celebrate your special day with you! If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, please use the QR code below or email secretary@chattvalleypca.com to update your information.

Bobby & Lisa Vines would like to express their appreciation for the sacrificial love shown to them in regards to their recent wedding. The love and support shown during this time has been a reminder of God's love and grace, and they are both humbled and thankful to the CVPC family.

How to Connect with CVPC

**Please visit www.chattvalleypca.com and click *connect with us*.
Please sign in to update your directory information through this portal.**

