

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Order of Worship



A Presbyterian Church in America
3rd year anniversary of COTC

CHURCH OF THE CROSS EXISTS AS A COMMUNITY
CREATED AND SUSTAINED BY GOD'S WORD:
RENEWED THROUGH WORSHIP,
NURTURED THROUGH FELLOWSHIP,
EQUIPPED THROUGH SHEPHERDING,
EXTENDED THROUGH CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT.

Gathered to Worship: The Triune God Renews His People

August 22, 2010 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 AM

Salvation in the Old Testament is not about individuals trying to gain admittance to a place called heaven after death; it is about gathering people in communion, thereby restoring the good creation that sin and violence have torn apart..., [and the] theme of gathering does not change in the New Testament; the only change is that the promises of the Old Testament are said to be fulfilled in Jesus Christ.”

- William Cavanaugh

We all want something beautiful
I wish I was beautiful...
Pass me a bottle, Mr. Jones
Believe in me
Help me believe in anything
I want to be someone who believes

Mr. Jones by Counting Crows

[† Congregation Stands]

CALL TO WORSHIP †

based on Psalm 34:1-8

Minister: We will bless the Lord at all times,

People: God's praise is always on our lips; in the Lord our souls shall make their boast.

Minister: The humble shall hear and be glad. Glorify the Lord with us. Together let us praise God's name.

People: We sought the Lord and were heard, from all our terrors set free.

Minister: Look toward God and be radiant; let your faces not be ashamed. When the poor cry out, the Lord hears them and rescues them from all their distress.

People: Taste and see that the Lord is good. They are happy who seek refuge in God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION †

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH †

from Colossians 1:15-20

People: Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel*

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
And drive away the shades of night
And pierce the clouds and bring us light

Chorus

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All people in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill all the world with heaven's peace

Chorus

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus

Based on 13th Century Latin plainsong

WHY SHOULD I FEAR?

My soul you are immersed in sin,
So deep that none can trace;
Look to the ransom God decreed
To clear the guilty race

*Had I the guilt of all the world
He's able to forgive;
Why should I fear? The debt is paid,
If only I'd believe.*

The atonement once made on the tree,
Can balance many more
Than all the sins of Adam's race,
If numbered over and over.

Chorus

He paid the mighty sum and died,
For sinners yet unborn;
From men, the works of his own hands,
He suffered shame and scorn.

Chorus

*Words - William Williams, 1717-1791
Music - Brian T. Murphy and Benj Pocta, 2006*

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

People: I, a poor sinner, acknowledge before you, my God and Creator, that I have terribly and in many ways sinned against you, not only outwardly, but much more with inward blindness, unbelief, doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, covetousness, envy, hatred, malice, and other sinful affections, as you, my Lord and God, know well, and I cannot deeply enough deplore.

But I repent of these things, and am sorry for them, and heartily ask you for mercy, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

(Silently pray to the Lord, confessing your sins)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE & PARDON

Galatians 5:1

Minister: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

RESPONDING IN SONG †

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROCK OF AGES (WHEN THE DAY SEEMS LONG)

Rock of Ag---es, when the day seems long
From this labor and this heartache, I have come
The skies will wear out, but you remain the same
Rock of Ag---es, I praise your name

Rock of Ages, you have brought me near
You have poured out your life-blood, your love, your tears
To make this stone heart come alive again
Rock of Ages, forgive my sin.

*Rock of Ag---es. Rock of Ag---es.
Bind your children until the kingdom comes.
Rock of Ag---es your will be done*

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest,
My desperate need for such a Savior I confess
Pull these idols out from my heart embrace.
Rock of Ages, I need your grace.

Rock of Ages, broken scorned for me.
Who am I that you would die to make me free?
To give me glory, (you) took the death and pain.
Rock of Ages, my Offering.

Chorus

Rock of Ages, "It is done!" you cried.
The curtain's torn and I see justice satisfied
Now write your mercy, on my heart and hands.
Rock of ages, in faith I stand.

Rock of Ages, my great hope secure.
Your promise holds just like an anchor to my soul
Bind your children with cords of love and grace.
Rock of Ages, we give you praise.

Chorus

*Words by Sandra McCracken
Music by Kevin Twit*

DOXOLOGY (ROMANS II)

Oh, the depths of the riches
Of the wisdom and knowledge of God
How unsearchable His judgments,
How untraceable his paths.

Who knows the mind of our God?
And who can bring counsel to Him?
Who has given to God, that God should repay?
For from Him, through Him,
To Him is everything.
To God be the glory forever and ever,
To God be the glory forever, Amen.

Words & Music: Andrew Peterson

HEARING GOD'S WORD (*Lectio Continua*)

John 1:29-34

(*Lectio Continua* is publicly reading Scripture by starting at the beginning of a particular book and working through consecutive readings to the end. Please listen to God's Word rather than reading along.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we can not ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

Leader: Let us pray.

Here, the leader intercedes for the congregation, the community, and the world at large.

People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name.
Your kingdom come; Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And 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, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

Each week we pray for a local church. Pray for them and their pastor(s) that they might boldly proclaim the truth of the Gospel, lift high the name of Jesus Christ and minister to their community.

This week, please pray for: First Baptist Church, Wimberely--Pastor Mike Phillips

Genesis 3

What is a covenant? A bond in blood sovereignly administered.

3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" 4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

11 He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel."

16 To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."

17 And to Adam he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,'

cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

19 By the sweat of your face

you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return."

20 The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. 21 And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" 23 therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

WE COME TO HIS TABLE

All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. You will be dismissed forward by the usher. If you are not baptized, but would like to participate, come forward and cross your arms, and you will receive a blessing from the Minister. If you cannot come forward, please notify an usher, and we will serve you at your seat. When you approach the Table please cup your hands to receive the elements and hold the elements until instructed.

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the table.

OFFERING

In response to God's grace to us through the death and resurrection of His Son, we give offerings and alms (gifts) to His church with thanksgiving and joy. As you return to your seat from the Lord's Table there is a box on the table if you desire to give.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8: 9

Please put prayer cards in the offering box.

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 the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my ebenezer
Hither by thine help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed his precious blood

Oh 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

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758

THE BENEDICTION †

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Minister: May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

People: Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.

*Immediately following the service, please join us for a time of coffee, refreshments and fellowship.
Children ages 3-9 are dismissed directly after worship to the entrance for Worship Training.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Three years ago in August, COTC had our first Sunday morning worship service. We are so thankful for God's faithfulness to us and ask that you continue to pray for us!

COLLEGE NIGHT

College Night kicks off for the fall **tonight** at the Scotts' home in Wimberley. We will begin at 6 p.m. and have pizza, salad and other Italian cuisines. We will be hanging out, watching the movie 'Doubt' and discussing it together. The movie is rated PG-13 for thematic material. Invite a friend.

CLEARANCE BOOKS

This is the last week for the clearance books on the Book Table. Books are half off or more. Check them out!

FEAST & FELLOWSHIP

We will be gathering at the Maltby's home in New Braunfels after worship on **Sunday, September 5th** for our first Feast & Fellowship of the fall (or late summer if you prefer). Maps will be available next Sunday.

Families, please bring a main dish large enough to feed your family and another, along with a side dish or dessert. Singles, please bring one of these items. We will have lemonade and water to drink. Consider inviting a friend.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Starting in September, we will be starting community groups in Kyle, San Marcos and New Braunfels. They will be meeting once a month for an hour on Sunday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Below are the host families for each group. The first meeting will be on **September 19th**.

Kyle: Jerry & Nancy Shelton

San Marcos: Nick & Megan Collins

San Marcos: Joey & Jennifer Thompson

New Braunfels: Scott & Courtney Holder

Mark your calendars! We will have more details and maps in the upcoming weeks.

SERVING TODAY

Scripture Reader: Scott Price
Lead in Prayer: Josh Simmons
Setup/Tear-down/Greeting: Sheltons; Holders; Shelley Carlson; Jordan Bednar; Greg Smith
Nursery 1: Kenneth & Nicole Dean
Nursery 2/Worship Training: Kelsey Petersen, Forrest Short
Sound: David Barnard

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Scripture Reader: Andrew & Rayla Geppert
Lead in Prayer: David Maltby
Setup/Tear-down/Greeting: Barnards, Wheelers, Peggy Derby, Teutons
Nursery 1: Angie Scott, Megan Cox-Artemis
Nursery 2/Worship Training: Nick & Megan Collins
Sound: Greg Smith

AUGUST 22nd GIVING	\$2,054.80
AUGUST GIVING TO DATE	\$7,108.65
2010 MONTHLY BUDGET EXPENSES	\$14,390.87
GIVING NEEDED TO MEET AUGUST BUDGET	\$7,282.22

*Outside giving from other churches and individuals allow us to meet our budget. We have an open financial policy. Copies of the budget are available on request.

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Church of the Cross supports various ministries financially including those below as well as other needs of the local community.

Campus Crusade for Christ Craig & Ginger Corley

Hays County Food Bank

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) in the following campuses:

University of Texas, RUF International: Derick McDonald

University of Texas: Derek McCollum

Texas A&M: Ben Hailey

San Marcos Baptist Academy

Seton Medical Center Hays

We have donated carseats, clothing, diapers and other baby supplies for mothers in need.

Southwest Church Planting Network

The relief effort in Haiti

True Vineyard

Building a well in Rwanda.

Take time to prepare your heart, mind and body for worship.

Visit COTC's website and download next week's Order of Worship on Saturday.

You can find it at the following url: www.cotc.info/Liturgy.html

Familiarize yourself and your family with the Order of Worship, the Songs, the Prayers, the Scriptures.

Ask that God would use this practice to cultivate in your family preparedness for worship.



CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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