

Sunday, April 5, 2009

Reflections

“Worship is the activity of the new life of the believer in which, recognizing the fullness of the Godhead as it is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ and His mighty redemptive acts, He seeks by the power of the Holy Spirit to render to the living God the glory, honor, and submission which are His due.” - Robert Rayburn

"When God has something very great to accomplish for His church, it is His will that there should precede it, the extraordinary prayers of His people; as is manifest by Ezek. 36, 37, together with the context. And it is revealed that when God is about to accomplish great things for His Church, He will begin by remarkably pouring out the spirit of grace and supplication (Zach. 12:10). ...I should think the people of God in this land would be in the way of their duty to do three times as much fasting and prayer as they do." - Jonathan Edwards, from his *Thoughts on Revival*, Part 5

Sunday Worship Service Participants

April 5

Greeter - Les Mason

Childcare Workers - Pat Newman and Elizabeth Demeusy

Scripture Reading - Jonathan Claggett

April 12

Greeter - Jonathan Claggett

Childcare Workers - Michael Sterrett and Janet Surprenant

Scripture Reading - Allison Wakefield

April 19

Greeter - Elizabeth Demeusy

Childcare Workers - Laura Sterrett and Bill Townsend

Scripture Reading - April Claggett

Service of Praise

Prelude

We invite you to prepare your heart for the worship of our God.

***Call to Worship**

Zechariah 9:9, 10b

*Leader: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle
and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

People: He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

***Hymn of Praise**

Fairest Lord Jesus (verses 1, 2, 4)

Number 170 in Trinity Hymnal

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn of Praise**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Number 32 in Trinity Hymnal

**Congregation standing*

Confession of Sin

O Lord, who on this day entered the rebellious city
that later rejected you,
we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem's,
that our faith is often more show than substance,
that our hearts are in need of cleansing.
Have mercy on us, Son of David, Savior of our lives.
Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are,
trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken,
to welcome our praises, and to receive us as your own. Amen.

Worship Sourcebook (Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, © 2004, CRC Publications.)

A Moment of Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become
the righteousness of God.

* +Hymn of Thanks

The Power of the Cross

See next page

*Congregation standing

+Young children may be dismissed at this time.

Call to Commitment

Collection of Our Gifts to God and to His Church

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a (NIV)

- ⁴ The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.
He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being taught.
- ⁵ The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears,
and I have not been rebellious;
I have not drawn back.
- ⁶ I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting.
- ⁷ Because the Sovereign LORD helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.
- ⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!
Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!
- ⁹ It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.
Who is he that will condemn me?

Prayer of Intercession

Sermon

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem

John 12:12-50 (NASB)

¹²On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,

¹³took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel."

¹⁴Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written,

¹⁵"FEAR NOT, DAUGHTER OF ZION; BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING, SEATED ON A DONKEY'S COLT."

¹⁶These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.

¹⁷So the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him.

¹⁸For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign.

¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him."

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast;

²¹these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

²²Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came and told Jesus.

²³And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

²⁴"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵"He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.

²⁶"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

27"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

28"Father, glorify Your name " Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."

29So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, "An angel has spoken to Him."

30Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes.

31"Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

32"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."

33But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.

34The crowd then answered Him, "We have heard out of the Law that the Christ is to remain forever; and how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?"

35So Jesus said to them, "For a little while longer the Light is among you Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.

36"While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light " These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them.

37But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him.

38This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?"

39For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah said again,

40"HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE HARDENED THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED AND I HEAL THEM."

41These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him.

42Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue;

(continued on next page)

⁴³for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

⁴⁴And Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me.

⁴⁵"He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me.

⁴⁶"I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.

⁴⁷"If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.

⁴⁸"He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

⁴⁹"For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.

⁵⁰"I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me."

***Song of Preparation**

Empty and Beautiful

by Matt Maher

**Congregation standing*

Service of Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

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 which proclaims the gospel and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, it is important that you carefully consider the claims of the gospel and the grace that is offered through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to talk with an elder of the church and spend this time now in prayer and meditation on the scriptures in the bulletin.

Scripture Verses for Those Not Communing

Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

- Isaiah 53:4-6

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

- John 3:16-18

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

- John 14:6

Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Romans 6:6-8, 22-23

***Confession of Faith**

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done in 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, for ever.
Amen.

***Fairest Lord Jesus (verse 4)**

Number 170 in Trinity Hymnal

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

***Benediction**

Announcements

(Please be seated)

**Congregation standing*

Announcements*

Good Friday Service: This Friday, April 10, at 7 p.m., we will be joining the First Congregational Church of Merrimack for a Good Friday service. The church is located at 7 Baboosic Lake Rd., Merrimack, NH 03054.

Romania Mission Trip Offering: This May, a group of church members from our Presbytery (NH, VT, ME), will be going to Romania to work with orphanages and help with some building projects. Our mercy offering on Sunday, April 19 will go towards the mission trip to Romania.

George Whitefield Historical Tour: Are you interested in church history? If the answer is yes, then plan to join Jason this summer to tour Exeter, NH and Newburyport, MA and visit the historic sites of the great evangelist, George Whitefield. We are looking at either July 11 or July 18. Let Jason know if you are interested or would like more information.

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Life Together	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
Wednesday	6 p.m.	Sunday Night Live	Church office
	6:30 p.m.	Small Group	Claggett house
	6:30 p.m.	Small Group	Wakefield house

Budget Information:

Nine (9) Months June 2008 thru February 2009:

Regular Giving (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$55,468.40
Fund Raising	\$15,780.00
Total Giving (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$71,248.40
Actual Expenses (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$71,157.79
Adjusted Budget (1)	\$76,526.06
Excess to Expense (Income - Expense)	\$90.61
Shortfall to Budget (Income - Budget)	(\$5,277.66)

(1) Original budget minus Portuguese Outreach & 3 months office rent

**If you have any announcements, please contact the Oquists.
Phone: 603-881-3808, Email: announcements@nashuapca.org*

Kingdom Focused Prayer

Pray for God's name to be honored

- Our worship service would be honoring to him
- Thankful for God's provision of a facility to worship in and to be diligent in our care of it so that people will see Christ in us

Pray for His Kingdom to be extended

- For our friends and neighbors to come to know Christ
- That Nashua be changed to reflect the city of God
- For the fatherless, widows, orphans and homeless to be cared for by believers
- For justice to be established in Nashua in our courts and streets
- Pray for the work of the Mission To North America committee of our Presbytery as we seek to plant more churches in Northern New England.
- For the opportunity to meet and get to know more people of Nashua because the office is located in a downtown professional building.

Pray for His people to be fed and nurtured

- For the Word to be preached faithfully
- That the witness and ministry of our church leadership would be empowered by the Spirit
- That all those who hear would be receptive to the Holy Spirit
- Pray for the elder/deacon training

Pray for His forgiveness to be felt and extended to others

- That we become more aware of our sinfulness
- That we be burdened with the things that burden God
- That we may experience the width, length, height, and depth of God's love for us
- For us to be bold in sharing our faith

Pray for His Bride, the church, to be purified and kept from temptation

- That God would sanctify his church
- That God would guard us from discouragement
- That God would protect us from gossip and complaining
- For God to strengthen us in faith, that we might believe His promises in the gospel, particularly His delight in saving the lost

Mercy Ministry Opportunities

Care Net Pregnancy Center of Nashua
883.9355

Supplies

Baby items, diapers, etc.

Upper Room Compassionate Ministries (Katie)
595.2039

Volunteers

For sorting clothes or bagging food for 1 hour or more

Supplies

Clothing, particularly socks (mens, childrens), shampoo, toothpaste, diapers (size 4 &5), outdoor clothing, hats, mittens, etc.

"Only the ministry of the church of Jesus Christ and millions of "mini-churches" (Christian homes) throughout the country can attack the roots of social problems." - Tim Keller, *Ministries of Mercy*