

Th come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Road our Maker!

For He is our God!

Zsalm 95:6-7a

MARCH 12, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Greeting

Call to Worship Psalm 90:1

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Invocation

* Hymn # 30

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Call to Confession Psalm 51:4

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon Psalm 51:1-2

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

* Hymn Supplement pg. 57

"God Be Merciful to Me (Ps. 51)"

* Old & New Testament Scripture Reading:

Law: Genesis 17:1-14 (A Sign for Abraham)

Prophets: 2 Samuel 7:18-29 (Prayer Thankful for the Covenant)

Gospels: Luke 11:29-32 (Sign for Unbelief)

* Pastor: This is the Word of our God.

* Congregation: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever.

Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 29 & 30

Q. Why is the Son of God called "Jesus," meaning "savior"?

A. Because he saves us from our sins, and because salvation should not be sought and cannot be found in anyone else.

Q. Do those who look for their salvation in saints, in themselves, or elsewhere really believe in the only savior Jesus?

A. No. Although they boast of being his, by their actions they deny the only savior, Jesus. Either Jesus is not a perfect savior, or those who in true faith accept this savior have in him all they need for their salvation.

Pastoral Prayer

* Hymn Supplement pg. 1

"In Christ Alone"

Tithes and Offerings

^{*} Indicates Please Stand if Able

* Hymn # 735 "Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end, amen, amen.

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sermon Series: Judges

* Prayer for Illumination

* Sermon Text Judges 6:25-40

* **Pastor:** Thus far the reading of God's holy Word. And may God add His blessing to the reading of His Word.

* Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Title: "The LORD's Signs"

Pastor Michael Mock

Sermon Outline: Next page

Prayer for Transformation

Lord's Supper: "The Sign Like No Other"

* Eucharistic Hymn # 246

"Man of Sorrows! What a Name"

* Benediction

* Departing Hymn # 731

"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.

Sermon Text: *Judges* 6:25-40 "The LORD's Signs"

The LORD is faithful to restore true worship.

- 1. Obedience (vv. 25-27, 36-40)
 - a Doubts
 - i. Nighttime Obedience (vv. 25-27)
 - ii. Fleece (vv. 36-40)
 - b. Faith (Heb. 11:32)

a. **Application:** God does not condemn but corrects us who doubt yet believe.

2. Opposition (vv. 28-35)

- a. Worship Wars (vv. 28-29)
 - i. From within
 - ii. From without
 - iii. **Application**: Be committed to true worship despite all opposition.
 - iv. Application: Out with the desecration, in with the prescription.
- b. Worship then War (vv. 28-29)
 - i. **Application:** The Son restores true worship and reinvigorates the soul for spiritual warfare.

3. Outer garment (vv. 32, 34)

- a. Clothed in the Spirit (v. 34)
- b. Named (v. 32)
 - i. Jerubbaal
 - ii. Christian
- c. Application
 - i. Spirit-clothed obedience
 - ii. Spirit-clothed against opposition
 - iii. Spirit-clothed worship

3-12-23	Nursery S	3-19-23	
Sunday School	Carling & Stephannie M	Sunday School	Carling & Hannah
Worship Service	Keith & Joan	Worship Service	Molly C & Jodie

Today & Weekly

Today

ABF: 9:30am – "The Anatomy & Analysis of the Sermon." From 3-19 through 4-9 we will have a study called "Conflict and Reconciliation"

Sunday School: 9:30am **Worship:** 10:45am

Cross Creek Open Bible Fellowship: 5-7pm at the Adams' home

Weekly

Men's Bible Study: On break until 4-8-23, when a Study of 1 John will begin.

Women's Bible Study: Knowing the Bible: Ephesians.

<u>Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm</u> (no childcare) <u>Thursdays, 10am</u> (with childcare)

Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 7:00pm (childcare provided)

Evening Worship: 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings (and 5th when applicable), 6:30pm. On the first Sunday monthly at 5:30pm, a Fellowship Meal will precede the service and on the 3rd Sunday, the Lord's Supper will be served.

Cross Creek Open Bible Fellowship: <u>2nd & 4th Sundays, 5-7pm</u>. Please come to the Adams' home and share a meal, Bible Study and fellowship.

Women's Trail Walk and Brunch - Saturday, March 18th, 8am

Women are invited to an early morning trail walk and brunch <u>next Saturday, March 18th at 8am</u>. There is no need to RSVP; just plan to meet in the parking lot next to Clark Park (631 Sherman Drive) to participate. Following the walk, we will meet at Panera Bread on Ramsey Street (4807 Ramsey Street). This is a great opportunity to include our older daughters. Babies in strollers are also welcome to attend.

Ministry Opportunity

God calls us to help our brothers and sisters in need, throughout His entire word. In Proverbs 3:27, God says, "Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due when it is in your power to act." And in Galatians 6:2, our gracious God tells us to "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." The Diaconate is aware of certain needs among our church family and is asking for assistance in helping them. One example is a person who needs an occasional ride to and from Cary. Jesus says, "if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." So, if you are willing to serve God in serving others, maybe it's just a little time to spare, please reach out to a Deacon to help us serve those in need.

Churchwide Spring Clean-Up Day

The Diaconate has scheduled a Churchwide Spring Clean-Up Day for <u>Saturday</u>, <u>April 1</u>, <u>from 9am – Noon</u>, with a pizza lunch afterwards. There will be a list of jobs that all ages can help out with, so grab the whole family and come out to help. If you have yard tools, a wheelbarrow, etc., please bring them along.

Moment for Missions

Dear Partners in Ministry.

We are sending the March update out early as Anita and I are leaving for a month to minister in Belize, where we served for many years. When we go it is like going "home" to see our "other" family. We flew on Tuesday, February 28, and will return on March 31.

Please pray for safety in our travels, a smooth time going through customs and that we will not have any delays. Pray for good health for us, the two groups of volunteers serving at the clinic, and the clinic staff.

Garry will be working with the church leaders. There are 17 Presbyterian churches, some of which are "mission" churches, meaning they are not particularized and do not have established elders or deacons, and have a pastor who is responsible for one to two other churches. There are only 4 ordained pastors plus MTW missionary, Ray Call, several local ruling elders and missionary ruling elder, John Stodghill, to minister to the 17 churches. Garry wants to encourage the churches to ordain more ruling elders. Some mission churches have responsible men who are candidates to serve as elders.

Pray that Garry, along with Ray Call and John Stodghill, can encourage the church leadership to make the necessary preparations to see more ruling elders ordained and that pastor candidates would be sought and trained in a timely manner. More pastors and elders are needed to assist the current pastors who are responsible to lead services at multiple churches each week. Pray that the Reformed Leadership Institute of Belize will have wisdom for the best way to teach and lead future church leaders and that students will be eager to study and complete the required work.

Anita will be assisting in the Presbyterian Medical Clinic Monday – Friday. The clinic is a walk-in clinic but some have appointments to see the physician, get blood drawn for lab work or medicine refills, or see a nurse for procedures like breathing treatment, women's screening and wound care. There are 2 groups of visitors coming to work in the clinic in March: one from Arden, NC – doctors who will see patients and do health screening, another family is coming the middle of March who may be possible MTW candidates to serve as medical missionaries.

Pray for spiritual care of the patients that are seen and that the Christian patients would be encouraged and the unbelievers would be spurred by the Holy Spirit to consider becoming an evangelical and learn what it means to have a personal relationship with Christ. Arturo Ku is the clinic chaplain—pray that he would be sensitive to the Spirit's leading to share openly and pray with those who are spiritually needy.

Pray for Anita as she directs the visitors to be effective in medical and spiritual ministry. Pray that the visitors and Belizean staff would all actively be involved in patients' relationship with Christ, our precious Redeemer.

Thank you for your faithful support in both prayer and financial gifts! Please find the March Belize Prayer Calendar on your church's Missions Wall.

In His service, Garry and Anita