Let Us Worship God!

January 5, 2025—10:30 AM

Second Sunday After Christmas

A Hybrid Worship Experience In-Person and Online

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough; Worship Leader: Marjorie Wetherill; Message: Pastor, Rev. David Wenker; Worship Production: Norris Clark.

Welcome! Worship Your Way!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com

Message Preview

Pastor David Wenker's message is "***Forgiveness: God's Spiritual Healing***". There is no more life changing, healing, cleansing experience than giving and receiving forgiveness. It is the heart of our relationship with God. It is at the heart of our relationship with other people. We bump into each other in many ways and without forgiveness we will accumulate resentment and it will poison our hearts. We'll take a fresh look at what forgiveness means and have opportunity to consider who we need to forgive.

Music Preview

"Angels from the realms of glory" was first published on Christmas Eve 1816 in the Sheffield Iris. The hymn has a sense of urgency and excitement, magnified by the use of imperative verbs throughout, especially in the refrain: "Come and worship . . ."

The story of the hymn "Jesus Paid It All" involves a chance meeting between a songwriter and a church organist. The hymn is a reminder that Jesus' sacrifice makes us free from sin and that we should find

our strength in him alone. It references Bible verses such as Romans 5 and Isaiah 1:18.

The hymn “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” was written by Miss Herklots in June 1966. Herklots was inspired to write the hymn after noticing the deep roots of weeds in her nephew's garden, which she compared to the bitterness and resentment that can hinder a Christian's growth.

Prelude — Jayne McDonough

Welcome: — Rev. David Wenker

God Welcomes All (unison) (Sing)

God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God’s love is strong
and it never ends.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

(Psalm 42)

As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?
My tears have been my food day and night**,**
while men say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”
These things I remember as I pour out my soul; how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

Thank you for your invitation to worship you. We worship you not because you need to be worshiped, but because we need to worship you. Open our spiritual eyes to see the wonder of who you are. Teach us today the richness of your love and grace toward us. Help us to feel the depth of your creative and redemptive power, that we might worship you in spirit and in truth. We pray in Jesus name, AMEN

GATHERING HYMN "*ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY*" BLUE HYMNAL #22

1. Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

2. Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

3. Sages leave your contemplations
Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations
Ye have seen His natal star
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

4. All creation join in praising
God the Father Spirit Son
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Call to Confession (Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-16)

Wisdom delivers a holy people from a nation of oppressors. She enters the soul of a servant of the Lord, withstanding dread kings with wonders and signs. As we confess that our strivings for Holy wisdom fall short, we lament the

oppression of the nations. As we confess that we don't always act as though our servant souls are imbued by God's wisdom, we lament the power of dread kings. Let us offer, therefore, prayers of lament and confession.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

We confess our resistance to forgive those who hurt us. We would rather hold onto our resentment and seek revenge, than give forgiveness. Our hurt makes it hard to let go of the debt we feel we are owed. Grant us courage to give to you our hurt, our resentment, and our desire for some payment. Forgive us and give us courage to receive the forgiveness you offer to us. We pray in Jesus name. AMEN

Silent Reflection

Hear the Words of Assurance (responsive)

One: Friends hear the good news of the gospel. The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners.

Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The Gloria -

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 for Illumination (John 1:1-5)

In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God and the Word was God. All things came into being through Him. As we read and reflect on your Scriptures, O Lord, we pray that your Spirit will move among us so that we might hear your Word, your light shining in the darkness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Matthew 18: 21-35

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

“At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Second Scripture Reading: Colossians 3: 12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Message: "*Forgiveness: God's Spiritual Healing"* **Rev. David Wenker**

Prayer and Silent Reflection

Profession of Faith - The Apostles Creed (Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the

Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering of Our Gifts - (Ephesians 1:3-4)
"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love." We respond to the gifts that God has given us with gratitude and by using our gifts in service to God and neighbor. Giving thanks to God, let us collect our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY -

THE DOXOLOGY

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

Prayer of Dedication

Community News

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Bob Stiles - Jan. 3

Judy Beare - Jan. 9

Happy Anniversary to:

Jim & Rebecca McCaughey - Dec. 30

Pastor Dave & Janet Wenker - Jan. 3

Flowers: *The flowers that beautify the sanctuary today are given by* ***Jim & Rebecca McCaughey*** *in Celebration of their* ***December 30th Wedding Anniversary.***

Sign-up in the Narthex, or online, if you'd like to donate flowers in memory, or in honor, of a loved one. For more information, contact Beverly Mate, 609-847-1530. ($20/vase).

Thank you to Beverly Mate and everyone who helped to decorate, for the beautiful Advent and Christmas enhancements to the Sanctuary.

It is time to **take the decorations down, come help on **Wednesday, January 8 at 10:00 a.m.** to pack things up for next December.

Receiving of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People:

Pray for: **John Saalman** recovering from Covid; **Jim Cremer** prays for illness; **Carol & Don**, blessing of a cancer free biopsy report; Pat Harris' sister, **Sherry McKinney** is awaiting results of cancer testing; **Paula Spence** has progressed to physical therapy following triple bypass surgery; Pray for: Robert Heinly's niece, **Katrina Gonzalez** diagnosed with breast cancer after giving birth to her miracle baby in her mid 40's; **Robin Stiles** is doing well now**; Dennis McDonough** is recovering at home after cardio-ablation surgery;

Continual prayer requested for: **Eileen Stalford** in nursing care; **Pastor Bob & Anna Sheidly** friends of Bob Heinly, as they battle multiple maladies of aging; **Bob Sheidly** is improving and grateful for our prayers.

Those on hospice care: **Marty, John Stalford, Gertrude Hess, Celeste Bashaw, Ted Lewis, Ed McCaughey.**

Those undergoing cancer treatment: **Bob Maher, Karen R., Keith, Todd - struggling with side effects of treatments; Brian, Gerri Mills, Robin B, Mike, Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Candy, Donna, Liz, Jennifer, Julie, Lori, Ruth & Debbie, Mike Grecco.**

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn of Preparation -"*Jesus Paid it All*" Red Hymnal #146

1. I hear the Saviour say,

“Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.”
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

2. Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and Thine alone
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

3. For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calvary's Lamb.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

4. And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,”
My lips shall still repeat.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,

He washed it white as snow.

Invitation To All: Come To The Lord's Table!

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

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 our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, God of Hope, Breath of peace, Giver of all life……
as Jesus taught us to pray, saying,

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Words of Institution - Rev. David Wenker
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Fresh Expression of Community

Once we were strangers,
Now we are neighbors.
Once we were strangers,
Now we are friends.

Closing Hymn - "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" Blue Hymnal #347

1. Forgive our sins as we forgive
You taught us Lord to pray
But You alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say

2. How can Your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart

3. In blazing light Your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew
How small the debts men owe to us
How great our debt to You

4. Lord cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease
Then reconciled to God and man

Our lives will spread Your peace

BENEDICTION: REV. DAVID WENKER

POSTLUDE: JAYNE MCDONOUGH

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

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1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #5495557
2. *Angels from the Realms of Glory:* Henry Thomas Smart, James Montgomery*; CCLI #31669*
3. *Gloria* Public Domain
4. *Jesus Paid It All*: Elvina M. Hall, John T. Grape; CCLI Song #22331
5. *Doxology* - CCLI Song #425557
6. *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*; Rosamond E. Herklots ; CCLI Song #3162143