

CHRIST CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN

June 30, 2019

Thessalonica and Berea



Studies in Acts

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Christ Church Presbyterian 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Called to love, serve and witness.

Thought as we enter worship
I made all of this out of nothing. Trust me: I can take care of you! —God.

GATHERING

Quiet meditation time (Please fill out a blue or pink card with any prayer requests and put it in the collection plate.) – Thanks

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout out praises to the LORD, all the earth!

Worship the LORD with joy! Enter his presence with joyful singing!

Acknowledge that the LORD is God! He made us and we belong to him; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give him thanks!

Praise his name! For the LORD is good.

His steadfast love endures, and he is faithful through all generations. *Ps. 100 NET alt.*

*INVOCATION (Opening Prayer)

O Lord, you know everything about us and still you astound us with your love. You seek us out and call us to be in relationship with you. Through the Holy Spirit, awake in us a desire to seek you out and follow you so that we will love you with our body, mind, soul and spirit. **Amen.**

*HYMN INSERT *"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"* 2X

*CALL TO CONFESSION

In spite of God's love for us and gift of love to us,

We often act in destructive and hateful ways.

We close our hearts to God and disobey God's law.

Together let us confess our sin.

***CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

O Lord Jesus,

Forgive my sins.

Forgive the times when I go my own way and ignore you.

Forgive the times when I substitute my judgment for your commands.

Forgive the ways in which I act during the week as though you do not exist.

Forgive the times I look down on others forgetting your mercy for them and for me.

Forgive the times when I insist that my outlook is right and forget the grace you have shown me.

Forgive the wrong actions I have committed, and the right actions I have omitted.

Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown to myself.

Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided.

Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown to myself.

Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole. - *Early Irish - adapted*

Hear the Good News. Our God who is rich in mercy, love and grace restores us to new life. In Christ we are made new, we are children of God. Rejoice in God's goodness and grace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace, love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of the Lord.

* HYMN GREEN #80 *"Open Our Eyes, Lord"*

THE PEOPLE OF GOD HEAR THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON -- Noisy Offering (Deacons Fund)

HEARING GOD'S WORD HEARING GOD'S WORD Acts 17:1-14

After they traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. Paul went to the Jews in the synagogue, as he customarily did, and on three Sabbath days he addressed them from the scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead, saying, "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."

Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a large group of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women. But the Jews became jealous, and gathering together some worthless men from the rabble in the marketplace, they formed a mob and set the city

in an uproar. They attacked Jason's house, trying to find Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly.

When they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city officials, screaming, "These people who have stirred up trouble throughout the world have come here too, and Jason has welcomed them as guests! They are all acting against Caesar's decrees, saying there is another king named Jesus!"

They caused confusion among the crowd and the city officials who heard these things. After the city officials had received bail from Jason and the others, they released them.

The brothers sent Paul and Silas off to Berea at once, during the night. When they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue. These Jews were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they eagerly received the message, examining the scriptures carefully every day to see if these things were so. Therefore many of them believed, along with quite a few prominent Greek women and men.

But when the Jews from Thessalonica heard that Paul had also proclaimed the word of God in Berea, they came there too, inciting and disturbing the crowds. Then the brothers sent Paul away to the coast at once, but Silas and Timothy remained in Berea.

MESSAGE *"Thessalonica and Berea"*

*HYMN BLUE #329 *"Break Thou the Bread of Life"*

THE PEOPLE OF GOD RESPOND**THE OFFERING**

*LIFTING PRAISE TO GOD – HYMN #593 *"The Doxology"*

*Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, as your children, you've called us to be a part of your work in the world. We now give you a token of our commitment to you, asking that you will use it and us to bring light to darkness and joy to sorrow. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We give you praise and thanks, O Lord that you have called us to be your children. We are grateful for your love that led you to die for us and offer ourselves as your servants to be conduits of your love and grace in the world. With joy we thank you for the ways our congregation has shown your love this week. We praise you for your grace, honor you for your love and rejoice in your mercy. With deepest gratitude we proclaim you God.

[Time for Silent Congregational Prayer]

O God of compassion, we ask that our hearts be moved to show compassion for others. We especially pray for those who have suffered the loss of loved ones, home, food and shelter. We pray for all those who are prisoners, those who suffer addictions, and those who suffer daily. We remember before you the sick and dying, those who are lonely, those who are victims of war, terror, and injustice. We ask for mercy for those who suffer abuse especially those who are enslaved and grace for those who oppress others. We recall all those who have worshipped with us in the past and are unable to do so today.

[Time for Silent Congregational Prayer]

O Lord of the nations, we pray for all those who exercise authority over others. May they remember that their power is granted them to care for their people. May they pursue peace and justice as they seek first your kingdom and your righteousness. Help us all remember we need your love and grace. Grant us the courage to model your mercy to those around us.

[Time for Silent Congregational Prayer]

O Lord Jesus, you are the head of the church, the beginning and the end of all things. Grant to the church universal your mercy as we struggle to follow you. Look we pray with mercy upon the ministry of this congregation which you have called together with grace and kindness. Increase our courage, strengthen our faith, and inspire our witness to all people, even to the ends of the earth.

[Time for Silent Congregational Prayer]

O Gracious God, the source of all love and goodness, bless us with your Spirit as we seek to do your will. May we keep our hearts and thoughts on you through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray, saying:

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.

SENDING OUT IN SERVICE

***CLOSING HYMN GREEN #77 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"**

***CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE**

***BENEDICTION**

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
Teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,
Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
With thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do,

In word or deed,

Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,

Giving thanks to God the Father through him. Col. 3:16-17

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE INSERT "Rhys" (Verse 3 only)**

***POSTLUDE**

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***Please rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.**

**Church office hours: 8 am to Noon Monday through Thursday.
For emergencies call The Rev. Tim Dyck 319-321-4154**