

CHRIST CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN

June 23, 2019

Christ Church Presbyterian 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Called to love, serve and witness.

Philippi Part I



Studies in Acts

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Thought as we enter worship
Bad habits are like a comfortable bed: easy to get into, but hard to get out of. —Anon.

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

Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my sighing.

Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray.

In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.

Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies-- make straight your way before me.

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield. ---Psalm 5:1-3, 8,11,12

*INVOCATION (Opening Prayer)

O God, we have experienced your love and grace. You have called us to come to you. Through your grace, you empower us to show that same grace to others. Accept now our praise and worship. . Amen.

*HYMN GREEN #8 "Gather Us In"

*CALL TO CONFESSION

We want things to go our way, but often we run into obstacles.

What we forget is that for things to go well, we have to do it your way, O God.

In our self-centeredness, we come to you confessing our focus on ourselves.

Knowing that we can trust your love and that you listen to us out of your abundant grace, we confess our sins to you.

***CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

O Gracious Lord and Savior, we are your people

Though at times our actions ensure that the world is unaware of this.

We are your children,

Yet we squabble and fight over your generous gifts.

We are to speak your words,

Yet most often choose to be silent.

We are your hands and feet,

But are often slow to move and swift to do nothing.

Forgive us, O Lord,

For ignoring your love,

For dismissing your voice and

For trusting our own wisdom.

Help us worship you with our lives in all we do and say

That others will want to know you and experience your love, mercy and grace.

As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our sins from us. Through Christ we have been made free to a new life through the Spirit.

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

HEARING GOD'S WORD Acts 16:11-40

We put out to sea from Troas and sailed a straight course to Samothrace, the next day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of that district of Macedonia, a Roman colony. We stayed in this city for some days.

On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate to the side of the river, where we thought there would be a place of prayer, and we sat down and began to speak to the women who had assembled there. A woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, a God-fearing woman, listened to us. The Lord opened her heart to respond to what Paul was saying. After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me to be a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house." And she persuaded us.

Now as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave girl met us who had a spirit that enabled her to foretell the future by supernatural means. She brought her owners a great profit by fortune-telling. She followed behind Paul and us and kept crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation."

She continued to do this for many days. But Paul became greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out of her at once.

But when her owners saw their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are throwing our city into confusion. They are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us to accept or practice, since we are Romans."

The crowd joined the attack against them, and the magistrates tore the clothes off Paul and Silas and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had beaten them severely, they threw them into prison and commanded the jailer to guard them securely. Receiving such orders, he threw them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the rest of the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly a great earthquake occurred, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Immediately all the doors flew open, and the bonds of all the prisoners came loose.

When the jailer woke up and saw the doors of the prison standing open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he assumed the prisoners had escaped. But Paul called out loudly, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!"

Calling for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling at the feet of Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household."

Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him, along with all those who were in his house. At that hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and all his family were baptized right away. The jailer brought them into his house and set food before them, and he rejoiced greatly that he had come to believe in God, together with his entire household.

At daybreak the magistrates sent their police officers, saying, "Release those men."

The jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent orders to release you. So come out now and go in peace."

But Paul said to the police officers, "They had us beaten in public without a proper trial– even though we are Roman citizens– and they threw us in prison. And now they want to send us away secretly? Absolutely not! They themselves must come and escort us out!"

The police officers reported these words to the magistrates. They were frightened when they heard Paul and Silas were Roman citizens and came and apologized to them. After they brought them out, they asked them repeatedly to leave the city. When they came out of the prison, they entered Lydia's house, and when they saw the brothers, they encouraged them and then departed.

MESSAGE "Philippi Part I"

***HYMN BLUE #333 "Seek Ye First"**

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 #288 "My Friends May You Grow in Grace"**

***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 "Rhys" (Verse 3 only)**

***POSTLUDE**

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

Please join us for coffee and refreshments in Fellowship Hall after the service.

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