

This Sunday at CMPC...

This Sunday in our series *Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow* we once again look at the final five verses of chapter 20 and the first four verse of chapter 21 as Pastor John considers *The Final Exam and Eternity*. This is also the Sunday we honor the 2023 graduates. Then on Sunday evening we end the Lord's Day with Pastor Ben looking at Luke 14.12-24 from our series *Luke: Being Certain About the Story*.

Our hymns Sunday morning deal with judgment and eternity. We will gather with a classic hymn, *Rock of Ages*, Augustus Toplady's great 1776 hymn, using James Ward's tune from 1984. Our hymn of praise will be a 21st century hymn, *Behold, Our God*, while our hymn of testimony is a 19th century hymn put to a 25-year-old tune, *Before the Throne of God*. Then we will respond to God's word with a hymn from 1787, *On Jordan's Stormy Banks*, that's also been put to a new tune, this one from the 21st century. The words of all these hymns are so rich! Drink deeply from them as you prepare for worship.

Also, don't forget the CMPC Youth Ministry presents *Jeffini! A (K)Night of Magic!* Friday, May 5 at 7:30 in the CLC. Tickets \$12 at the door or online at jeffini.com. Proceeds will benefit the Mission Journeys to Bulgaria, Bridgemont and Grenada.

CMPC Sermon Notes ♦ **Series:** *Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow* ♦ **Text:** *Revelation 20.11- 21.8* ♦ **Message:** *The Final Exam and Eternity*

The Final Exam, 20.11-15

- A final judgment scene: Jesus is on the throne
 - Throne: a dominant idea in Revelation
 - Compare it with Daniel 7.9-10; Matthew 25.31-46; Psalm 7.6-8; 47.8-9
 - Sky flees, cf. 6.14
- Injustice never escapes God's eye
 - All evil will be eliminated
 - Frees us from seeking revenge
- We will be held accountable
 - Our sins
 - Our fruit produced by the Holy Spirit
- Book of life is the determining factor, meaning it is all about grace
- Lake of Fire...

Eternity, 21.1-4

- 21.1-8 introduces what new realities 21.9-22.5 will elaborate on
 - 21.9-22.5 A visionary description of these new realities
 - 21.1-8 gives the positive reward side in contrast to the judgment in 20.11-15
- This world is not all there is
 - God has put eternity our hearts, Ecclesiastes 3.11
 - God destines us for an end beyond the grasp of reason.— Thomas Aquinas, (c. 1225-1274)
 - A. W. Tozer said: "Let no one apologize for the powerful emphasis Christianity lays upon the doctrine of the world to come. Right there lies its immense superiority to everything else within the whole sphere of human thought or experience We do well to think of the long tomorrow."
- A new heaven and a new earth, 21.1-4
 - First is gone!
 - The sea- a place of chaos- is gone!
- The Holy City
 - The New Jerusalem
 - Came down from heaven
 - Metaphor: described as a bride adorned for her husband
 - Randy Alcorn: "Just like the Garden of Eden, the New Earth will be a place of sensory delight, breathtaking beauty, satisfying relationships, and personal joy."
- First announcement
 - A loud voice from the throne

- Intended to encourage God's people
- Immanuel Principle
 - Walking in the garden... fiery pillar/cloud... tabernacle... temple... incarnation... Holy Spirit... Now God is truly with us
 - God's dwelling place with us
 - We will be his people, he will be our God
- What's up with this new situation?
 - No more tears
 - No more death
 - No more pain
 - Former things are gone
- Spectacular: a future far more glorious and wonderful than we can imagine: That's why he describes what is not there.

So What About Us?

- What John shows us here gives us great strength to live today and great hope for what is to come.
- Proper perspective on life
 - Accountability
 - Perfect justice
 - This world is not all there is- so don't live like it
 - The best is yet to be

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

MAY 7, 2023

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

*Please silence all phones and electronic devices
as we prepare to worship our great God.*

Welcome and Announcements

Travis Brown,
Pastor to Youth

The Song of Ascent

*God's people sang together as they gathered and
traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.*

Congregation

Rock of Ages

#500

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's commands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Tune © 1985 Music Anno Domini UBP/ARR ccli# 184884

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship: For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.
—Romans 5.10b-12

Invocation

Declaring Our Faith:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

This creed traditionally dates back to the early 2nd century.

The word "catholic" means "universal", meaning the one true church made up of all believers in Jesus Christ from every tribe, language, people and nation.

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE 6:30PM

Pastor Ben will look at Luke 14: 1-11 in our ongoing series from Luke, *Becoming Certain About the Story*.

Hymn of Praise

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus:

*Behold our God
seated on His throne
Come, let us adore Him
Behold our King—
nothing can compare
Come, let us adore Him*

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Who has felt the nails upon His hands?
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign

(Men) You will reign forever

(Women) Let Your glory fill the earth

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CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

Recognition of 2023 Graduates

Pastoral Prayer

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

Here I Am Lord

Orchestra

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Please pass and sign the registration pad in the hymnal rack.

The 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn of Testimony

Before the Throne of God

(Children ages three through 3rd grade may be escorted to Children's Church)

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great High Priest whose name is Love
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
my name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart (x2)

When Satan tempts me to despair
and tells me of the guilt within
upward I look and see Him there
who made an end to all my sin.
because the sinless Savior died
my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me. (x2)

Behold Him there the Risen Lamb,
my perfect spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of Glory and of Grace,
one with Himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased with His blood,
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ my Savior and my God! (x2)

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PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD Revelation 20.11-15; 21.1-4, p. 1040 pew bible
All: *The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

The Final Exam and Eternity

Pastor John

Series: *Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow: The Book of Revelation*

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,
And cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land,
Where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains,
Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns,
And scatters night away.

Chorus: *I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land,
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
Can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,
Are felt and feared no more.

When shall I reach that happy place,
And be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His bosom rest?

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The Benediction and Threefold Amen

Serving Christ at CMPC May 7

Lock-up	Jim Zeller and Mike Johnson
8:30am	
Ushers	Mark Lane, Bo Porter, John Kapustay, Jeff Eichler, Morris Bingham, Doug Whitlock
Greeters	Sarah Booker
Infants/Toddlers	Ruth Ann Knight
Children's Church	Will Owens
Junior Assistants	
11am	
Ushers	Anthony Watkins, Ryan Watkins, Charles Scarborough, Oscar Rodriguez
Greeters	<i>Sign up at cmpca.org/greeters</i>
Infants/Toddlers	Connie Parks and Lezlie Valentine
Children's Church	Jamie Smith
Junior Assistants	Lily and Hannah Prince
6:30pm	
Nursery	
Today	This Week at CMPC
8:30am, 11am	Worship Services
10am	Sunday School
6:30pm	Sunday Evening Worship
Wednesday	
5:30	Wednesday Night Alive Meal
6:30	Orchestra Choir WNA Classes Nursery Youth Group



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Staff

John S. Batusic, *Pastor* • Ben Phillips, *Pastor of Ministries*
Kennedy Smartt, *Chaplain to the Community* • Dee Hammond, *Pastor of Missions & Outreach*
Richard MacLagan, *Minister of Music* • Mike Owens, *Minister to Children*
Travis Brown, *Pastor to Youth* • Sarah Tilley, *Youth Ministry Assistant*
Lynn Perkins, *Kitchen Coordinator* • Nancy Burkhart, *Preschool Director*
Floy Jumper, *Facility Manager* • Mindy Burch, *Church Administrator*
Susan MacLagan, *Accompanist* • Bev Bradbury, *Organist* • Chad Trotter, *IT & Media Director*

Session

Scott Allen • Bob Bishop • Bryan Cox • Jason Cunningham • Terry Ensley • Andy Jobson
Dave Martin • Robert Martin • Will McVey • Marty Moore • John Rollo • Steve Saville
Dennis Swinehart • George Tucker • Dean Warnock • Jim Zeller

Elders Emeriti

Jim Parks • Jack Sweeney • Andy Watkins

Diaconate

P.J. Friedell • James Hinds • Tommy Hulsey • Mike Johnson • Jeff Knight
Mike Peifer • Mark Pignolet • Steve Wentz

Women's Ministry Leadership Team

Peggy Creighton • Lezlie Valentine • Lanette Haas • Bethany Batusic • Sarah Gossage
Sarah Lingerfelt • Barbara Jumper • Jen Burkhart • Aneita Connor • Christina Elmore

CMPC Supported Missions

Unless otherwise indicated, all missionaries are with *Mission to the World*

Asia/New Zealand

Japan: Darlene Johnson, Jonas & Christina Davison, Melanie Johnson • *Taiwan:* Becky White
Thailand: Tim & Rhianna Mills, Noah & Karleigh Stephens, Trey & Kiki Adams
New Zealand: Paul & Crystal Henry

Europe

Bulgaria: Grace Chung, Gary & Tammy Elliott REF

Poland: Nathan & Kasia Tunnell REF • *Czech Republic:* Miriam Grady

Germany: Brian & Megan Moore

England: Brett & Valerie McAlpin,

Romania: Derek & Catalina Kreider • *Greece:* David & Erin Pervis

Americas

Canada: Bill & Mae Lee Letchworth, Rohan & Rebecca Crown, Carrie Rice

Honduras: Alex & Maggie Halbert • *Peru:* Andrew & Krista May, Julia King

Africa

East Africa: Donna • *Kenya:* Sherwood & Bethany Griggs, Anaweza

Unreached Peoples

Last names and locations withheld due to the sensitive nature of their situations.

David & Marcia • Franklin & Beth • Emily • Kurt & Jill • Chris & Savanna

David & Jan • Phil & Amina • Calvin & Geeta • Micah & Blair • Mark & Nathalie

Global Ministries:

Linda Summer, *Agape Puppets* • *Global Training:* Mike & Robin McMahan

United States

Hernando & Debbie Saenz, *MNA Hispanic Ministry Coordinator*

Alan & Kim Foster, *MNA Church Planter Recruiter;*

Reformed University Fellowship International Jeff & Caroline Thompson, UGA ;

Reformed University Fellowship: Tracey & Suzanne West, GA Tech;

Ben & Anna Coppedge, Caysie Ashton, UGA;

Vision 938: Mwamba & Nyema Johnson, Atlanta University Center

PCA Church Planters: Curran & Abby Bishop, Milford, CT;

Buck & Kaitlyn Rogers, Braselton, GA;

Alejandro & Beth Oropeza, Amistad Hispana, Chestnut Mountain, GA;

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) Agencies

Administrative Committee • The Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College
Georgia Foothills Presbytery • MTW • MNA • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

Local Ministries

Adults Protecting Children • Center Point • Choices Pregnancy Care Center • Eagle Ranch
Frontline Response (Out of Darkness) • Gateway House • Good News at Noon
Good News Clinic • Promise 686 • Sacred Roots Farm • Young Life



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