The Parish VISITOR

"Be Transformed...By the renewing of your minds."- Romans 12:2 - NIV

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood 4011 Clinton St., Los Angeles, CA 90004-2298 The REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY, Pastor



your pastor writes By REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY

reetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to all the readers of the *Parish Visitor!* We continue the messages from the last chapter of the last book of the Bible. These messages talk about our eternal destiny in Jesus Christ. I pray they will encourage you.

Paradise Restored: The Face of God Rev. 22:1-5, originally given on 02/13/22 at CPC **Introduction:** Again this morning we continue with our study of Revelation, chapter 22. Here are the highlights of what we have studied so far.

When Jesus returns, we will once again live in a garden. We will live in paradise restored.

In paradise restored, we will live the "zoe" life, the highest and best life God has for us. This is the life Jesus has *Continued next page*

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JOIN US AT CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD

n addition to the in-person worship, we continue to stream the service on Zoom for those unable to attend inperson.

The invitation for joining the service can be found at the events page on our website at **cpchollywood.org.**

You can send in your prayer requests PRIOR to the service via email to sbaroldy@gmail. com or text at 323-202-5078.

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional, *healing* community; *proclaiming* and *demonstrating* the wholeness of life offered in JESUS CHRIST.





and it is the life he gives to us when we repent and receive him as Lord and Savior.

Next, we will once again have access to the tree of life. We will have life eternal and all relationships will be healed.

Finally, the curse brought about by Adam and Eve's disobedience will be completed reversed. There will be no trace of the curse left in the new creation. Now, let's move on.

Heavenly worship: Let me re-read verses 3-4. "No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads." (Revelation 22:3–4, ESV)

John writes, "but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him."

The throne of God and of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, will be in the New Jerusalem. We will see the throne with our eyes. We will see God's throne in all its glory.

We will see our King ruling all creation from his throne. Savor that for a moment. Can you picture it? Also, we will see the angels, and all the living creatures that surround God's throne. It will be spectacular!

Next, we are told, *"his [God's] servants will worship him."* The word used for servants here is a special word. The

word refers to a "bondservant."

A bond servant is someone who is in a voluntary, permanent relationship of servanthood to the one they serve. They are permanently bonded to the one they are serving.

We saw this word back in Revelation 1:1. Rev. 1:1 says, "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants [bondservants] the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant [bondservant] John." (Revelation 1:1, ESV)

So, John, and all who have received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, are described as "bondservants." As bondservants, our will is totally in line with the will of the one we are serving. As bondservants, our will is completely consumed by the will of the one we are serving. And the one we are serving is God.

So, here, in Rev. 22:3, we are shown that, we, the Bride of Christ, will completely know and do the will of God. There will be no guessing about God's will. There will be no striving to do God's will. There will only be joyful obedience in doing the will of God.

Moving on, our verse says, "and his servants will worship him." Some translations have this as, "and his servants will serve him." So the idea is this. We will both serve and



"WORTHY IS THE LAMB

who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

worship God and the Lamb.

In earlier chapters in the Revelation, we have witnessed nonstop worship in heaven. For instance, Rev. 5:11-13 says, "Then I [John] looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"" (Revelation 5:11–13, ESV)

There is nonstop worship in heaven. And, we will join with the angels and the multitude in heaven worshiping our God and the Lamb. We will worship God like never before. We will worship God with our whole being. Imagine what that worship will be like?

I had a taste of this kind of worship when I went to a Promise Keepers event in Oakland California, in the mid 1990's.

The highlight of the event for me was the worship. At one point, there were 60,000 men singing "Holy, Holy, Holy." We were singing it acapella.

The majesty of that worship, the vocal power of 60,000 men singing about God and Jesus, reverberated through my whole being. I imagine worship in heaven will be a 1000 times more powerful. It will be glorious.

Our acts of worship will include serving God. I don't know exactly what that service will be for me, or for you, but it will be a joy. Worship will be serving, and serving will be worship. Everything done for God and according to God's will.

And, of course, we are in training for that now. Even now, our hearts desire should be to do everything for God. Even now, our hearts desire should be to do everything according to God's will as revealed in his word.

And, periodically, we need to check our hearts to see if that, indeed, is what we are desiring. Is our desire to worship and serve God, or, have we been pulled away by the cares and concerns of the world? In paradise restored "[God's] bondservants will [serve] and worship him."

We will see his face: Now, moving on, verse 4 says, "They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads." (Revelation 22:4, ESV)

"They will see his face." Glory! In paradise restored, we will see the face of God. We will see the face of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What a moment that will be! Imagine! In that moment, our faith becomes sight.

We will see the face of the One we have worshiped by faith; the One we have prayed to; the One we have cried out to in times of distress. We will see the enormous pools of love and compassion in the eyes of our Lord and Savior. The longing of our hearts to see Jesus' face, to see God's face, will be fulfilled.

If you remember, that was the cry of Moses' heart? Let's *Continued next page*

and HIS NAME will be on their foreheads." (Revelation 22:4, ESV)

"They will see

your pastor writes ... Continued from Page 3

look at Exo. 33:18-20. "Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he [God] said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."" (Exodus 33:18–20, ESV)

Now, Moses had been in God's presence. He was called up the mountain to meet with God. Yet, he had not seen God's face. He had only seen God's feet.

Here, Moses cries out to God because he longs to see God's face. Moses wants to know God more intimately. Yet, God told Moses he could not see God's face, for a human could not see God's face and live.

Why? Because God is holy and Moses was unholy. And the unholy cannot see the holy and live. Not without some mediation between the two. So, God placed Moses in the cleft of a rock while God's glory passed by. And Moses was only able to see God's back. Yet, in the new creation, we have our mediator. Through our faith in Jesus Christ, we are no longer unholy. Through Christ, we are made holy. All our sin is gone. In addition, in the new creation, something has happened to us. We have been changed, glorified.

The Apostle John describes it this way in his letter of 1John. 1 John 3:2 says, "Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he [Jesus] appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is." (1 John 3:2, ESV)

In the new creation, we shall be like Jesus. And we shall see Jesus' face. We shall see the face of God. The deepest desire of our human heart will be fulfilled. This is why we will be able to know and do the word of God immediately. Because we will see God's face.

Yet, this only happens if we are faithful to the end. This only happens if we are able to overcome the world and its persecution. This only happens if we are able to stand. So, again, the Holy Spirit's exhortation for today is stand!

"Beloved, we are GOD'S CHILDREN now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he Jesusl appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is."





Centennial Greeting

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood has entered its 100th year. I asked The Rev. Tamara John, past intern and now Pastor at Christ Presbyterian Church Lakewood, to send us a short greeting and describing a joy and a challenge the ministry is facing these days. This is what she shares with us.

Dear my CPC Hollywood family,

I am so grateful to celebrate your 100-year anniversary with you!

I think back to all the lives transformed by the power of Jesus within your church walls...which has had a ripple effect beyond what anyone could imagine!

I think of all the fellowship lunches shared...where everyone could enjoy being together as a church family....the prayer, the hugs, the love, and the encouragement.

I think of all the encouragement, support, and patience each of you contributed as you walked alongside us interns.

I, for one, came in so green and rough around the spiritual maturity edges! Pastor Steve and you all took part as a Holy Spirit midwife through my chrysalis stage of learning to die to self and develop into a butterfly ready to take flight! Jimi encouraged me to play my flute from my heart to trust the music the Holy Spirit would give me. As I learned to fine-tune my ear for flute music, I learned to trust that same voice of the Holy Spirit moment by moment every day in life and in ministry.

I think of each of you giving your love, encouragement, gentle correction, and all the many ways you kept me walking forward into who God called me to be! CPC Hollywood is a church of prayer power, healing, love, and development.

Your example instilled in my own heart a desire for others to be set free from any shackles of bondage and to walk boldly forward into God's calling!

You gave me the most valuable gift of learning to walk in the gifting of the Holy Spirit, which opened me up to a deeper and more intimate relationship with my Savior Jesus and God my Heavenly Father.

I hope you know the absolute impact you have had on me; a legacy



of your heart that is now my spiritual DNA that I pray to instill in others.

You have been with me from the beginning: through the RV Ministry, pastor my own church and now working on my Doctoral studies. I am so incredibly grateful.

My heart's desire is to create a safe loving Spirit-filled environment where one can learn to trust in God, to be refined by God, and to flourish in God. I hope you know you gave me your heart for this, that can only come from the Heart of God. You raised me up good! I pray that I may do the same for others.

From my forever grateful heart...Thank you.

Tamara John



"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him that if we ask anything according to His will, He will hear us." (1 John 5:14)

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING:

• Christ Presbyterian Church as a people of God have entered their 100th year of community. A people called out to worship our Lord Jesus Christ and to witness to HIS Love for the world.

• We are thankful! that "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sin, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence..." (Ephesian 1:7-8)

For those who are grieving: Grieving is a long process. Let's keep remembering:

- Marilyn Yee, Ron Jung's sister and her husband Tom Yee and all of Ron's close friends.
- Hazel McElfresh who lost her daughter, Dee, and is parenting her teenage grandson.
- Bruce Uyemura's brother passed away the end of April.
- Esther Ingram's husband Charles passed April 25th. Esther and Charles were married 62 years.

• To family and friends of Mariko Oekawa who passed away earlier this year.

For those who need physical healing:

• Dora, Sueko's sister, general healing and tumor in her mouth.

- Pat, Sueko's brother, general healing and respiratory.
 - Yuri lives with extreme chronic pain. Praying for

Lord, Hear Our Frayer

healing for Yuri and pray for her daughters Aya and Umi who care for her.

• Sherry Esaki, to be able to walk well and pain free.

• Philip Nozaki, Janet's son, has cysts on his remaining kidney. Praying they will dissolve and the Kidney remain strong and healthy.

• Hazel, healing and strength in her back.

• Brian will be scheduling biopsies of spot on his lungs and one on his bladder. Praying that these would be benign and would melt

away through the body's healing process.

For those who are home bound or in a care facility:

Joan Janecek, Barbara Kashiwagi, Kimi Fujitani, Karen Koranye, Frank Morimoto, Janet Nozaki, Jean Sakai, Irene Mayeda caring for her mother Harumi. Each one has extended their greetings and send their love to each of us in the CPC community.

General:

• For our Russian, Afghans and Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ: to have strength and courage to persevere in their witness of the life and hope we have in Christ Jesus.

• Maria Cardenas: wisdom, boldness, gladness for teaching at a Living Waters 20- week program.

• Suzan: Bless their marriage. There have been regular spans of separation due to Jack's work in another state. Praying that Jack will be able to return to working in

How can we pray for you?

If you have prayer requests, you can send them via email or text PRIOR to our service each Sunday. My email is sbaroldy@gmail.com. You can text me at 323-202-5078.



The Parish Visitor • JULY 2022



the Los Angeles area.

• Young Life summer camps share the gospel with high-risk kids from the ages of 11-21years. Please pray for new life in Christ Jesus. For those who have been born in Christ Jesus, a deepening relationship with GOD. And for protection and a good time for all.

Our Missionaries:

The Kenya REAL Ministries, and Janet who does the administrative work for Kenya REAL Ministries, The Kostov family who pastor in Vidin, Bulgaria. The Masons who are missionaries and pastor a church in Japan. Zebley family who pastor in Tokyo, Japan. The Rices who pastor in South Sudan. Please pray for financial supply, favor with the community, spiritual and physical protection, and renewed strength for the ministry. Pray also for a great harvest and the workers for the harvest.

For local shepherds:

Pastors Ernesto and Juana Salguero (Faro de Luz), Pastor Damon and Guia Woods, (Church on Melrose), Pastor Ted Esaki (El Estero Presbyterian Church), Pastor Andrew and Kate Alesso (a new church start Thrive LA), Pastor Kevin and Kat Miller and Pastor Sarah and Patrick Duff.



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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil



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FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2022				
	JU	NE 2022		YTD
Receipts	\$	7,148	\$	66,397
Disbursements	\$	10,368	\$	77,147
Increase (Deficit)	(\$	3,220)	(\$	10,750)

Gifts & Offering



We are grateful for your continued generosity in supporting our ministry. Please consider sending a gift or donation to:

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood 4011 Clinton Street, Los Angeles, CA 90004



CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD



SUNDAYS at 11:00 A.M. IN-PERSON OR ON ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySIB jL1VkUmhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09

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"Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional healing community; proclaiming and demonstrating the wholeness of life offered by Jesus Christ."

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