

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

cpchollywood.org

**AUGUST
2022**

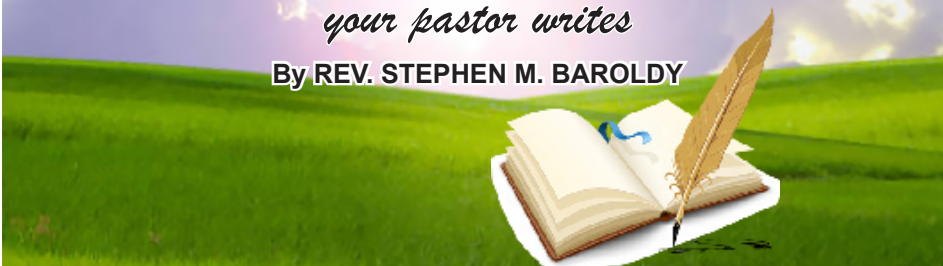
VOL. LXXVI NO. 8

Paradise Restored

NO NIGHT, ONLY LIGHT

your pastor writes

By REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY



Greetings 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: No Night, only Light, Rev. 22:1-5, Originally given Feb 20, 2022 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.

First, 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 and it is the life he gives to us when we repent and receive him as

Continued next page



Welcome

JOIN US AT
CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD

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

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.



THEY SHALL
SEE HIS FACE,
AND HIS NAME
SHALL BE ON THEIR FOREHEADS.

REVELATION 22:4

Lord and Savior.

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

Third, the curse brought about by Adam and Eve's disobedience will be completely reversed. There will be no trace of the curse left in the new creation.

Finally, in paradise restored, we will see the face of God. We will see the face of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will be able to look into the Lord Jesus' eyes. I wonder what we will see there?

We will have Jesus' Character: Now, let's continue on with Rev. 22:4. It reads, *"They will see his face, and his [God's] name will be on their foreheads."* What does it mean that God's name will be on our foreheads?

First, let's look at Rev. 3:12. It says, *"The one who conquers [who remains faithful], I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God . . ."* (Revelation 3:12, ESV)

So, first, God's name on our foreheads is a reward for our remaining faithful.

Next, Rev 7:2-3 says this, *"Then I [John] saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal*

of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."" God seals us with his name on our forehead. This seal signifies ownership and protection.

So far, God's name on our foreheads signifies we have remained faithful; it signifies we belong to God; and it signifies his protection will be over us for all eternity. This is a great comfort to us.

The second thing his name on our forehead signifies is this. In the bible, a name represents a person's character.

This verse tells us God's character will be written on our foreheads. In other words, God's character will permeate our thinking, which then permeates our actions.

We will think and act according to God's character. We will reflect God's character in all we say and do.

Now, what is God's character? The fruit of the Spirit gives us the attributes of God's character. Remember, the fruit of the Spirit gives us Jesus' character, while the gifts of the Spirit allow us to do Jesus' ministry.

So, what is Jesus' character? Gal. 5:22-23 says, *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against*

such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:22–23, ESV).

These attributes describe Jesus' character. If we had walked with Jesus while he was on earth, these are the character traits we would have observed. Especially, I believe, the first two, love and joy.

I think if we had walked with Jesus, we would have been astounded at how joyful he was in day to day life. He was full of joy and I imagine he laughed a lot.

Yes, Jesus sometimes got angry. Yet, his anger was righteous anger. He got angry at injustice. He got angry at those who perverted God's law. And, he got angry at those who tried to block seekers from coming to him.



Yet, I believe, most of the time, Jesus found great joy in the Father's creation and in the people he met, especially the children. Jesus walked in the fullness of the fruit of the Spirit.

Right now, the Holy Spirit is developing this fruit in us. Notice there is one fruit, with nine aspects. So, while we have the fruit of the Holy Spirit now, if we are in Christ, these aspects of the fruit are not fully developed. We all need developmental work on the different aspects of the fruit of the Spirit, at least I do.

God knows what aspects of the fruit we need to work on. So, God puts us in situations where we can develop the fruit. For instance, if we lack patience, God will let situations arise where we have opportunity to develop patience.

I still need lots of work on my patience. Patience is not a strength of mine. I will know I am making progress when I

can sit in a parking garage, waiting for a spot, without grumbling. What is it for you? Which aspect of the fruit needs work in your life?

The good news is this. In the new creation, I will have the fullness of patience. I will have the fullness of all aspects of the fruit of the Spirit, as will you. We shall finally be the image and likeness of God. We shall finally be all our God created us to be. We shall finally be **like** Jesus.

Our challenge now is to use all the opportunities the Holy Spirit provides us to develop the character of Jesus Christ in our lives. So, the next time we find ourselves in a tough situation, or in a stressful situation, let's ask, what aspect of the fruit of the Spirit do I have a chance to develop in this situation? And then let's pray and ask God to help us grow that aspect of the fruit.

No night, only light: Now, let's move on to verse 5. Verse 5 says, *"And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever."* (Revelation 22:5, ESV)

The first part of the verse says, *"And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light."* In paradise restored, there is no night, only light.

We heard the same thing in Rev. 21:23, which says, *"And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb."* (Revelation 21:23, ESV)

Continued next page





Dear Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood,

You are loving over 250 kids in Kenya! You are making sure their tummies are full so they can study and listen and grow. What a blessing to mirror Jesus like this. You are a blessing and we are grateful for your love "for the least of these". How important it is what you are doing – Feeding the hungry!

May God give you His joy,
Janet - Kenya Real (1st Peter 1:8)

Paradise Restored: No Night, Only Light

your pastor writes ...Continued from Page 3

John makes this point, no night only light, twice in the space of eight verses. In the bible, things are repeated for emphasis. And, John tells us, "And night will be no more."

This doesn't mean there will be no sun, moon or stars in the new creation. I believe this means there will be no spiritual darkness in the new creation.

John often uses the imagery of light and dark in his writings. For instance, John writes in his first letter, in 1John 1:5, "that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." (1 John 1:5, ESV)

And then in the gospel of John 11:9-10, Jesus says, "'Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light **is not in him.**'" (John 11:9-10, ESV)

"Because the light **is not in him.**" In him. This tells us John is not talking about literal day and night. John uses the imagery of day and night, light and dark, to talk about spiritual light and spiritual darkness.

Those who have repented and received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, walk in the light because the light of Jesus Christ is in them. Those, in Christ, now walk by the light of the Holy Spirit and by the light of God's word.

Those who have not received Jesus walk in darkness because the light is not in them. They don't have the Holy Spirit or God's word to guide them. So, they walk according to their own darkened understanding. They walk according to worldly wisdom and they stumble spiritually.

In the new creation, there is no more night. There is no spiritual darkness in the new creation. Instead, the light of God, and the glory of God and the Lamb will permeate the new creation.

Nothing from the old creation will hinder God's glory from completely filling the new creation. And nothing will prevent us from having unceasing access to God's divine presence. No night, only light.

Again, our challenge today is to develop the fruit of the Spirit so we can be worthy witnesses to the abundant life found in Jesus Christ. We are called to walk in the light so we don't stumble, and cause others to stumble. And we are to call others out of the darkness of the world into the light of Jesus Christ. Amen!

See you next month.

Pastor Steve



Centennial Greeting

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood has entered its 100th year. I asked Bob and Kristy Rice to send us a short greeting and describing a joy and a challenge the ministry is facing these days. Bob is a past intern and now we support the Rice's ministry in the South Sudan.

Warm greetings to all at CPC in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ! We congratulate the church on this 100 year anniversary and celebrate with you all the ways that God has worked in and through you over these years.

We are so grateful for your prayers and support for God's work here in South Sudan. Recently, Bob visited a weekly program for children living on the streets. Zechariah, a former student of Bob's is leading the ministry, and Bob was so encouraged to see Zechariah's gifts and passion for ministering to the children. These children get a meal and have their wounds treated while also attending a service of worship and Bible teaching. Bob loved seeing their exuberant worship! We give thanks for ways like this that the God's people in South Sudan are ministering to those who are suffering.

One of the challenges that we currently ask for prayer about is the food in-

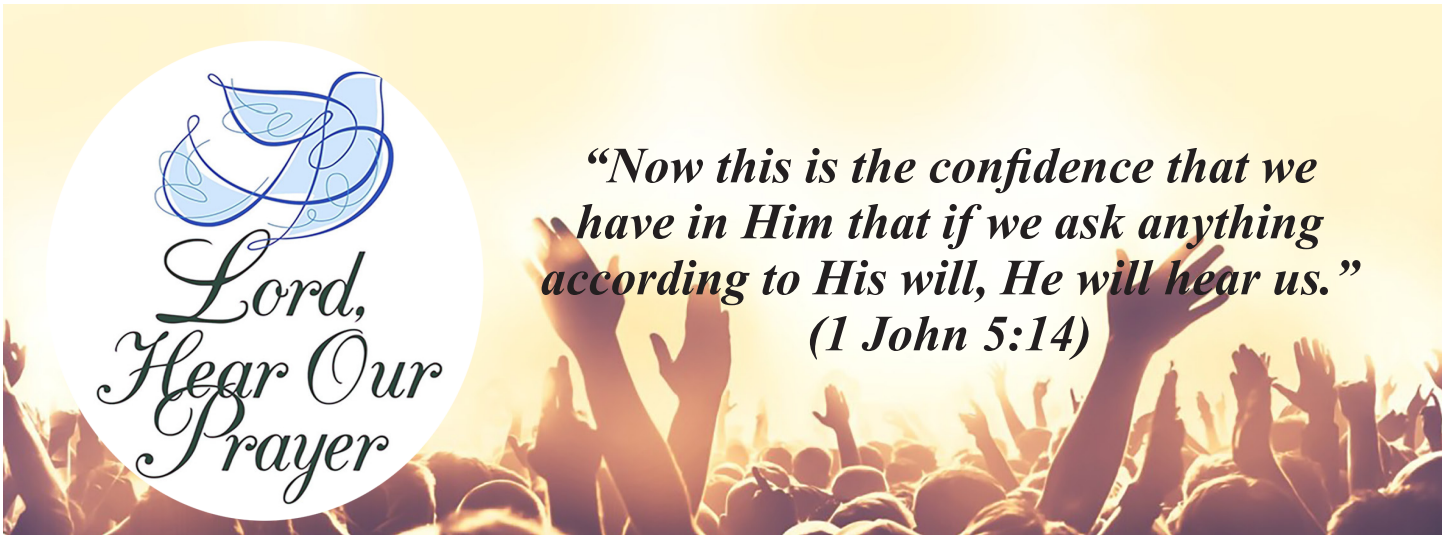
security in South Sudan. High inflation and political insecurity have made it more difficult for people to buy food or grow their own food. The U.N. has decreased the food that they are distributing to people who are displaced, and many people have relied on that assistance for years. Please pray for security, particularly in rural areas, so that people can farm, and also for God to provide food to those who are hungry. We pray also that God gives leaders in the churches wisdom and compassion to know how to minister to people in this difficult time.

We pray for CPC each week, that God would continue to reveal His love and power in your midst. Thank you again for your love and partnership with us!

In Christ,

Bob and Kristi





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)

• We celebrate with Hazel the birth of her great-grandson, Barret. Mother, father and son are doing great.

• Lynn is literally singing praises of thanksgiving for the return of her full singing voice. We sing praises with her.

• On the same note the angels celebrate with us the baptism of 4! Faro De Luz congregants.

• Alicia encourages us to celebrate with her the answer to her prayer to bring her A1C (glucose number) into the normal range. The high normal is 7.0. Alicia tested at 6.5, WooHoo! Also, she has left for a three-week vacation in El Salvador where she will reconnect with friends and extended family.

• 39 years ago, Maria was born again. We celebrate with her and pray with her "May my story of my journey

home glorify The Father and Son, my Lord Jesus Christ."

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Grieving is a long process. Let us 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.
- Sueko and Dora at the loss of their sister-in-law who was a good friend to Dora.

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 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 for the doctors to have wisdom

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.



and all treatments to be efficacious and that the Lord would bring the kidney back to full health.

- For Brian, full healing from bell's palsy.

**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, Mako Harada, 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.
 - Susan: 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 the Los Angeles area.
 - Young Life summer camps share the gospel with high-risk kids form the ages of 11-21years. 14 high school students participated from our local LA high schools. 7 accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. 1 prayed to GOD for the very first time asking for help in a very specific way. GOD answered and now the student knows that GOD hears him and cares about him. Let's pray that these kids will grow in relationship with Jesus Christ. Lets pray for salvation for Abdul, Eric, and Allan.

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).
(August 2022)



Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySIBjL1VkuMhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09>

Meeting ID: 384 758 031

Password: 351955

One tap mobile

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+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

FINANCIAL REPORT

**JULY
2022**



	<u>JULY 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$ 15,662	\$ 82,058
Disbursements	\$ 12,358	\$ 89,505
Increase (Deficit)	\$ 3,303	(\$ 7,447)

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=ZnEySjBjL1VkUmhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09>

Meeting ID: 384 758 031
Password: 351955
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+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

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DATED MATERIAL

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