# 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

SEPTEMBER 2022

VOL. LXXVI NO. 9



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: We will reign, Rev. 22:1-5, originally given at CPC on February 27, 2022 Introduction: Powerless no more. Today, we are going to finish Rev. 22:1-5. We are going to look at the last clause in verse 5, which says, "And they will reign forever and ever."

I woke up early in the morning last Wednesday. On Tuesday, Simone and I experienced a painful event in our finances. I won't go into details. Let's just say we suffered a financial loss due

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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 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.



to theft. There was nothing we could do about it. And that left us feeling both angry and powerless.

So, when I woke up early Wednesday, I, first, felt a jolt of those emotions. Then, the words "And they will reign forever and ever" came to my mind. And as I kept repeating these words over and over in my mind, I started to feel God's peace.

And then, I personalized it, and began repeating, "I will reign forever and ever." "In Christ, I will reign forever and ever." And along with peace, I felt confidence, and then, determination. I felt determined this incident was not going to drag us down. That it was only a temporary setback.

Next, I started meditating on what it meant to reign with Christ. To reign means to rule. And if we rule with Christ, we will have power, and authority, and victory. And, here is the thing that comforted me the most. If I rule with Christ, it means I will never again feel powerless.

Now, today, there are many things that can make us feel powerless. Current headlines trumpet war and inflation. We can pray about these things, yet in the moment, we are powerless to change them.

We have issues with our health. We have pain in our bodies; limbs that don't function properly; diseases that have taken hold. There are chemical systems in our bodies that are out of whack. Even though we see doctors, and have procedures done, we still can feel powerless to fix these issues.

Then, we may have emotions that run amuck. We find anxiety, fear, depression, anger, and un-forgiveness are wreak-

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ing havoc with our emotions. We pray, and stand against these emotions, yet sometimes, we feel powerless to control them.

Or, we may have issues with the IRS, or the DMV. Talk about feeling powerless. Or we may have issues with our bosses. We are blamed for mistakes we didn't make. Or, we work our tail off and it is never enough. And we feel powerless because we need the job and the benefits.

And of course, there is the big one, death. When someone we love is dying, or has died, we feel powerless. There is nothing we can do.

Yet, into the midst of these situations, comes the truth of God's word. "And, [in Christ] they will reign forever and ever."

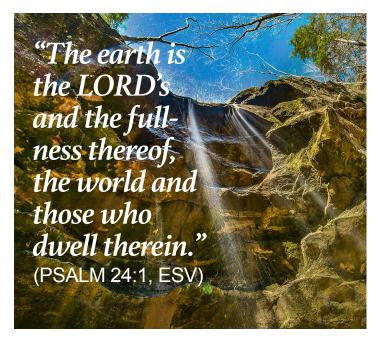
Here is confidence and strength. In the new creation, we will reign over God's economy. In the new creation, we will reign over our bodies, and our health. No more pain. No more dysfunction of our bodies.

In the new creation, we will reign over our emotions. In the new creation, we will reign over our responsibilities. And, in the new creation, we will reign over death. We will never again feel powerless. Amen!

Do you feel the power of these words from God? Do you feel the confidence God's word provides us. "And they will reign forever and ever." So, let's unpack the truth behind these words from God.

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#### your pastor writes ... Continued from Page 2



We will reign in God's kingdom. First, let's walk through the biblical construct for this amazing truth that we will reign with Christ forever and ever. We begin with this basic truth. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ rules this earth.

Psalm 47:2 says, "For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth." (Psalm 47:2, ESV)

And Psalm 24:1 says, "The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein." (Psalm 24:1, ESV) The Old Testament clearly declares God is King and Ruler over the earth.

Then, in the book of the Revelation, the throne of God is mentioned forty times. The book of the Revelation declares God rules the universe and he rules this earth. So we start with this basic truth Our God is King over this earth.

Now, as we have talked about before, God's original intention was to have the humans he created rule the earth under his authority.

Psalm 8:6-8 says, "You [God] have given him [human-kind] dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas." (Psalm 8:6–8, ESV)

So, God gave humans dominion over all God created. And, then, humans lost that dominion when they were deceived by the serpent and disobeyed God. As a result, temporary dominion over the earth was given to Satan.

Jesus Christ came to take back that dominion. And through his death, resurrection and ascension, he succeeded. Rev. 11:15 says, *"Then the seventh angel blew his trum-*

pet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."" (Revelation 11:15, ESV)

So, when Jesus Christ returns, the kingdom of the world, temporarily ruled by Satan, once again becomes fully the kingdom of God and of Jesus Christ. And Jesus Christ, reigns over this kingdom forever and ever.

And, here is the exciting news. When we repent and put our faith in Jesus Christ, we become co-heirs over this kingdom with Jesus.

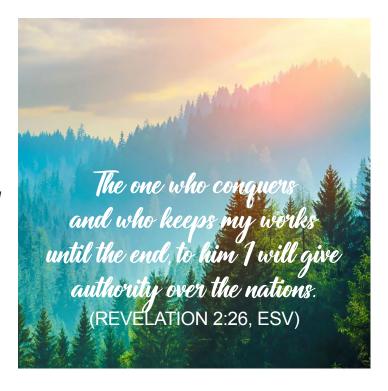
Rom. 8:16-17 says, "The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him." (Romans 8:16–17, ESV)

In Revelation, chapter 22, the Lord Jesus Christ has returned as King of kings and Lord of lords. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. If we have remained faithful, we are glorified with Jesus Christ. And, as it says in Rev. 22:5, we will reign forever and ever with him as co-heirs of the kingdom. Amen!

Now, you might be wondering **where** will we reign? We will reign on earth, not in some intangible heavenly realm.

Look at Rev. 2:26. "The one who conquers [who remains faithful to the end] and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations." (Revelation 2:26, ESV) Here it says we will have authority over the nations. Where are the nations located? On earth!

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### your pastor writes ... Continued from Page 3

Then, we have Rev. 5:9-10, "And they [those around the throne] sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you [Jesus. the slain Lamb] to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9-10, ESV)

So, again, who does God say will reign? People of every tribe and language and people and nation who belong to the Lamb. Where will they reign? On the earth!

Are you getting this? We will reign on the renewed and restored earth. We will likely reign with people of our own tribe and language and nation. Nations still exist in the new creation. Rev. 22:2 says, "The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." (Revelation 22:2, ESV)

Isn't this amazing? All of us, if we are in Christ, will rule in the new creation. We will reign in the new Creation. How does that make you feel? Excited? Confident? Secure?

The Parable of the Talents: Now, how will God determine how much authority we have in the new creation. Let's look at one of the stewardship parables Jesus told.

I'm not going to read the whole parable. I am just going to summarize it. The parable is in Matthew, chapter 25. Matthew, chapter 25, talks about the end of the age. The current age ends when Jesus returns. And, in Matthew, chapter 25, we have the parable of the talents.

In this parable, Jesus tells how a rich man goes on a long journey. And this master entrusts his property to three different servants.

The master gives one servant five talents, a second servant two talents, and a third servant one talent. Jesus says he



gave to each according to their ability. And for perspective, a talent was worth about twenty year's wages.

Then, after a long time, the master returns and settles his accounts with the servants. The servant who was given five talents made five talents more, and gave ten talents to his master.

The servant who was given two talents made two more, and gave four talents to his master.

The master's response to both of them was the same. "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little: I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." (Matthew 25:23, ESV)

These faithful servants took the talents and using their God given abilities put them to work. They were faithful. They were diligent. They were fruitful on behalf of the master.

Because they were faithful over a little, the master tells them he will set them over much. These servants become rulers. Because they were faithful with the abilities and treasure the Master gave them, they were given greater responsibilities. Again, they were made rulers.

Now, what happened to the third

servant? The third servant was afraid and hid the talent in the ground. He was rebuked by the master and his one talent was given to the servant who returned the ten talents to the master. What he had was taken from him.

This parable tells us the service we do for the Lord in this lifetime determines how much we will be set over in the new creation. If we are faithful now with what we have, in terms of time, ability and money, we will be set over much in the new creation.

If we are unfaithful in this lifetime, our responsibilities will be limited. Again, what we do now determines the level of responsibility we will have then.

"And [we] will reign forever and ever." This is our hope. This is our destiny. Let us be faithful and diligent with our time, talents and treasure now, and we will be rewarded with these words. Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little: I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." Amen!

See you next month,

Pastor Steve



## Centennial Greeting

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood has entered its 100th year. I asked Tadashi Kowta, son of the Rev. Sohei Kowta, to send us a short greeting and describe a memory of Christ Presbyterian Church. Here are his thoughts.

What a humbling e-mail contact, I received from your pastor, Rev. Steve Baroldy, asking to share my thoughts of my relationship with Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. My father was Rev. Sohei Kowta and I am Tadashi Kowta, an elder and member of Union Church of Los Angeles. My father did facilitate the re-opening of your Church following the return of Japanese and Japanese Americans from different US concentration camps. I also had the privilege of preaching at your church on Father's Day as the Moderator of the National Asian Conference.

As Japanese Churches re-established itself after WWII, there was a need to develop an overseeing organization. Therefore, the Japanese Presbyterian Conference with its 18 Churches was established to provide support as needed. It was through this organization and its activities that many of us got to know the members of JPC Churches outside of our own church.

Later five of the Southern California Japanese Presbyterian Men's group offered a Saturday breakfast. People such as Bob Nozaki, Thomas Chinen, and others from your church cooked and served a delicious pancake breakfast. Simple activity to bring people together in the name of Jesus which has had lasting effect in the area of "evangelism".

My challenge to Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is to be church like the Philadelphian Church as described in Revelations 3:7-13. "I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name". What reassuring words from the lips of our Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ. I encourage you to keep up the faith, seek Jesus's direction for the future of your Church, but in the meantime, be faithful, and steadfastly seek to fulfill God's plan He has for you. Whether it is a specialized ministry to fulfill the needs of the community and/or Christ Church or to provide opportunity to evangelize to lead people to Christ, Jesus. There will be joy in His Kingdom. The Church does not have to be a mega-church. There is always a place in His Kingdom for a small church. Many times, a small church is better equipped for a specialized ministry.

Best wishes and may God bless you richly during the year in which you rejoice on your accomplishments as well as making every effort to follow the plan God has for Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood in the next century and beyond.

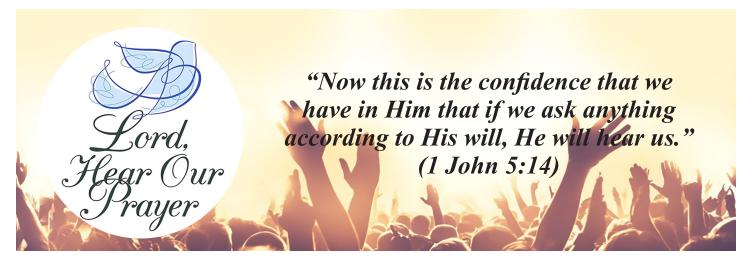
Prayerfully, Tadashi Kowta, Elder, Union Church of Los Angeles



## CPC celebrates PASTOR STEVE'S BIRTHDAY

The members of Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood celebrated the birthday of Pastor Steve Baroldy on Sunday, September 18, 2022 with a reception after the Sunday Worship Service. Pastor Steve is pictured here with his wife Simone.

Happy Birthday, Pastor Steve!



#### 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 at the birth of her greatgrandson, 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, returns safely and with joy from a three-week vacation in El Salvador where she reconnected 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."
- Pastor Steve and Simone praise GOD for healing from COVID. They are so grateful for GOD's provision of prayer, food, encouragement, and Jimi and Maria

### 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. standing in the gap even when the call for help was last minute.

#### FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:

Grieving is a long process. Let us keep remembering:

- 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.
  - Sueko who's brother Pat passed away this month. FOR THOSE WHO NEED PHYSICAL HEALING:
- Dora, Sueko's sister, general healing and tumor in her mouth.
- Yuri lives with extreme chronic pain. Praying for healing for Yuri and praying for her daughters Aya and Umi who care for her.
- Dave Kamiyama, Janet Nozaki's cousin, has been diagnosed with cancer, praying for healing.
- Philip Nozaki, Janet's son, had surgery on September 15th on his remaining kidney. Pray for healing and renewed strength.
- Brian, has a cancerous spot on the surface of his bladder. Praying the chemo treatments will destroy the spot on his bladder and any other spots that may have developed.
- Sandy (dear friend of Irene) provides care for her 94 years old mother. Mom is having medical issues requiring multiple trips to the hospital which in itself is very challenging. Praying for healing for Mom and strength and endurance for Sandy.
- Pastor Steve's and Simone's four year old granddaughter Alice who has just been diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis, a degenerative disease.

## 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

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extended their greetings and send their love to each of us in the CPC community.

#### **GENERAL:**

- For our children returning to school. For friendships that encourage each other for good.
- For our at-risk high school students at Helen Bernstein High School. There have been multiple drug overdoses and one hospitalization and one death of a 15year-old.
- Mexico is suffering under the violence of the cartels which includes bombings in Tijuana.
- Susan and Jack: Bless their marriage. There have been regular spans of separation due to Jack's work in another state. Praying that Susan and Jack will be able to work in the Los Angeles area.
- Young Life summer camps share the gospel with high-risk kids from the ages of 11-21 years. 14 high school students participated from our local LA high schools. 7 accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. One student 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. Let's pray for salvation for Abdul, Eric, and Allan.
- Spiritual revival across the country. That truth would not only be known but also embraced.
- For our Chinese, Taiwanese and Japanese 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.
- We remember to bless and thank God for Stella Kenner who we miss because she can no longer drive to church.

#### **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. Morsan McSweenee who pastors in the US military. Praying for a great harvest and the workers for the harvest. Alison Puzio, area coordinator of Young Live ministries to junior and senior high school students, post high school young people and teen moms in foster care who live at St. Annes.

#### FOR LOCAL SHEPHERDS:

Alison Puzio (Area coordinator of Young Life ministry to at risk kids, middle school through high school.), Pastors Ernesto and Juana Salguero (Faro de Luz), Pastors Damon and Guia Woods, (Church on Melrose), Pastor Ted Esaki (El Estero Presbyterian Church), Pastors Andrew, and Kate Alesso (Thrive LA), Pastors Logan and Gaby Lee launching a new church plant, Ignite LA, in the Jefferson Park area.

## Welcome!

#### BY TOM CHINEN

Hitoshi and Take Tano hail from Hiroshima, Japan. They are Janet Tsuchiyama's parents. They came to Hawaii in 1916. On October 10, 1929 Janet Tsuchiyama was born in Aiea, Oahu. Janet's hobbies include gardening and baking. That is good because she can grow her own veggies then cook them for dinner. Janet says that she belongs to a "Bible Study group". She said that what she likes about CPC is the friendliness of the church members. I was not in church the first day she came so last Sunday I gave her the first timer's lei, a plumeria lei I made from the flowers from my yard. Interesting that I had to tell her about the Hawaiian custom of giving leis to welcome visitors. I love making leis so even when there are no new comers I give out leis to our church members reminding them of the Hawaiian tradition of Aloha. Welcome Janet. Aloha!

\* \* \*

Keiko Nimura's parents are from Japan. She was born in L.A. She attended a Presbyterian Church. One of her hobbies is gardening. She likes Pastor's sermons. Well if anyone wants to know more you can do it after our church services during coffee hour. Good to finally meet you in person after our keeping away from church due to Covid 19. I hope you enjoyed the lei I make for first timers at CPC. This is a Hawaiian tradition that I introduced to our church as well as Ukulele music. In Christ's aloha!



Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySIBjL1VkU mhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09

Meeting ID: 384 758 031 • Password: 351955 One tap mobile

+16699006833,,384758031# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

## FINANCIAL REPORT AUGUST 2022

	<u>AUGU</u>	<b>AUGUST 2022</b>		<u>YTD</u>	
Receipts	\$	9,174	\$	91,232	
Disbursements	\$	10,806	\$	100,311	
Increase (Deficit)	(\$	1,632)	(\$	9,079)	

#### 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

Meeting ID: 384 758 031
Password: 351955
One tap mobile
+16699006833,,384758031# US (San Jose)
+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

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

<u>DATED MATERIAL</u>

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Published by
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