

A World Full of Wonders

The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handywork.
Psalm 19:1

What a wealth of meaning is to be found in these words of the Psalmist! When you look at the heavens above, strewn with fleecy clouds, and the fields clothed in verdant beauty, do you repeat those words of the Psalmist—or the words of the hymn, “My God, how wonderful thou art, thy majesty how bright!”?

We don’t appreciate natural revelation enough. Is this because many of us are penned up in the concrete buildings of our cities, or is it because an unbalanced view, with its emphasis upon special revelation, has failed to give proper place to God’s revealing himself in nature? It is true that natural revelation does not reveal that which meets man’s greatest need—the grace of God in redemption. That glorious truth comes to us through God’s special revelation, the Bible. Only in Scripture do we read: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

This knowledge of redemption is necessary to us to appreciate properly God’s revelation of himself in nature. However, the created world and God’s providential direction of it stands as a witness of himself to all men. As Paul says: “Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God has showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:19,20).

Man *is* without excuse. He should know God and serve him. Terrible indeed is the blight of man’s sin, which causes him to refuse to acknowledge God, when he sees evidences of his divinity and power on every hand.

How great is our God? He is greater than all his creation and his creation reveals his greatness to us. What opportunity is ours to teach our children—“This is my Father’s word!”

*O Lord our Lord,
how excellent is
your name in all
the earth!*

Psalm 8:1

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 100

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 6

“O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking you, through your grace, to relieve our distress. Remind us of your compassion, O Father of mercies. Remind us of all the benefits that are ours in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. We also ask that you grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness, which are pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Matthew 11:28-29 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 642

“Be Thou My Vision”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 303

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

Sermon Text

Luke 23:44-49

Sermon

THE DAY OF THE LORD

*Hymn of Response # 350

“Zion Stands by Hills Surrounded”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 10:00am. Adult Sunday School class. We are studying the book of Colossians.

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.

Sunday, January 26. Kat Chen will be publicly received into the membership of our church by reaffirmation of faith. Kat has been examined by our session and approved for church membership. May the Lord make Kat a blessing to us and us to her.