

What Do You Confess?

There had been a lot of talk about Jesus. Who was he? Where did he get his power?

Some said that he was Elijah. Others said he was a certain prophet. These answers were so far from the mark that Jesus himself asked his own disciples at Caesarea Philippi, “Who do you say that I am?”

There must have been a moment of silence. Then in a flash of insight Simon Peter answered for himself, for the disciples, and for the true church of all times: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16).

Some religious teachers would say that it makes little difference what we confess. What is important is what we are or what we do. Jesus’ own answer to Peter’s confession refutes such a claim. Jesus says that Peter’s insight was so great that it could not have come from mere man. Flesh and blood had not revealed this to him, but the Father who is in heaven.

So great and so basic was Peter’s confession that it would form the cornerstone of the confession of Christ’s church forever. His church would be built on that rock.

Later, the apostle John wrote, “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.” The test of the reality of our Christian profession is that we, as Peter did, affirm the Lordship of Jesus of Nazareth.

Everything turns on the pivot of this confession:

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved. (Romans 10:9, 10)

*Everyone therefore
who shall confess
me before men,
him will I also
confess before my
Father who is in
heaven.*

Matthew 10:32

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor! We would like to keep in touch with you. Please use the QR code to tell us about yourself.



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 # 271

“Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 724

“The Ten Commandments”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

O most great, most just and gracious God; thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity; but thou hast promised mercy through Jesus Christ to all that repent and believe in him. We confess that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. We have neglected and abused thy holy worship. We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors. We have not sought first thy kingdom. We have run into temptation; and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father! In thy Son is our salvation, in thy promises our hope.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 29 *“The Lord Has Heard and Answered Prayer”*

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 460

“Amazing Grace!”

Sermon Text

Isaiah 45:9-13, pew Bible p. 606

Sermon

LISTEN AND BE WISE

*Hymn of Response # 69

“Thy God Reigneth?”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

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. We are studying the book of Deuteronomy. 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, March 1. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church. But those who are not communicant members of our Church are asked to meet with the elders of the Church before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is required that they meet with the elders only once.

Sunday, March 8, 12:30pm. The annual meeting of the congregation and of the corporation will take place.

Book available on the back table: “The Unfolding Mystery, Discovering Christ in the Old Testament” by Edmund P. Clowney. The cost of the book is \$10.