

WORSHIP GUIDE | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

// Review of Last Sunday- May 5th

Sermon Text: [Jonah 4](#)

Questions to Prepare: How do you think the book is going to proceed, after Jonah's near death experience, his prayer of praise and thankfulness, how will he respond now that God gave him a restart?

Songs: [Spotify playlist](#)

Sermon Video/Audio: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/despising-a-liberal-god/>

Readings:

// Prayer of Preparation //

Great God, we come today not fully understanding the magnitude of what we are stepping into. We treat our time together as much less than you have told us. We don't realize we are hearing words from you today. We don't realize we are one with you through Christ. We forget that you are here in our midst. Remind us once again of the power of your Word and the unity you have with your people. Wake us up to what you are doing here this morning we pray. Amen.

// Call to Worship //

Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.

Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy.

All nations will come and worship you!

—from Revelation 15:3-4

// Prayer of Confession //

Holy and righteous God, we confess that like Isaiah, we are a people of unclean lips. But it is not only unclean lips we possess. We are people with unclean hands and unclean hearts. We have broken your law times without number, and are guilty of pride, unbelief, self-centeredness and idolatry. Affect our hearts with the severity of our sin and the glory of your righteousness as we now acknowledge our sins in your holy presence.

Leader: We have had other gods before you.

All: We have loved to praise our own glory more than yours.

Leader: We have taken your name in vain.

All: We have prayed religious prayers to impress others.

Leader: We have murdered in our hearts.

All: We have often destroyed our neighbor with our tongues.

Leader: We have committed adultery with our eyes.

All: We have lusted after unlawful and immoral pleasures.

Leader: We have stolen what is not ours and coveted what belongs to others.

All: We have complained in the midst of Your abundant provision.

Leader: We have lied to you and to others.

All: Even in our confession, we look for ways to hide our guilt.

// Assurance of Pardon //

God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. *Colossians 1:13, 14*

// Passing of the Peace //

Let's greet one another in the grace and peace that is now ours in Christ!

// Benediction //

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

2 Peter 1:2

Reflection Questions:

- In our *Prayer of Confession* we said "*We have often destroyed our neighbor with our tongues*", who have you talked about that you need to repent of? Then take time to ask yourself why we talk about others in a

derogatory way. Now remember that God is here to help you, ask his forgiveness and help to live in a new way.

- In what ways are you like Jonah?
- What do you make of God's consistent pursuit of Jonah in the midst of Jonah's anger and rejection of Him? What does that tell you about God?
- Reflect on your life with a view of God as pursuing you through your life's events (instead of bringing judgement upon you or being ambivalent to you). How does this change the story of your life?
- Who is someone you need to forgive in your life? Ask God to give you His heart of forgiveness and to release your grip on your pain or hurt in order to extend unmerited forgiveness to them. Then thank God for his unmerited forgiveness for you.

Quote:

The gift our enemy may be able to bring us: to see aspects of ourselves that we cannot discover any other way than through our enemies. Our friends seldom tell us these things; they are our friends precisely because they are able to overlook or ignore this part of us. The enemy is thus not merely a hurdle to be leaped on the way to God. The enemy can be the way to God. We cannot come to terms with our shadow except through our enemies. We have almost no other access to those unacceptable parts of ourselves that need redeeming, except for the mirror that our enemies hold up to us. - Walter Wink, "The Gift of the Enemy"

Resources:

Articles: [Forgiving Others Isn't All About You](#) by Chad Bird
[Forgiveness: The Key to Ministry Unity](#) by Paul Tripp

// FAMILY WORSHIP LITURGY

We hope you continue worshipping God throughout the week in all aspects of your life. One way to do that together as a family is to have a time of worship together. It's simple, coming together for 10 minutes with your family and go through the following Liturgy. We hope it helps you grow together and focus your week on Jesus.

READ Jonah 4:5-11

REVIEW

- Why is Jonah so mad?
- How does God react to Jonah when Jonah is so mad at God for being gracious to the Ninevites?
- After reading this what do we learn about God?

PRAY Heavenly Father, we confess we are like Jonah. We praise you when things are good and we complain when life is difficult and doesn't go like we want. We also want to hate people who have hurt us, just like Jonah. We need your help and forgiveness, God. Help us to love those who have hurt us and forgive them even if they don't ask for it. Thank you for *always* forgiving us, even though we don't deserve it. Thank you for Jesus our Savior! Amen.

MEMORIZE [New City Catechism Question #18](#)

Q: Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry to go unpunished?

A: No, God is righteously angry with our sins and will punish them both in this life, and in the life to come.

SING! The "Doxology"

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost, Amen

// Prepare for Next Sunday- May 12th

Sermon Text: Jonah 1-4

Questions to Prepare: What does Jonah teach us about God? What does Jonah teach us about us?

Songs: [Spotify playlist](#)

Readings:

// Prayer of Preparation //

God who is near, we come here on your invitation. Not entirely sure what you have for us this morning, but trusting it is exactly what we need. You know us better than we know ourselves and you know exactly what we need. You have been with us all week. You will be with us all this week. Help us to trust you. To trust you are good and you are with us. Remind us again this morning. Amen.

// Call to Worship //

"For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10

// Prayer of Confession & Assurance //

Psalm 32:1-3 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

Romans 8:1 There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

Dear heavenly Father, for the welcome we receive as we come into your presence, we praise you; For the freedom to call you Abba, Father, we adore you; For the assurance of your daily mercies and steadfast love, we worship you.

There is no other god like you—none more worthy to be loved with all our heart and soul, mind and strength. You know our weaknesses, and do not despise them. You know our brokenness, and will not shame us. You know our sorrows, and are filled with compassion. You know our foolishness, and promise more grace.

With our eyes fixed on Jesus—the author and perfecter of our faith, we ask you to forgive us. Forgive us hurting people we love by our impatience and irritation, by our lack of listening and our unkept promises. Forgive us for thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought, and thinking of others less compassionately than they deserve.

Forgive us for giving more power to what others say about us in public, than what you say about us in heaven. Forgive us for being too busy to behold your beauty in your Word; meditate on your mercies in Christ, and hear you sing to us in the gospel. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on me. Our hope is built on nothing less, nothing more and nothing other, than Jesus' blood and righteousness. We trust in his finished work, not in our vain promises. Amen

// Passing of the Peace //

If you are in Christ, God has brought you into a relationship of peace with Himself. Let's greet one another as people who live in relationships marked by peace

// Benediction //

Leader: Jesus Christ is the head of His church. The church will prevail because Christ has won. Go with confidence in Christ, the King of kings and the Lord of Lords. And may His peace be with you!

All: And also with you!