

WORSHIP GUIDE | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

// Review of Last Sunday- April 28th

Sermon Text: [Jonah 3](#)

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?

Sermon Video/Podcast: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/the-gift-of-judgement/>

Songs: [Spotify playlist](#)

Readings:

// Prayer of Preparation //

Gracious God, we come to you today as those who should never be called worshippers and much less "righteous". But we are reminded today that we don't come on our merit, but on the merit of the Righteous One Himself, Jesus Christ. Fill our hearts with joy as we sing to you. Open our ears that we might hear what you have to say to us today. In Jesus, Amen.

// Call to Worship //

Psalm 147:1-6

Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;

for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;

he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

// Prayer of Confession & Assurance //

Dear heavenly Father, yet again, your grace has generated our grief, and your kindness now leads us to

repentance. There is no other god like you—so holy and so merciful, so welcoming and so eager to redeem, so patient and so filled with unfailing love. Hear our confession.

We confess caring more about what others think about us than what they think about you.

We confess that it's easier for us to share gossip than to share the gospel.

We confess we often manipulate people for our good, rather than serve them for your glory.

We confess binging on fear and worry, rather than feasting on grace and feeding our faith

We confess hoarding our brokenness and weakness, rather than letting friends enter our pain and suffering.

We confess indulging irritation and justifying our resentment, rather than forbearing with others and forgiving as Jesus has forgiven us.

Have mercy on us, Father, have mercy on me. If you dealt with us according to our sins, we could not stand. If you repaid us for all our transgressions, we would despair forever.

But our hope is sure, for it is built on nothing less, nothing more, and nothing other than Jesus' blood and righteousness. We bless you, Father, for the gift of Jesus—for his perfect life lived for us, and his judgment- exhausting death on the cross. As you have forgiven us, and declared us righteous in Christ, so change us and make us more like Jesus. So very Amen we pray, in Jesus' merciful and mighty name.

// Passing of the Peace //

The risen Christ has brought us peace. What could possibly be greater news than the promise of life together with Jesus forever? In the spirit of peace, take a moment greet one another.

// Benediction //

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Reflection Questions:

- In our *Call To Worship* we read from Psalm 147 which says "it is good to sing praises to our God," why has it been good for you to sing praises to God? How has it been a good for you personally?
- How can judgment be a loving gift?
- As you reflect on the contrast between Jonah and the others in the story (sailors, Ninevites) what are some things you notice that might be tendencies of God's covenant people?
- How is belief more than cognitive or "mental"? What scriptures help define belief as more than cognitive?

Resources:

Articles: [A Compassionate Truth About Judgement](#) by Scott Sauls
[Don't Wait Another Year Until Easter](#) by Paul Tripp
[Law and Gospel](#) by Ligonier

// 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 3:4-5

REVIEW

- What was the people's response to the message from Jonah?
- What did the people "believe God" about?
- What is "repentance" and why do we do it?

PRAY

Great God, thank you for Jesus. We could never be loved by you without Jesus. Now we know you love us and forgive us. Teach us how to repent of our sins and fill our hearts with gratitude for Jesus our savior. We love you God, thanks for loving us forever and ever and ever. Amen.

MEMORIZE [New City Catechism Question #17](#)

Q: What is idolatry?

A: Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator for our hope and happiness, significance and security.

// Prepare for Next Sunday- April 28th

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](#)

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