

## THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

8:30, 9:45 a.m. Services

March 7, 2010

Please turn off your cell phones, etc., and set aside other matters as we prepare to worship.  
The pink prayer cards may be put in the offering plate.  
As you worship with us today, may the Lord Jesus grant you His grace.

**PRELUDE** - *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Bish

### \* THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Hymnal No. 2

### \* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 146  
Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

**Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
the maker of heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them:  
the Lord, who remains faithful forever.**

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.  
The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

**The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow  
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. The Lord reigns forever.  
Praise the Lord!**

### \* THE OPENING PRAYER

### \* THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal No. 625  
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.

### \* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

### SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:12-17, Exodus 20:17

### THE MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil;  
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Lance Hudgens, Pastor of Congregational Care, is liturgist.

\* **HYMN** - *O For a Heart to Praise My God* Hymnal No. 440

## THE OFFERTORY - *Exsultate Deo*

A. Scarlatti

We praise You, O God. We bless You.  
Alleluia! We joyfully come to You, O God of Jacob. Alleluia!

Please sign and pass the worship registry located at the end of the pew.  
We will note your presence. Acquaint yourselves with those in your pew.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 7:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to men who know the law — that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup> For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup> So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man.

<sup>4</sup> So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. <sup>5</sup> For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

<sup>7</sup> What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet."

<sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead. <sup>9</sup> Once I was alive apart from law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. <sup>10</sup> I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death. <sup>11</sup> For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. <sup>12</sup> So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup> Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! But in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it produced death in me through what was good, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

<sup>14</sup> We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.  
New International Version

### SERMON

Dr. Dan Doriani

### "WHAT LAWS CANNOT DO"

### \* CLOSING HYMN - *Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way*

1. Teach me, O Lord, your holy way, and give me an obedient mind;  
That in your service I may find my soul's delight from day to day.

2. Guide me, O Savior, with your hand, and so control my thoughts and deeds,  
That I may tread the path which leads right onward to the blessed land.

3. Guard me, O Lord, that I may ne'er forsake the right, or do the wrong;  
Against temptation make me strong, and round me spread your shelt'ring care.

### \* GOD'S BLESSING

**POSTLUDE** - *We Praise You, O God*

Charpentier

\* Please stand if you are able.

Alan Stith plays the trumpet.

## THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

11:15 a.m. Service

March 7, 2010

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As you worship with us today, may the Lord Jesus grant you His grace.

### PRELUDE

### \* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

2 Peter 2:9-10

Liturgist: We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that we may proclaim the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**People: Once we were not a people, but now we are the people of God;  
once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.**

Jay Thomas Hewitt, Director of Single Adults, is liturgist.

### \* SONG OF CHRIST'S EXCELLENCE

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Hymnal No. 97

### CONFESSIO OF SIN

from Exodus 20

Liturgist: And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

**People:**

**You shall have no other gods before me.**

**You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them.**

**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.**

**Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

**Honor your father and your mother.**

**You shall not murder.**

**You shall not commit adultery.**

**You shall not steal.**

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

**You shall not covet.**

Liturgist: Father, we confess that we have broken these laws, if not in actual deed, at least in our thoughts and words. Only in the renewal of our hearts by the Spirit of Christ are we able to resist temptation to break them again. Change us into a people who freely walk in you ways, not to earn your favor but because we already have it in Christ.

(Please personalize your confession in silent prayer.)

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 8:1 and 2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

**\* SONGS OF DEPENDENCE**

*Not What My Hands Have Done*  
*Doxology*

see insert  
see insert

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;  
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;  
the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;  
the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.  
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.  
Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**SCRIPTURE**

Romans 7:1-14

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**SERMON**

Dr. Dan Doriani

**“WHAT LAWS CANNOT DO”**

**OFFERING**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from the Belgic Confession, Article 24

Liturgist: What do we believe about our obedience to God’s law?

People: In obedience to God’s law, we do good works, but not for merit—for what would we merit? Rather, we are indebted to God for the good works we do, and not the other way around, since it is God who “works in us both to will and do according to his good pleasure.”

Moreover, although we do good works, we do not base our salvation on them; for we cannot do any work that is not defiled by our sinful nature. And even if we could, the memory of a single sin is enough for God to reject that work. So we would always be in doubt, tossed back and forth, without any certainty, and our poor consciences would be tormented constantly if they did not rest on the merit of the suffering and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**\* SONG OF HOPE**

*I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

see insert

**\* GOD’S BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE** - *We Praise You, O God*

Charpentier

The flowers this morning, are given in loving memory of Peter James Rogers by his parents, Alfred and Clarice Rogers.

**SERMON OUTLINE:**

1. God’s law: What it can and cannot do.
2. Freedom from the law: The right and wrong kinds of freedom.
3. In itself, the law is good; the problem lies within us. Coveting as test case.
4. Law cannot deliver me; who will?

**SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Why do people violate laws? Answer as many ways as you can. Are there any unique reasons to rebel against God’s law, as opposed to human laws?
2. Read Psalm 19. Why is this psalm (and others) full of praise for the law, while Paul seems so negative? In what sense is the law necessary and helpful?
3. Why do we persistently do some things that we know to be wrong? Why do resolutions to change work some times but not others?
4. Do you ever covet? Do you have desires that seem to be outside your control? Why are these important to Paul? Why should they be important to us? How does the problem of uncontrolled desires lead us to Jesus?

Further Reading: James 1, Exodus 20

These elders and women are available in the prayer room today to pray for your needs and the needs of those who are on your heart.  
 9:30 a.m. - Dale Schaefer, Alan Barker and Tammy Rasche  
 10:45 a.m. - Steve Davis, Bob Fulstone and Jacque Hudgens  
 12:15 p.m. - Joe Gruneisen, John Hamer and Nancy Gruneisen  
 The prayer room may be reached by exiting the sanctuary through the door nearest the pulpit and turning left at the bottom of the steps.

Trio Tonight - 5:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall  
 “A Purposeful Life” John 17:6-19 Clay Smith preaching  
 Trio is a relaxed and engaging worship experience featuring eclectic music, great food, coffee and real relationships.



BUT NOW, BY DYING TO WHAT ONCE BOUND US, WE HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM THE LAW SO THAT WE SERVE IN THE NEW WAY OF THE SPIRIT, AND NOT IN THE OLD WAY OF THE WRITTEN CODE.  
 ROMANS 7:6

Central Presbyterian Church seeks to glorify the triune God by embracing the Gospel, building our community, making disciples and transforming societies.

**MARCH 7, 2010**