

Sing *Amazing Love*.

Pray, "Lord God, You have promised that You will cause Your name to be praised over all the earth. Your redemption will cover the globe and so we know that our prayers for Portland and her people, our cry that You deliver Northern New England to Your kingdom is a biblical prayer. O Lord, tear down the walls of indifference and complacency. Topple the bulwarks of the wicked. Shred the defenses of all those who would stand against You. With the power of Your Holy Spirit, allow us to proclaim in word and deed the good news of Your kingdom that boys and girls, men and women all throughout this place would be won to You. Glorify Your name through us we pray."

Friday, 5/12

Come to the prayer meeting **this morning at 6:30.**

Read **Psalm 65:1-4**. Who dwells in the temple of God?

Feast and rejoice that God calls us to live with Him. There is no greater joy!

Pray that God would restore in us the joy of His salvation. Ask Him to help us see that He alone is everything that we need. Cry out to Him for a greater urgency in communicating this to our neighbors. Ask Him to work in the hearts and minds of the people you are witnessing to, that they too might discover the goodness of the Lord.

Saturday, 5/13

Read tomorrow's sermon context **Matthew 6:5-15.**

Prepare today for the gathered worship service tomorrow.

Sing the song *Lord, Have Mercy*.⁴

1. Jesus, I've forgotten
The words that You have spoken.
Promises that burned within my heart
Have now grown dim.
With a doubting heart I follow
The paths of earthly wisdom.
Forgive me for my unbelief,
Renew the fire again.

(chorus)
Lord have mercy;
Christ have mercy;
Lord have mercy on me.
Lord have mercy;
Christ have mercy;
Lord have mercy on me.

2. I have built an altar
Where I worship things of man.
I have taken journeys
That have drawn me far from You.
Now I am returning to
Your mercies every flowing.
Pardon my transgressions;
Help me love You again.

3. I have longed to know You
And Your tender mercies,
Like a river of forgiveness
Ever flowing without end.
I bow my heart before You
In the goodness of Your presence.
Your grace forever shining
Like a beacon in the night.

Pray for God's glory to be more and more manifested in the greater Portland area. Pray that He will use us to extend His grace as we celebrate it together.

¹ See the website for the mp3 audio files of these messages www.MainePCA.org.

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CHRIST the
REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LIVING IN THE KINGDOM

Sermon notes from 5/7/06

Ephesians 2:19-22

Rev. David Stewart

Text

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Notes

Message

Please use the space below for writing any specific application points you note from the text:

Application

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Taking Gathered Worship Home—Family and Individual Devotions

Ephesians speaks about us, God's people, becoming a holy temple in the Lord. Most of us have never been to a temple, but the Bible teaches us how we are to think about this becoming for which we are made. This week we will read, study, and meditate upon some of the passages informing us of the temple's design and purpose. This also ties in with what we heard at the missions conference and so it would be good to review those messages on-line¹ as part of your devotional life this week.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Please pray that we as a community of faith will learn His ways and walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday, 5/7

Read today's sermon passage: **Ephesians 2:19-22**.

Discuss the sermon. What does it mean to be citizens?

Sing the song *Amazing Love*.²

My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;
That I, the guilty one may go free.

Chorus

Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, given for me;

And so they watched Him die, despised, rejected;
But, O the blood He shed flowed for me.

My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers; Come wash your guilt away, live again.

Pray that God would make us faithful citizens of His kingdom. Pray that He would use us in extending His kingdom here in Portland and the surrounding region.

Monday, 5/8

Read Isaiah 2:1-5. How are we to view this temple mountain of the Lord? How is God accomplishing this?

Rejoice for the new life we have in Christ and His eternal kingdom.

Pray for your neighbors, peers, friends & family asking God to save them.

Extend His grace to someone you know today. Lovingly and thoughtfully express to them in word and deed the grace Christ has lavished upon you.

Tuesday, 5/9

Read First Corinthians 3:1-20 What practical application does Paul use for our being the temple of God together?

Meditate on this reality, "you yourselves are God's temple." Memorize these verses 16-17.

Feast in celebration of Christ's great grace in freeing us from sin and death.²

Pray, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! Every-

thing we see reminds us of Your power and glory because You made everything out of nothing. You made the sun and the moon, You made the land and the sea, You made the birds and the fish and all the animals, and You made us to love You and rule over Your creation together with You. We praise You for all Your gifts and for empowering us to care for Your world. Thank You for Your creativity and love. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth."

Wednesday, 5/10

Read First Peter 2:4-12. How does this image of the temple help us to understand God's purposes for us?

Meditate on Christ's beauty, "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."

Rejoice that Christ is faithfully building His kingdom.

Sing the song *Revelation 4-5*.³

Heavenly hosts in ceaseless worship
Holy, holy, holy' cry;
He who is, who was and will be,
God Almighty, Lord most high.
Praise and honour, power and glory,
Be to him who reigns alone;
We, with all his hands have fashioned,
Fall before the Father's throne.

All creation, all redemption,
Join to sing the Saviour's worth;
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us
Kings and priests, to reign on earth.
Wealth and wisdom, power and glory,
Honour, might, dominion, praise,
Now be his from all his creatures
And to everlasting days.

Pray for the congregation of CTR that we would be transformed by this gospel and nothing else. Pray that we too would proclaim this good news.

Thursday, 5/11

Read Isaiah 54:1-5. Is God's promise limited to a small area? What is this expanding tent? Of what is He God?

Memory Verse

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple."

First Corinthians 3:16-17