

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

PROVIDENCE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bible House, Level 4, Seminar Rooms 1 & 2

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*A household for our triune God,
where each member shines forth His holy, life-giving presence.*

**THE LORD'S DAY OF OCTOBER 18,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2020
9.30 AM**

“But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.”
(Habakkuk 2:20)

WE PREPARE TO MEET WITH GOD

Preparatory Devotion & Prelude

Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV).
Congregational readings are in **bold**.

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

The Greeting of God

The Call to Worship: *Psalms 100*

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD,
all the earth!
- ² Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
- ³ Know that the LORD, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- ⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

Opening Prayer

Responsive Reading of the Word of God: *Psalms 24*

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior.

Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

GOD RENEWS US IN HIS SON

Call to Repentance: *Leviticus 19:4*

Do not turn to idols or make for yourselves any gods of cast metal: I am the LORD your God.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Corporate Prayer for Forgiveness:

Heavenly Father, you are the King of the heavens and the earth and you offer us life in yourself. Yet we have sought life in idols. We have bowed to false gods, our money, our pride, that cannot save. And when we worship You, we worship You according to the desire and pleasure of our hearts, rather than following the way You have appointed for us how You should be worshipped. Have mercy on us, Father. Purify our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Grant us freedom from idols and a greater love for you and Your Word. Through Jesus our Lord, who died for sinners and fulfilled all righteousness, forgive our many sins. Amen.

Promise of Forgiveness and Assurance: *Hebrews 2:14-15*

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

GOD FEEDS US WITH HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *Luke 10:25-37*

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” ²⁷ And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind,

and your neighbor as yourself.”²⁸ And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him.³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii³⁶ and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of the Word of God: “*Neighbour* or “*Naybour?*” ?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

A Prayer of Response

Thanksgiving

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Republic of Singapore

The Holy Church of Jesus Christ

The Lord’s Prayer (Unison): *Matthew 6:9-13*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Responsive Reading of the Word of God: *Psalms 126*

When the LORD brought back the captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed.

Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negev.

Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.

He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow,

will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

GOD SENDS US OFF WITH HIS BLESSINGS

Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline

NEIGHBOUR OR “NAYBOUR”? *Luke 10:25-37*

I. Context

Our passage is part of the broader travel narrative of Jesus to Jerusalem,(9:51-191). Beginning with discipleship and mission , Luke now addresses the basic attitudes a disciple is to possess : attitude toward neighbors, spending time with Jesus and the disciples’ prayer to God

II. A self-righteous lawyer justifies obedience to moral law by asking Jesus “who is his neighbour” (25-29).

A. The lawyer tested Jesus on how eternal life is inherited

B. The lawyer answered his own question with the Moral Law or Law of Christ

- The two love commands are the heart of Judaism and taught by Jesus himself (Mat 22:37-40). It is from Deut. 6:5 and Lev 19:18

C. The lawyer justifies his “salvation” by asking for a definition of neighbour

- Jews lived in a circular world. He placed himself at the centre, surrounded by his immediate relatives, then his kinsmen, and finally the circle of all those who claimed Jewish descent and who were converts to Judaism (Simon Kristemaker)

III. The Parable of the Good Samaritan (30-37)

A. A man was robbed on the way from Jerusalem to Jericho and left dying by the road (30)

- Jerusalem was where the Temple was. Jericho, 27 km away, was a popular residence for the priests and Levites who served in the Temple.
- The steep, winding and lonely road between the 2 towns was called the “Way of Blood”.

B. A Priest saw the dying man and passed by on the other side (31)

C. A Levite saw the same dying man and also passed by (32)

D. A Samaritan saw the same dying man but stopped to help with compassion, commitment and care (33-35)

- The Samaritan did for the man everything that the priest and Levite should have done, but did not. (Kenneth Bailey)
- Samaritans were sworn enemies of the Jews like Philistines and Edomites. Their enmity was mutual (9:53).

IV. [Main idea] Loving neighbors is loving those in need with Christ-like life-giving love and compassion. (36-37)

A. Loving neighbor is not about knowing who my neighbor is not (naybour)

- "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them..... But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. (Luk 6:32-36)

B. Loving neighbour is showing compassion and mercy to all those in need

- Care for those in need is caring for Christ. It separates the sheep from the goats in the final judgment (Matt. 25:40).
- In Gal 2:10, the Apostle Paul affirms that the care of the poor is an integral part of gospel mission.
- The broken world is filled with needs. The parable does not list what actions must be done in each case although it was a dire need that was met. But it tells what Christian character is. It portrays a reality that challenges passivity and self-interest.

C. Loving neighbour is a product of loving God and not works righteousness

- "if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?" (1 John 3:17).
- "Faith alone justifies, yet faith is never alone. It is never without love; if love is lacking, neither is there faith, but mere hypocrisy." (Martin Luther)
- Jesus was seeking to make a man of knowledge into a man of practice. This is not a question of earning salvation. It is a question of being a Christian. It is from that God loving identity our love works

V. The Conclusion

- 1 Christianity is a relational religion. A God-loving Christianity is a neighbour-loving Christianity.
- 2 The only true way to show mercy to others is to experience God's infinite mercy ourselves in the person and work of Jesus Christ. That is empowering!
- 3 The challenge is to take a good look at ourselves. Is there someone in need around you - not just physical need, emotional and spiritual need?.