

# Our Redeemer Presbyterian Church

June 27, 2021

There are a number of conversions described in the New Testament. You think of Paul seeing the light on the road to Damascus, or the Ethiopian eunuch getting Philip to baptize him on the way from Jerusalem to Gaza. There is also the apostle Thomas saying, "My Lord and my God!" when he is finally convinced that Jesus is alive and whole again, not to mention the Roman centurion who witnessed the crucifixion saying, "Truly this man was the Son of God." All these scenes took place suddenly, dramatically, when they were least expected. They all involved pretty much of an about-face, which is what the word conversion means. We can only imagine that they all were accompanied by a good deal of emotion.

~Frederick Buechner~



~Bartolome Esteban Murillo, 1675~

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements, Prayer

Song of Preparation

Blessed Be Your Name

Prayer

Call to Worship

Psalm 47

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

People: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Leader: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

People: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

*Selah*

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing

praises!

Leader: For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

People: God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

Leader: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

People: For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

Worship in Song

All Creatures Of Our God And King

Praying History

Psalm 106

ALL: Praise the LORD.

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the LORD or fully declare his praise? Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right.

People: Remember me, LORD, when you show favor to your people, come to my aid when you save them, that I may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may share in the joy of your nation and join your inheritance in giving praise.

Leader: We have sinned, even as our ancestors did; we have done wrong and acted wickedly. When our ancestors were in Egypt, they gave no thought to your miracles; they did not remember your many kindnesses, and they rebelled by the sea, the Red Sea.

People: Yet he saved them for his name's sake, to make his mighty power known. He rebuked the Red Sea, and it dried up; he led them through the depths as through a desert.

Leader: He saved them from the hand of the foe; from the hand of the enemy he redeemed them. The waters covered their adversaries; not one of them survived. Then they believed his promises and sang his praise.

People: But they soon forgot what he had done and did not wait for his plan to unfold. In the desert they gave in to their craving; in the wilderness they put God to the test.

Leader: So he gave them what they asked for, but sent a wasting disease among them. In the camp they grew envious of Moses and of Aaron, who was consecrated to the LORD. The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan; it buried the company of Abiram.

People: Fire blazed among their followers; a flame consumed the wicked. At Horeb they made a calf and worshiped an idol cast from metal. They

exchanged their glorious God for an image of a bull, which eats grass.

Leader: They forgot the God who saved them, who had done great things in Egypt, miracles in the land of Ham and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.

People: So he said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him to keep his wrath from destroying them. Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise.

Leader: They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the LORD. So he swore to them with uplifted hand that he would make them fall in the wilderness, make their descendants fall among the nations and scatter them throughout the lands.

People: They yoked themselves to the Baal of Peor and ate sacrifices offered to lifeless gods; they aroused the LORD'S anger by their wicked deeds, and a plague broke out among them.

Leader: But Phinehas stood up and intervened, and the plague was checked. This was credited to him as righteousness for endless generations to come. By the waters of Meribah they angered the LORD, and trouble came to Moses because of them; for they rebelled against the Spirit of God, and rash words came from Moses' lips.

People: They did not destroy the peoples as the LORD had commanded them, but they mingled with the nations and adopted their customs. They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them.

Leader: They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to false gods. They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood.

People: They defiled themselves by what they did; by their deeds they prostituted themselves. Therefore the LORD was angry with his people and abhorred his inheritance. He gave them into the hands of the nations, and their foes ruled over them.

Leader: Their enemies oppressed them and subjected them to their power. Many times he delivered them, but they were bent on rebellion and they wasted away in their sin. Yet he took note of their distress when he heard their cry; for their sake he remembered his covenant and out of his great love he relented.

People: He caused all who held them captive to show them mercy. Save us, LORD our God, and gather us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.

Leader: Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to

everlasting.

People: Let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD.

Worship in Song

#139 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Scripture

II Corinthians 6:3-13

Leader: We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way:

People: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love;

Leader: in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown;

People: dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Offering & Worship in Song

Bury The Workman

The Lord Be With You

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:31-46

Acts 9:1-19

Song of Preparation

Revelation Song

Message

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and

walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Hear us as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us. Our Father . . .

Communion & Worship in Song

Grace Greater Than Our Sin #344

Common Confession

Apostle's Creed

Worship in Song

He Is Our King

Benediction

Postlude