REFLECTIONS ON CHRIST'S PRESENCE

We often speak of the "ministry of presence" when one simple visit for the purpose of being there makes the difference. Now think of one with us *when there is no one else*. How we value such a solitary visitor in our time of need! What comfort, then, in Isa. 59:16. Though God is amazed by the lack of one to stand for us, He foreshadows Jesus being born at Bethlehem by declaring that His own arm will save! No other arm to lean upon until Christ came for us. There is nothing so comforting as the real intercession of this Jesus, who stands in our place, and walks with us through the dark trials of this world!

But wait, are you forgetting that Christ's humanity is in Heaven and not on earth? How can you speak of Christ being with us, leading us with His hand on us? I answer, the Son of God "helped" our nature not just for a time, in order to suffer and die with it, but with a view to constant work on our behalf *in* and *through* that human nature!

For example, Heb. 2:16 says Christ literally "took us by the hand," and continues to walk among the golden candlesticks of His church, taking account of our every need as surely as if we could see Him walking with us! Jesus comforted that old, exiled apostle John by laying His hand upon him in Revelation 1:17. Just so: He knows our sorrows, and lays His priestly hand upon us, to bring us the real sympathetic comfort of His presence while we suffer here in this vale of tears.

ANNOUNCEMENTS—November 2, 202 5

• We thank God for his generous provision:

Oct average \$4808 Year average \$5555 Projected \$5200

THIS WEEK

- Wed, Nov 5th, 7:00 pm: Zoom Bible Study on I Corinthians. Check with Olivia for Zoom link.
- Thu, Nov 6th, 9:30 –1:30 am: Ladies Bible Study
- Thu, Nov 6th, 1:30—3:00 pm: Barre Bible Study
- Thu, Nov 6th, 6:00—7:30 pm: Trail Life
- Fri, Nov 7th-8th COPC Men's Conference in Washington, VT. Look for an email with packing list and times of arrival.

UPCOMING

- November 16th & 23rd: Thank Offering will be taken up
- Nov 22nd, 9 am-12 pm: Greens Party @ COPC fellowship hall; save the date.
- April 11-12, 2025: Presbytery Ladies' Retreat at Swanzey, NH.

LORD'S DAY EVENING WORSHIP

November 2, 2025



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome, Salutation and Call to Worship

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPONSE

* Opening Hymn

Hiding in Thee Trinity Hymnal # 655 (all verses)

1 O safe to the Rock that is higher than I my soul in its conflicts and sorrows would fly; so sinful, so weary, thine, thine would I be; thou blest Rock of Ages, I'm hiding in thee.

Refrain: Hiding in thee, hiding in thee—thou blest Rock of Ages, I'm hiding in thee.

2 In the calm of the noontide, in sorrow's lone hour, in times when temptation casts o'er me its pow'r, in the tempests of life, on its wide, heaving sea, thou blest Rock of Ages, I'm hiding in thee. [Refrain]

3 How oft in the conflict, when pressed by the foe, I have fled to my refuge and breathed out my woe! How often when trials like sea billows roll, have I hidden in thee, O thou Rock of my soul! [Refrain] **

* Invocation

God's Law & Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Prayer

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures

Matthew 7:7-11 p 695 pew Bible Hebrews 2:14-18 p 1188 pew Bible

Sermon

The Lord's Prayer (Pt 3): "Within Arm's Reach"

Prayer of Application

* Closing Hymn

Under The Care of My God, The Almighty
84 Trinity Hymnal (all verses)

1 Under the care of my God, the Almighty, safe in the secret place of the Most High! He is my refuge, the Lord is my fortress, him I am trusting when trouble is nigh.

Refrain: Under his wings, under his wings, safe in the refuge hide thee; trusting his truth and faithfulness, no evil can betide thee.

2 Be not afraid for the terror of midnight, nor for the arrow that hasteth to slay; fear not the pestilence walking in darkness, nor the destroyer that wasteth by day. [Refrain]

3 Seek the Most High for thy sure habitation, unto Jehovah for refuge now fly; there shall no evil befall thee nor harm thee, unto thy dwelling no plague shall come nigh. [Refrain]

4 Love thou the Lord, surely he will deliver; he will exalt thee and answer thy prayer; he will be with thee to honor and give thee life without end, his salvation to share. [Refrain]**

* Benediction

*Please stand if able

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The Lord's Prayer (Pt 3): "Within Arm's Reach."

Intro: "Beyond Humility; Faith and Forgiveness:" Our View of Christ in Heaven When We Pray.

I. Giving Us A Picture of Reconciliation:

Hymn # 305, verse 4:

My God is reconciled; his pard'ning voice I hear; he owns me for his child, I can no longer fear; with confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

II. Giving Us Ultimate Hope In The Son's Humanity in Heaven (Rm 7:25)

III. Giving Us Security in a Dangerous World (Romans 8:31-34)

IV. Giving Us A Well of Infinite Compassion for Us in Our Trials (Romans 7:21-25)