SERMON REFLECTION ON BIBLICAL FAITH

Psalm 36:1-9 & Psalm 61:1-8

Intro: God controls the conversations of all hearts - **including the wicked:**

… in their plots (Ps 36:1-4)

… in their atheism (Ps 14:1)

… in their restless defiance (Ps 10:1-11)

- but especially in His own people:

… in their conflicts bringing them assurance (Ps 35:1-3)

… in their distractions (Ps 36:1-4) bringing them fresh views of grace (Ps 36:5)

… in their cries, agonies and prayers, (Ps 61:1-3), bringing them the comfort of His Spirit

Lesson - Faith is continually looking outside itself to the Lord; faith is able to behold the wicked people and events of this life with an unflinching gaze because faith knows that the Mt. Everest of God's saving righteousness is always in view. (Ps 36:5) *But all the mountains in the world are no substitute for the humbling work of the Spirit - enabling us to take on the mantle of being just a servant of the Lord* (Psalm 18 & 36 titles).

Remember Isaiah 41:8, a verse used to identity what Israel became after the exile:

> But you, Israel, **my servant**,
> Jacob, whom I have chosen,
> the offspring of Abraham, my friend;

"Up to this point Israel had acted in haughty disdain of the true meaning of the covenant … Isaiah's earlier messages (e.g. Isaiah 5) were filled with denunciations of the wickedness and haughtiness of this nation. Israel behaved as though she were the master of her own fate, the arbiter of her own destiny … A lesson must therefore be learned by Israel. In her there must be inculcated the truth that although the promises had been hers, she was nevertheless but a servant, who must not do her own will but the will of her covenant and electing God. To learn this lesson, she must pass through the humiliation of the exile, from which she would be delivered only by God's grace." (EJ Young's comments on Isaiah 41:8)

Contact info: Pastor: Carl Durham (cell) 802-272-5864 pastor@copcvt.org
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LORD'S DAY EVENING WORSHIP

November 15, 2026

COVENANT ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Prelude, Salutation & Call to Worship 1 Peter 5:5-7 (p 1206 pew Bible)

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

*** Opening Hymn** *O Worship The King*
# 2 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1-5)

1 O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

3 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4 Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend! **

Invocation & God's Law 2 Samuel 22:1-4 (p 566 pew Bible)

Prayer of Confession *(unison)* Isaiah 43:22-24 (p 718 pew Bible)

Assurance of Pardon Isaiah 43:25 (p 718 pew Bible)

Congregational Prayer

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures Psalm 36:1-9 (p 549 pew Bible)
Psalm 61 (p 566 pew Bible)

Sermon Humble Yourselves Under The Mighty Hand of God

Prayer of Application

*** Closing Hymn** *Be Thou My Vision*
# 642 *Trinity Hymnal* (all verses)

1 Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;
raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

4 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all. **

*** Benediction**

*Please stand if able
** by permission, Great Commission Publications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK

- **Tuesday, 7:00 pm: Session Meeting**
- **Wednesday, 7:00 pm: Zoom Bible study on the Book of Matthew** (Ch 9)
  To receive a zoom link, contact the church office – copcoffice@gmail.com.
- **Thursday, 1:30 pm: Barre Bible Study**
- **Thursday, 6:00 pm: American Heritage Girls**
- **Friday, 6:00 pm: Choir at the Timms & also 11/22 at church**

UPCOMING

- **Annual OPC Thank Offering** will be received November 22 & 29.
  Bulletin inserts will explain more about the planned use of these funds.
- **Greens Party Saturday, November 28, 9 am-12 pm**
- **Save the Date: Spring Ladies' Retreat, April 16 & 17, 2027.** Info in foyer

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Library Update:

COPC's library display shelf in November is dedicated to C.S. Lewis (November 29, 1898 - November 22, 1963.) Whether discovering something new, or revisiting favorite passages, this scholar is a delight to read. Among the selections:

- *A Grief Observed* - a meditation on faith and loss
- *Surprised by Joy* - the author's intellectual struggle toward Christianity
- *Mere Christianity* - a beloved primer on the faith
- Several biographies and more.

To borrow a book, just sign the card in the back and leave it in the designated box.

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