

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Cathy Gumpert, Pastor

John Ayer, Music Director

LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 3, 2008

11:00 a.m.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

+Announcements

Prelude

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Cantor: Serve the Lord with holy fear.

Congregation: **Serve the Lord with holy fear.**

Narrator: Why do the nations conspire a rebellion? Why do the leaders muster their troops? The kings of the earth rise up, the princes plot together against the Lord and against the king God chose.

The Rulers: Let us free ourselves from their rule, let us throw off their control.

Cantor: Serve the Lord with holy fear.

Congregation: **Serve the Lord with holy fear.**

Narrator: The God of heaven laughs, God mocks their feeble efforts. In a voice of anger God warns them, in a rage God strikes them with terror.

God: I have installed My king on the holy hill of Zion.

Cantor: Serve the Lord with holy fear.

Congregation: **Serve the Lord with holy fear.**

King: Hear the decree of the Lord:

God: You are My son. Today I have become your father. Ask, and I will give you all the nations for your heritage; the whole earth will be yours. You will rule with a royal scepter; you will shatter them to pieces like a potter's vessel.

Cantor: Serve the Lord with holy fear.

Congregation: **Serve the Lord with holy fear.**

Narrator: Listen to this warning, you kings; learn this lesson, you rulers of the world; Serve the Lord with holy fear; with trembling pay homage to God. For if God becomes enraged, you will perish on your way. Blessed are those who put their trust in God.

Cantor: Serve the Lord with holy fear.

Congregation: **Serve the Lord with holy fear.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*+Hymn of Praise

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"

(see insert)

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 2

Almighty God, when we consider how awesome You are, it amazes us to think that anyone would try to prevent Your will from being done. But when we think about it, we realize that even we don't always work for Your will in the way we should. We can feel so pushed by the time constraints and financial constraints and energy constraints that challenge us all that we forget that You are the source of all our time, our resources, and our energy. How silly we are! If You are for us, who can be against us? Nothing can prevail against Your will. Forgive us. Help us to be strengthened by Your Word, so that we can do Your will here on earth, as it already is done in heaven. In this way we can be light to the world, and salt to Your chosen people, pointing the way to Jesus. It is in His strong name that we pray. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

Romans 8:31-39

Summary of the Law

Romans 12:9-13

*+Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with end. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Sermon

*+Hymn of Preparation (Insert)

"Thou Art the Way"

ST. JAMES

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament

Exodus 24:9-18

p. 62

New Testament

Mark 9:2-8

p. 820

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

GOD'S GREAT LOVE FOR US

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true

God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made Man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering *(Please fill out the red pew pads at this time. Remember to PRINT your name.)*

Offertory "Cantate Domino" Michael Bedford
The Chancel and Youth Choirs

*Doxology
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below,
 praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
 Amen.**

Dedication of Gifts

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (see insert)

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Community and The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn of Dedication "How Great Thou Art" (see insert)

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art, how great Thou art.
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, how great Thou art, how great Thou art.

Postlude

*Congregation (those who are able) will please rise.
 +Latecomers and returning worshipers may be seated.
 Hymns this morning are from "Rejoice in the Lord".

READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Organized 1719

February 3, 2008



Above all, we exist to worship God. Through the grace of God and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will make the love of Jesus Christ tangible by caring for one another and those around us and will go out into the world to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ

The Rev. Cathy Gumpert, Pastor
The Rev. Donald A. McCabe, Pastor Emeritus