

WHEN CHRISTIANS GET IT WRONG

Sermon Series



mental health apathy sexuality hypocrisy racism bigotry
religious intolerance xenophobia sexism
two-faced politics indifference prosperity gospel ableism
unforgiving mean-spirited judgmental hate hurtful
unloving un-caring



January 30, 2022
11:00am Worship



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Welcome to Worship at Aldersgate Church.

Prelude

Welcome & Community Time

Call to Worship

Offer God your worship and your praise.

Before God formed us in our mothers' wombs, God knew and loved us.

Offer Christ your love and your devotion.

Before we drew our first breath, Christ consecrated us as his own.

Offer the Spirit your gratitude and your thanksgiving.

Before we heard the call to heal the world, the Spirit sustained our every heartbeat.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

We will offer God our worship and our praise.

* Hymn #92 | *For the Beauty of the Earth*

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies

For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night

Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight

For the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

For the joy of human love, brother sister parent child

Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

For Thy church that evermore, lifteth holy hands above

Offering upon every shore, her pure sacrifice of love

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

For Thyself best gift divine, to the world so freely given

For that great great love of Thine, Peace on earth and joy in heaven

Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise

* Opening Prayer

Creator God, we thank you for the beauty of your Creation, and for giving us the privilege of caring for it. We confess that we have not cared for the earth with the self-sacrificing and nurturing love that you require of us. We mourn the broken relationships in creation. We repent for our part in causing the current environmental crisis that has led to climate change. Faithful God, sustainer of all—we pray with hope, because you are already at work through Christ to reconcile all of creation to Yourself and to renew all things. Now, give us your Spirit to work together to restore your creation and to hand on a safe environment and climate to our children and theirs. Let our care for creation be our act of worship and obedience to you. Your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

* Gloria

**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 without end. Amen. Amen**

* Passing of the Peace

* Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

* Offertory Prayer

Scripture

Listen for the word of God

Genesis 1:1-8, Matthew 22:15-22

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Anthem

O God Beyond All Praising

Wesley Choir

Sermon

When Christians Fear Science and Misuse Politics

Randy Orndorff

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Prayer for our Nation

Lord God, we thank you for your mercy towards our nation throughout its long history. Hear us as we seek your continuing mercy in this our day. Deliver us from the sins of affluence, from pride, from materialism, and from indifference to the needs of the developing world. Inspire your Church to be the nation's conscience. Give to our leaders soundness of judgement and courage of decision; and unite us all in a common zeal to honor you and serve others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

* Hymn #435 | *O God of Every Nation*

O God of every nation, of every race and land,
Redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand;
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
In love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
From trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
From pride of race and nation and blindness to your way,
Deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.

Lord, strengthen all who labor that we may find release
From fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase;
When hope and courage falter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
With faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
When hatred and division give way to love and peace,
Till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign,
And Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

* Benediction

God sends us forth with words of love on our lips.

Christ sends us with acts of love in our deeds.

The Spirit sends us with the power of love to sustain our lives.

We go in the power of God's love to be ambassadors of Christ's love and peace.

Postlude

*Congregation standing as able.

participation.

All text in bold indicates congregation

Give Now



Antem | O God Beyond All Praising

O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honour and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favour
may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise.