



IS YOURS A
SOVEREIGN PASSPORT?

« Ephesians 2:11-22 »

Sunday, July 22, 2018

But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything.

The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You *belong* here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

— **The Message**

- *CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY* -

Greeters:

Pat Keville & Bob Weaver
Barb & Ken Mobley
Connie & Bob Hoelscher
Rachel, Art, Katelyn & Andrew Reist

Ushers:

Fred Engle & Sue Savage
Linda Keener
Lewis & Glenda Burross
Bob & Vickie Kutz

The Chancel Flowers are Presented by:

Kitty Smoker, in loving memory of her parents Mr. & Mrs. Leonard C. Miller

The white roses is to announce the deaths of Helen "Joan" Kaufmann and of Louretta Coulson

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes & Welcome

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Prelude

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 105, *The Message*)

Call: Hallelujah! Praise God! Lift High God's holy name.

Response: Tell everyone the wonderful things God has done.

Call: Sing songs to God and belt out hymns.

Response: We raise our voices in praise and the instruments join in!

Call: Honor God's holy name with shouts of "Hallelujah!"

Response: Stay alert for God's presence. Watch for how God is at work.

Call: Remember the world of wonder that God has made.

Response: Recall God's miraculous deeds and faithful love.

Call: Come, O people of God. The Lord is worthy of our worship!

Response: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! We lift high God's holy name.

* Opening Song

Blessed the Lord Of My Soul

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession (Silent & Corporate)

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

**Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,
we confess that we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.**

We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you.

**We have turned from our neighbors,
and refused to bear the burdens of others.**

**We have ignored the pain of the world,
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.**

**In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison 572

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

* Gloria Patri 579

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

Scripture

Ephesians 2:11-22 (NIV)

Message

"Is Yours A Sovereign Passport?"

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Mars Hill Video

Mars Hill Reflections

Caris Daneker & Karen Singleton

Responding to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Offering

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Offertory

Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" during the Offering and pass it down the pew. At the end of the row, pas it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.

* Doxology 592 (inclusive)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Going in God's Name

Ministry Highlights & Greeting

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

* Closing Hymn 525 *Here I Am Lord*

* Benediction and Congregational Response

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel His mighty power and His grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings; I see glory in each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Postlude

*MUSIC: HIGHLAND CHANCEL CHOIR,
DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST
A/V: JONATHAN LEFEVER*

* PLEASE STAND IF ABLE

Sermon Notes

Official Passports have 3 purposes:

1. Declare _____
2. Allow _____ into the country of citizenship
3. Are a requirement of many countries to _____

Sovereign Passports:

1. Transcend artificial _____ & _____
2. Permit owners to have _____
3. Never _____
4. Allow access to _____

Just one catch: Sovereign Passports need to be _____

***A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal
FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.***

Cell phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Nursery is available during all worship services.

After the service, please recycle this page in the receptacles labeled "Paper Only" located in the Narthex.

***MESSAGES: Each week the sermons from the traditional & contemporary services
can be found on the Highland website.***

***If you missed a week but would still like to connect with Highland on the message
Visit highlandpc.org under the "Welcome" tab and choose either traditional or contemporary service.***