

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 10, 2021

I will rejoice greatly in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with a robe of righteousness;
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Isaiah 61:10

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 111 (p. 826)

Praise the LORD.

I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness.

He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

To him belongs eternal praise.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

O Father, You Are Sovereign

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;
Your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;
No pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil over-ruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose—our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,
But soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:
Our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sins.

All: For we know our transgressions, and our sins are always before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

Leader: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time we were conceived. Cleanse us, and we will be clean; wash us, and we will be whiter than snow. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and grant us steadfast obedience.

All: We ask all this through the merit and mediation of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Colossians 1:13

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 69

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 80

Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee

Lord, with glowing heart I'd praise thee
For the bliss thy love bestows,
For the pard'ning grace that saves me,
And the peace that from it flows.
Help, O God, my weak endeavor;
This dull soul to rapture raise;
Thou must light the flame, or never
Can my love be warmed to praise.

Praise, my soul, the God that sought thee,
Wretched wand'rer far astray;
Found thee lost, and kindly brought thee
From the paths of death away.
Praise, with love's devoutest feeling,
Him who saw thy guilt-born fear,
And, the light of hope revealing,
Bade the blood-stained cross appear.

Praise thy Savior God that drew thee
To that cross, new life to give,
Held a blood-sealed pardon to thee,
Bade thee look to him and live.
Praise the grace whose threats alarmed thee,
Roused thee from thy fatal ease;
Praise the grace whose promise warmed thee,
Praise the grace that whispered peace.

Lord, this bosom's ardent feeling
Vainly would my lips express;
Low before thy footstool kneeling,
Deign thy suppliant's pray'r to bless.
Let thy love, my soul's chief treasure,
Love's pure flame within me raise;
And, since words can never measure,
Let my life show forth thy praise. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 96. *What is the Lord's Supper?*

A. The Lord's Supper is a sacrament, in which by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's direction, his death is shown forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Q. 97. *What is required to be worthy of receiving the Lord's Supper?*

A. It is required of those who would receive the Lord's Supper worthily that they examine themselves, as to their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, as to their faith to feed on him, and as to their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment on themselves.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 734

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.

Lord's Prayer*

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.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Matthew 26:26-46

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 47])

Hymn 73

Rejoice, All People, Homage Give

Rejoice, all people, homage give,
to God with voice of triumph sing;
He rules us in dread majesty,
The great, the universal King.

He puts the nations under us
And makes us all triumphant stand;
He gives us for our heritage
His promised rest, a goodly land.

God has ascended with a shout,
Jehovah with the trumpet's sound;
Sing praise to God our King, sing praise,
Yes, let his glorious praise abound.

Our God is King of all the earth,
With thoughtful heart his praise make known;
O'er all the nations God does reign,
Exalted on his holy throne.

To praise and serve our cov'nant God
The princes of the earth draw nigh;
All kingly pow'rs belong to him,
He is exalted, God Most High. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Our Weakness, and Christ’s Strength and Grace”
John 18:15-18, 25-27

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 689

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev’ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav’nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast’ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and bless—ed we shall meet at last. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father,
praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit,
three in One,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.

SERMON NOTES

“Our Weakness, and Christ’s Strength and Grace”
John 18:15-18, 25-27

1. Our Weakness

Foolish self-confidence (Matthew 26:30-35; Proverbs 22:3)

Fear of man (Matthew 10:28)

Prayerlessness (Matthew 26:40-41)

Bad theology (Matthew 20:21; Acts 1:6)

Isolation (John 18:25)

2. Christ’s Strength and Grace

He remained steadfast (John 18:5)

He died knowing our sinfulness (Romans 5:6)

He restores us (John 21:15-19)

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, October 11

Scripture: Jeremiah 16:16 - 18:23; 1 Thess. 4:1 - 5:3; Psalm 81:1-16; Proverbs 25:6-8

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 10

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, October 12

Scripture: Jeremiah 19:1 - 21:14; 1 Thess. 5:4-28; Psalm 82:1-8; Proverbs 25:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 6

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, October 13

Scripture: Jeremiah 22:1 - 23:20; 2 Thess. 1:1-12; Psalm 83:1-18; Proverbs 25:11-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 7

Pray for: Our covenant children, and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Costa Rica and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, October 14

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:21 - 25:38; 2 Thess. 2:1-17; Psalm 84:1-12; Proverbs 25:15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 8

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, October 15

Scripture: Jeremiah 26:1- 27:22; 2 Thess. 3:1-18; Psalm 85:1-13; Proverbs 25:16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 9

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.
Our pregnant moms.

Saturday, October 16

Scripture: Jeremiah 28:1 - 29:32; 1 Timothy 1:1-20; Psalm 86:1-17; Proverbs 25:17

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 10

Pray for: The preaching, and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, October 17

Scripture: Jeremiah 30:1 - 31:26; 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Psalm 87:1-7; Proverbs 25:18-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 11

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize

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LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

All four gospels record the details of Peter's denial of Christ. Even Mark, who used Peter's eyewitness account of Jesus' life as he wrote his gospel under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, includes Peter's bitter failure. Think about the significance of that. Rather than seeking to paint a rosy picture of discipleship, the Holy Spirit caused these writers to include even their failures in Scripture to help us see our weakness and thereby to cast ourselves upon Christ for his grace and strength. There is a beautiful contrast in John's gospel between Peter's weakness and Christ's strength. While Peter vehemently denies Christ in the face of adversity saying, "I am not," Christ remains steadfast in the face of adversity, saying, "I am." Christ did not shrink back from submitting to his Father's will, but boldly went forward in order to accomplish our salvation. While in this life we often stumble and fall, it is encouraging to know that if we are Christ's, we can never totally fall away. Though we are weak, he is strong, and he will cause us to persevere to the end.

1. Read Matthew 26:30-35. What fault did the disciples, especially Peter, reveal? How did this lead to Peter's failure when he was tempted to deny Christ?
2. Read Matthew 26:36-46 and John 18:15-18, 25-27, and consider the points that were taught in the sermon. What were some factors that caused Peter to deny Christ? How can being aware of these faults in our own lives help us to avoid giving in to temptation?
3. Read Westminster Confession of Faith chapter 17 ("On the Perseverance of the Saints"). What are the grounds of our assurance? How can considering these truths often in our lives help us both to fight sin and to find comfort in Christ?
4. Read John 21:15-19. What was the grace that Jesus showed Peter? What was Peter's reaction?
5. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19 in light of Peter's denial and his restoration by Jesus. What is Peter's instruction to us?

Rejoice, All People, Homage Give

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Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. Ps. 47:1

1. Re - joice, all peo - ple, hom - age give, to God with voice of tri - umph sing;
2. He puts the na - tions un - der us and makes us all tri - um - phant stand;
3. God has as - cend - ed with a shout, Je - ho - vah with the trum - pet's sound;
4. Our God is King of all the earth, with thought - ful heart his praise make known;
5. To praise and serve our cov - nant God the princ - es of the earth draw nigh;

he rules us in dread maj - es - ty, the great, the u - ni - ver - sal King.
he gives us for our her - i - tage his prom - ised rest, a good - ly land.
• sing praise to God our King, sing praise, yes, let his glo - rious praise a - bound.
o'er all the na - tions God does reign, ex - alt - ed on his ho - ly throne.
all king - ly pow'rs be - long to him, he is ex - alt - ed, God Most High.

From Psalm 47
The Psalter, 1912; alt. 1990, mod.

TRURO L.M.
Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789