

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 15, 2020

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.
Isaiah 2:5

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 50:1-15 (p. 803)

A PSALM OF ASAPH.

The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets.

From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages.

He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:

“Gather to me my consecrated ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”

And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

“Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you: I am God, your God.

“I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, which are ever before me.

“I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens,

“for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.

“I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine.

“If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

“Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

“Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High,

“and call upon me in the day of trouble;

“I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 8

Mighty God, While Angels Bless You

Mighty God, while angels bless you, may a mortal sing your name?

Lord of men as well as angels, you are every creature's theme. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

Lord of every land and nation, ancient of eternal days,

Sounded through the wide creation be your just and lawful praise. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

For the grandeur of your nature, grand beyond a seraph's thought,

For created works of power, works with skill and kindness wrought. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

But your rich, your free redemption, dark through brightness all along,

Thought is poor, and poor expression, who dare sing that wondrous song? *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

Brightness of the Father's glory, shall your praise unuttered lie?

Fly, my tongue, such guilty silence, sing the Lord who came to die. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

From the highest throne in glory, to the cross of deepest woe,

All to ransom guilty captives, flow my praise, forever flow. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: We praise you, our God and King, because you are holy and good. Your unfailing love is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.

All: We acknowledge the vast difference between who we are as creatures and who you are as our Creator. We are shamefully aware of how we have sinned and fall short of your glory.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Enable us to receive and rest in the truth that we have been justified by faith and have peace with you through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: All praise, honor, glory, and power be to you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading

Psalm 27

Congregational Response

Hymn 650

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

I will sing of my Redeemer, and his wondrous love to me:
On the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.
*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
In his boundless love and mercy, he the ransom freely gave.
*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will praise my dear Redeemer, his triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
How the victory he giveth over sin and death and hell.
*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heav'nly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me, Son of God, with him to be.
*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free. 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 735

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

1 John 1

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 100]; Sung to Hymn 295)

Shout to the LORD, All Earth

Shout to the LORD, all earth,
And make a joyful noise!
With gladness serve the LORD your God;
Before him lift your voice!
Now know the LORD is God.
He made us, we are his—
His people and his sheep,
Who safely in his pasture graze.

Enter his gates with thanks,
And fill his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, and bless his name;
To God your voices raise.
Because the LORD is good,
His steadfast love endures;
From age to age, forevermore,
His faithfulness is sure. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Living as Lights in a Dark World”
John 12:34-36

1. Christ Is the Light of the World
Genesis 1:1-4
John 1:4-5
John 8:12
Revelation 21:23
2. Believers Are Lights Because of Union with Christ
2 Corinthians 4:6; Philippians 2:15
Ephesians 5:8-9
3. Let Us Walk in the Light
1 John 1:5-7
Matthew 5:14-16

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 585

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,
Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose,
Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
Ever, only, all for thee. Amen.

Benediction

Congregational Benediction Response

(Sung to TRINITY)

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be, hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity love and adore. Amen.

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In John 12:34-36, Jesus exhorts the people in the crowd that they must follow him by turning from the darkness of their sins and believing in him. If they do so, they will become children of light—they will be united to Christ who is the Light of the world—and they will no longer walk in the darkness of sin. This same call to repentance and faith continues to go out today through the preaching of the gospel. When we are regenerated by the Spirit of Christ, our eyes are opening to the truth of the gospel and we are made willing and able to believe. Like Saul, the scales that hindered our ability to see and believe fall from our eyes. Now, having been brought into the light and having become children of light, we are commanded to live in the light and to shine the light of Christ to the dark world around us. Jesus says in Matthew 5:14-16, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Sinclair Ferguson, in his book, *The Sermon on the Mount*, gives a helpful explanation of Jesus' words:

The regeneration of people's lives is a sovereign work of God's grace. We cannot bring anyone to newness of life. But it is our responsibility to live the new life in order that others may be challenged by it. It is our responsibility to shine for Jesus Christ so that others will see his salvation expressed in the flesh-and-blood reality of our lives. This is the point Jesus is making: we have a responsibility to show the Christ-like life of light to those around us. We cannot hide it under a cover. Fulfilling this plan will demand that the whole of our lives be whole-heartedly and unceasingly devoted to him and to his service. That devotion will cost us everything. But surely those who are 'the light of the world' will give nothing less for him who is the light that the darkness can never overcome (John 1:5).

1. Read Genesis 1:1-5 and John 1:1-5. What similarities and connections do you notice between these two passages? What is John teaching us about Jesus as he echoes the passage from Genesis when he begins his gospel?
2. What does Jesus mean when he says in John 12:35, “Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you.”?
3. Read Ephesians 5 and take note of the ways in which the Apostle Paul contrasts what it means to walk in darkness versus to walk in the light. How do you, in your daily life, seek to walk in the light of the Lord?

Shout to the LORD, All Earth

100A

1. ¹Shout to the LORD, all earth, and make a joy - ful noise!
2. ⁴En - ter his gates with thanks, and fill his courts with praise.

²With glad - ness serve the LORD your God; be - fore him lift your voice!
Give thanks to him, and bless his name; to God your voic - es raise.

³Now know the LORD is God. He made us, we are his—
⁵Be - cause the LORD is good, his stead - fast love en - dures;

his peo - ple and his sheep, who safe - ly in his pas - ture graze.
from age to age, for - ev - er - more, his faith - ful - ness is sure.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

*The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.
Use our church directory to pray for an individual or family each day.*

Monday, November 16

Scripture: Ezekiel 33:1 - 34:31; Hebrews 13:1-25; Psalm 115:1-18; Proverbs 27:21-22

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 29

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

Tuesday, November 17

Scripture: Ezekiel 35:1 - 36:38; James 1:1-18; Psalm 116:1-19; Proverbs 27:23-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 45

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

Wednesday, November 18

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1 - 38:23; James 1:19 - 2:17; Psalm 117:1-2; Proverbs 28:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 46

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

Thursday, November 19

Scripture: Ezekiel 39:1 - 40:27; James 2:18 - 3:18; Psalm 118:1-18; Proverbs 28:2

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 47

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

Friday, November 20

Scripture: Ezekiel 40:28 - 41:26; James 4:1-17; Psalm 118:19-29; Proverbs 28:3-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 48

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, November 21

Scripture: Ezekiel 42:1 - 43:27; James 5:1-20; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 28:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 49

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

Sunday, November 22

Scripture: Ezekiel 44:1 - 45:12; 1 Peter 1:1-12; Psalm 119:17-32; Proverbs 28:8-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 50

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.*

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