

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 8, 2020

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:6-7a

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 48 (p. 803)

A SONG. A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth.

Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King.

God is in her citadels; he has shown himself to be her fortress.

When the kings joined forces, when they advanced together,

they saw her and were astounded; they fled in terror.

Trembling seized them there, pain like that of a woman in labor.

You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish shattered by an east wind.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD Almighty, in the city of our God:

God makes her secure forever.

Within your temple, O God, we meditate on your unfailing love.

Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;

your right hand is filled with righteousness.

Mount Zion rejoices, the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgments.

Walk about Zion, go around her, count her towers,

consider well her ramparts, view her citadels, that you may tell of them to the next generation.

For this God is our God for ever and ever;

he will be our guide even to the end.

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 19

Thee We Adore, Eternal Lord!

Thee we adore, eternal Lord! We praise thy name with one accord.
Thy saints, who here thy goodness see, through all the world do worship thee,
Through all the world do worship thee.

To thee aloud all angels cry, the heav'ns and all the pow'rs on high:
Thee, holy, holy, holy King, Lord God of Hosts, they ever sing,
Lord God of Hosts, they ever sing.

Apostles join the glorious throng, and prophets swell th'immortal song;
Thy martyrs' noble army raise eternal anthems to thy praise,
Eternal anthems to thy praise.

From day to day, O Lord, do we exalt and highly honor thee!
Thy name we worship and adore, world without end, forevermore,
World without end, forevermore. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God, we confess that you are holy and perfect. We feel unworthy to enter into your presence because we again have failed to keep all your commandments.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you and others, and that we have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, our God.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, and help us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

All: Thank you for the assurance we have of forgiveness through the blood of our Savior, 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 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-11

Congregational Response

Hymn 486

God, Be Merciful to Me

God, be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face;
I confess thy judgment just, speechless, I thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, teach thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice;
From my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
Cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to thee;
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love;
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 94. *What is Baptism?*

A. Baptism is a sacrament, in which the washing with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, does signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and receiving of the benefits of the Covenant of Grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

Q. 95. *To whom is Baptism to be administered?*

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any who are out of the visible Church, until they profess their faith in Christ and obedience to him; but the infants of those who are members of the visible Church are to be baptized.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Doxology

Hymn 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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 7:15-29

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 Clayton Willis

“God’s Word at Work”
1 Thessalonians 2:13-16

1. God’s Word Received and Accepted (v. 13)
2. God’s Word Given Through Men (vv. 13-14)
3. God’s Word and Perseverance (v. 14)
4. God’s Word and Judgment (vv. 15-16)

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 76

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless;
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes;
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Widely as his mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;
But while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space,
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise with us the God of grace. Amen.

Benediction

Congregational Benediction Response

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Paul rejoiced and thanked God that the Thessalonians not only heard the gospel (the Word of God), they *received* and *accepted* it. Their receiving and accepting the gospel was the result of the work of God in their lives and was proof of their true faith in Jesus and, therefore, of their salvation. Because they received and accepted the gospel, the Word of God continued to work in them, sanctifying them and conforming them to the image of Christ, and equipping them to courageously stand up for the Name of Christ, even if it meant undergoing persecution and suffering. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16 and consider the following questions.

1. How do we see Paul's pastoral heart in this passage? How does Paul's compassionate concern for the Thessalonian believers point us to Jesus' compassion for us?
2. What attributes is Paul giving to the gospel when he equates it with the 'word of God'? Have you received and accepted the gospel as the very Word of God, or is it something you have merely 'heard'?
3. What ways has the gospel been at work in your life? How are you being conformed to the image of Christ?

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 9

Scripture: Ezekiel 20:1-49; Hebrews 9:11-28; Psalm 107:1-43; Proverbs 27:11

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 28

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

Tuesday, November 10

Scripture: Ezekiel 21:1 – 22:31; Hebrews 10:1-17; Psalm 108:1-13; Proverbs 27:12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 39

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

Wednesday, November 11

Scripture: Ezekiel 23:1-49; Hebrews 10:18-39; Psalm 109:1-31; Proverbs 27:13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 40

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

Thursday, November 12

Scripture: Ezekiel 24:1 – 26:21; Hebrews 11:1-16; Psalm 110:1-7; Proverbs 27:14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 41

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

Friday, November 13

Scripture: Ezekiel 27:1 – 28:26; Hebrews 11:17-31; Psalm 111:1-10; Proverbs 27:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 42

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, November 14

Scripture: Ezekiel 29:1 – 30:26; Hebrews 11:32 - 12:13; Psalm 112:1-10; Prov. 27:17

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 43

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

Sunday, November 15

Scripture: Ezekiel 31:1 - 32:32; Hebrews 12:14-29; Ps. 113:1 - 114:8; Prov. 27:18-20

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 44

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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