

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, February 7, 2021

But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Psalm 13:5-6

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 27 (p. 793 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.

Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.

One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling;

he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me;

at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hear my voice when I call, O LORD; be merciful to me and answer me.

My heart says of you, “Seek his face!” Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior.

Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me.

Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence.

I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

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

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we join with your Church around the world, with Christians now in heaven, and with the heavenly host, to declare that you are holy, holy, holy; the whole earth is full of your glory!

All: But as we think about your holiness, we recognize our unworthiness all the more. We have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray, and grant us repentant hearts. Help us to lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and strengthen us to run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at your right hand.

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

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Exodus 20:1-17; Romans 13:8-10

Congregational Response

Hymn 331

Come, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit

Come, O come, thou quick'ning Spirit,
God from all eternity!
May thy power never fail us;
Dwell within us constantly.
Then shall truth and life and light
Banish all the gloom of night.

Grant our hearts in fullest measure
Wisdom, counsel, purity,
That we ever may be seeking
Only that which pleaseth thee.
Let thy knowledge spread and grow,
Working error's overthrow.

Show us, Lord, the path of blessing;
When we trespass on our way,
Cast, O Lord, our sins behind thee
And be with us day by day.
Should we stray, O Lord, recall;
Work repentance when we fall.

Holy Spirit, strong and mighty,
Thou who makest all things new,
Make thy work within us perfect
And the evil foe subdue.
Grant us weapons for the strife
And with vict'ry crown our life. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 13. *Did our first parents continue in the estate in which they were created?*

A. Our first parents, being left to the freedom of their own will, fell from the estate in which they were created, by sinning against God.

Q. 14. *What is sin?*

A. Sin is any lack of conformity to, or transgression of, the Law of God.

Q. 15. *What was the sin by which our first parents fell from the estate in which they were created?*

A. The sin by which our first parents fell from the estate in which they were created, was their eating of the forbidden fruit.

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*

John 13

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month)

Hymn 667

God Is My Strong Salvation

God is my strong salvation;
What foe have I to fear?
In darkness and temptation
My light, my help is near.

Though hosts encamp around me,
Firm to the fight I stand;
What terror can confound me,
With God at my right hand?

Place on the Lord reliance,
My soul, with courage wait;
His truth be your affiance,
When faint and desolate.

His might your heart shall strengthen,
His love your joy increase;
Mercy your days shall lengthen;
The Lord will give you peace. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Repentance and Faith”
John 13:18-30; 36-38

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

(also printed on p. 10)

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; he must hold me fast.
He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last;
Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

For my life he bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last!
He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit,
Be to God and God alone!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
One in Three and Three in One. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

“Repentance and Faith” John 13:18-30; 36-38

1. We need to trust our sovereign Lord. (vv. 18-20)
 Psalm 41:9
 John 16:33
2. We should not trust in our strength alone. (vv. 21-30; 36-38)
 2 Corinthians 13:5-6
 1 Corinthians 10:12
3. We must keep repenting of sin and finding assurance in God’s grace to us through Christ.
 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
 Matthew 26:14-16; 47-50; 27:3-5
 John 21:15-19
 Acts 3:19-20

He Will Hold Me Fast

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a guitar accompaniment line with chords. The key signature is A major (one sharp) and the time signature is 3/2. The lyrics are as follows:

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast; When the tempt-er
 2. Those He saves are His de-light, Christ will hold me fast; Pre-cious in his
 3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast; Just-ice has been

would pre-vail, He will hold me fast. I could nev-er keep my hold
 ho-ly sight, He will hold me fast. He'll not let my soul be lost; His
 sat-is-fied; He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end-less life,

Through life's fear-ful path; For my love is oft-en cold; He must hold me
 Prom-is-es shall last; Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me
 He will hold me fast 'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at

fast. He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
 fast.
 last!

For my Sa-rior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

He Will Hold Me Fast

Lyrics vv. 1-2 Ada Habershon (1861-1918), Public Domain;
 Alt words vv.1-2, lyrics v.3, and music: Matt Merker, © 2013

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

It is difficult to read about Judas' betrayal. There is sadness involved in his treachery and the consequences he faced because of his sin. The regret he felt led him not to repent and seek assurance in Christ's grace to sinners; it led him instead to self-destruction. In contrast to Judas, we see Peter, who also sinned against Christ by denying him, and yet who repented and trusted in the grace that is found in Christ alone. Peter is a reminder to us that God will forgive all those who repent and believe in Christ. Peter is also a reminder to us to not trust in our own strength. Peter was still maturing, growing, learning. This is why Jesus said to him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward" (John 13:36). John Calvin helpfully explains how we should apply this to our own lives:

He means that Peter is not yet ripe for bearing the cross, but, like corn still in the blade, must be formed and strengthened by the progress of time, that he may follow. We ought therefore to pray to God to carry forward to a higher degree of excellence what he has begun in us. In the meantime, we must creep, till we are able to run more swiftly. Now as Christ bears with us, while we are tender and delicate, so let us learn not to reject weak brethren, who are still very far from the goal. It is desirable, indeed, that all should run with the greatest eagerness, and we ought to encourage all to quicken their pace; but if there are any who walk more slowly, we ought to hope well concerning them, provided that they keep the road.

1. Read John 13:18-20. Why did Jesus tell his disciples in advance what would happen? How should knowing God's sovereignty help us face the difficulties of this life?
2. Read Westminster Confession of Faith 5.4-7. How is God's providence revealed in the way he preserves the elect and causes them to persevere?
3. Read Westminster Larger Catechism Q/A 76. What feelings and emotions toward sin does the Spirit of God work into the hearts of believers? What feelings and emotions toward Christ does the Spirit of God work into the hearts of believers? Why are these two realities essential for saving faith?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 7:9-10. How does this passage describe true repentance? How was this evidenced in Peter's life?
5. Do you regularly repent of sin? Read Westminster Confession of Faith 15:5-6 and consider how you can practice the grace of repentance more consistently in your own prayer life.

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, February 8

Scripture: Exodus 28:1-43; Matthew 25:31 - 26:13; Psalm 31:9-18; Proverbs 8:12-13

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 8

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

Tuesday, February 9

Scripture: Exodus 29:1 - 30:10; Matthew 26:14-46; Psalm 31:19-24; Proverbs 8:14-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 10

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

Wednesday, February 10

Scripture: Exodus 30:11 - 31:18; Matthew 26:47-68; Psalm 32:1-11; Proverbs 8:27-32

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 11

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

Thursday, February 11

Scripture: Exodus 32:1 - 33:23; Matthew 26:69 - 27:14; Psalm 33:1-11; Prov. 8:33-36

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 12

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

Friday, February 12

Scripture: Exodus 34:1 - 35:9; Matthew 27:15-31; Psalm 33:12-22; Proverbs 9:1-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 13

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, February 13

Scripture: Exodus 35:10 - 36:38; Matthew 27:32-66; Psalm 34:1-10; Proverbs 9:7-8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 14

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

Sunday, February 14

Scripture: Exodus 37:1 - 38:31; Matthew 28:1-20; Psalm 34:11-22; Proverbs 9:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 15

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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