

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, June 16, 2019

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Romans 15:4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 131 (p. 833)

Hymn of Preparation*

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King” Hymn 310

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we are saddened and frustrated as we remember how we have sinned against you and others. We have done the things you teach us to run from; and we have not done the good works that you require of us.

All: Forgive us, we pray. Our sins are shameful to us and offensive to you. All the wrongs that we have done are not hidden from your sight. Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: Grant that by resting in Christ’s righteousness alone we may hereafter walk in newness of life, and run with endurance the race that is set before us.

All: All praise be to you, O God, through 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 3:12-14

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

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

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Joshua 7

Congregational Response

“He Will Hold Me Fast” (printed on the last page)

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 33. *What is justification?*

A. Justification is an act of God’s free grace, in which he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Q. 34. *What is adoption?*

A. Adoption is an act of God’s free grace, by which we are received as sons of God, and have a right to all the privileges of that standing.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Tithes and Offerings

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* Joshua 8

Congregational Response (Psalm 119:89-97) “Forever Settled in the Heavens” Hymn 59

Pastoral Prayer (based on Jeremiah 9:23-24)

Sermon Pastor Ben Muresan
“Sin Is Serious”
Joshua 7-8

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving* “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” Hymn 500

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.

LORD’S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Jesus’ tears in the Garden of Gethsemane give us some indication of the agony he endured as he considered the physical pain and the spiritual torment he was about to experience on the cross. Luke records, “And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (Luke 22:44). As Jesus considered the cross, he said, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death” (Matthew 26:38), and we read in Hebrews 5:7 that Jesus “offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.”

Jesus’ agony when considering the terrors of the wrath of God help us understand the seriousness of sin. When we read about the judgment that God brought upon Achan because of his sin, our natural reaction might be to think that God overreacted. Did Achan really deserve death because of his sin? The Bible says Yes because the “wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). Sin is serious. It brings with it the wrath of God, a terror so unimaginable that even Jesus agonized about it. When we understand this, we can appreciate all the more deeply what Jesus accomplished on the cross in bearing God’s wrath for his people.

1. Before you begin to consider the book of Joshua, take a moment to read the Athanasian Creed. You can use either the selected portions printed in the Greeting from the Pastor section of the bulletin or search for the complete version online. What does this creed help us understand about God? Why do you think the doctrine of the trinity is important such that “anyone then who desires to be saved should think thus about the trinity”?
2. Review Joshua 5:13 - 6:27, the sermon text from last week. How did the fall of Jericho reveal both God’s just judgment and his grace?
3. What are the “devoted” things according to Joshua 6:17-19 and 7:1? How does this help us understand the seriousness of Achan’s sin?
4. How did Achan’s sin affect him, his family, and all of Israel? What does this teach us about the danger of sin (Joshua 7) and the blessings of obedience (Joshua 8)?
5. How are unrepentant sinners in the church dealt with today? Read and discuss Matthew 18:15-20 and 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, 12-13.
6. In preparation for next week, read Joshua 9. What do you learn from this story? How does it point forward to Christ?

He Will Hold Me Fast

System 1:
 Chords: A, A/C#, D, D, E, A, A
 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

System 2:
 Chords: A/C#, D, D, E, A, F#m, E/G#, E, A, D
 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-sied; He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end-less life,

System 3:
 Chords: D, C#, F#m, F#m, E/G#, E, A, D, D, E
 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

System 4:
 Chords: A, D, E, F#m, F#m, E/G#, A
 fast. He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
 fast.
 last!

System 5:
 Chords: A, Bm7, A/C#, D, D, E, A
 For my Sa-vior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

He Will Hold Me Fast

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