

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 26, 2020

Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;
sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

Psalm 135:3

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 36 (p. 797 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

An oracle is within my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes.

For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin.

The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful; he has ceased to be wise and to do good.

Even on his bed he plots evil; he commits himself to a sinful course and does not reject what is wrong.

Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep.

O LORD, you preserve both man and beast.

How priceless is your unfailing love!

Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart.

May the foot of the proud not come against me, nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

See how the evildoers lie fallen—thrown down, not able to rise!

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 6 (stanzas 1-2, 5)

O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord

O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker,

And all within me bless his holy name;

Bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies,

His pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.

Bless him forever, wondrous in might,

Bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion,

Most slow to anger, plenteous in love;

Rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him,

Boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.

Bless him forever, wondrous in might,

Bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever,

His kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;

Bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion,

Bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.

Bless him forever, wondrous in might,

Bless him, his servants that in his will delight. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy.

All: We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you.

Leader: We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us, and make our hearts fervent for you that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors.

All: For we ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8, 10-12

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading

Psalm 130

Congregational Response

Hymn 139

Your Word is Like a Garden, Lord

Your Word is like a garden, Lord,
With flowers bright and fair;
And everyone who seeks may pluck
A lovely cluster there.
Your Word is like a deep, deep mine;
And jewels rich and rare
Are hidden in its mighty depths
For every searcher there.

Your Word is like a starry host:
A thousand rays of light
Are seen to guide the traveler,
And make his pathway bright.
Your Word is like an armory,
Where soldiers may repair,
And find, for life's long battle day,
All needful weapons there.

O may I love your precious Word,
May I explore the mine,
May I its fragrant flowers glean,
May light upon me shine.
O may I find my armor there,
Your Word my trusty sword;
I'll learn to fight with every foe
The battle of the Lord. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Titus 2:11-14

Congregational Response

(Sung to the tune of "O Worship the King")

Psalm 104

My soul, bless the LORD!
LORD God, you are great,
With honor arrayed, majestic in state!
You cover yourself with a garment of light
And stretch out the sky as a curtain by night.

The beams of your courts in waters you laid;
On wings of the wind your pathway you made.
The clouds are your chariot;
The winds do your will;
The flames and the lightnings
Your pleasure fulfill.

You set up the earth on foundations sure,
That always it should unshaken endure.
Deep seas like a garment about it you cast;
The waters stood high;
Over mountains they passed.

But at your rebuke the high waters fled;
Your thunder they heard and from there they sped.
The mountains arose,
And the valleys sank low,
And went to the place
You ordained them to go. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer (based on Psalm 23)

Sermon

Pastor Clayton Willis

"Faith, Love, and Hope"
1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

1. Prayer for the Thessalonians (v. 2)
2. The Thessalonians are commended for their Faith (v. 3)
3. The Thessalonians are commended for their Love (v. 3)
4. The Thessalonians are commended for their Hope (v. 3)

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 101

Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, thou Almighty King,
Help us thy name to sing, help us to praise.
Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word,
Gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless, and give thy Word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

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.

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

When the apostle Paul wrote to encourage the fledgling congregation in Thessalonica, he began his letter with an assurance that he, along with Silvanus (Silas) and Timothy, were constantly praying for them all. What an encouragement it must have been for these new believers to hear that they were prayed for so often! I am encouraged when I hear that others are praying for me (I certainly need it!), as I'm sure you are encouraged by the prayers of others on your behalf. But let us be even more encouraged that the Lord Jesus is constantly interceding (praying) for us at the right hand of the Father! (Romans 8:34). While we are encouraged by the prayers of others, we are also instructed on what we should be praying for - faith, love, and hope (1 Thess. 1:3). These three things are the mark of every true believer in Christ, and ought to be addressed in our prayers for others, and zealously sought after in our own sanctification.

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3. To Whom is thanks given for the faith of the Thessalonian believers? According to v. 4, what brought about their faith?
2. Look up Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 116. What do we learn about prayer in v. 2?
3. What is the 'work of faith' (v. 3)?
4. What is 'steadfastness of love' (v. 3)?
5. What is 'steadfastness of hope' (v. 3)?

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, July 27

Scripture: 2 Chron. 19:1 - 20:37; Romans 10:14 - 11:12; Psalm 21:1-13; Prov. 20:4-6

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 13

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

Tuesday, July 28

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 21:1 - 23:21; Romans 11:13-36; Psalm 22:1-18; Prov. 20:7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 56

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

Wednesday, July 29

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 24:1 - 25:28; Romans 12:1-21; Psalm 22:19-31; Prov. 20:8-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 57

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in the U.S. Virgin Islands and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, July 30

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 26:1 - 28:27; Romans 13:1-14; Psalm 23:1-6; Proverbs 20:11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 58

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

Friday, July 31

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 29:1-36; Romans 14:1-23; Psalm 24:1-10; Proverbs 20:12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 59

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, August 1

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 30:1 - 31:21; Romans 15:1-22; Psalm 25:1-15; Prov. 20:13-15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 60

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

Sunday, August 2

Scripture: 2 Chron. 32:1 - 33:13; Romans 15:23 - 16:9; Psalm 25:16-22; Prov. 20:16-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 61

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

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebyuganda@gmail.com