

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 16, 2020

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above,
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 37:23-40 (p. 798 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

OF DAVID.

If the LORD delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm;

though he stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand.

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.

They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed.

Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.

For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones.

They will be protected forever, but the offspring of the wicked will be cut off;

the righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.

The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just.

The law of his God is in his heart; his feet do not slip.

The wicked lie in wait for the righteous, seeking their very lives;

but the LORD will not leave them in their power or let them be condemned when brought to trial.

Wait for the LORD and keep his way.

He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

I have seen a wicked and ruthless man flourishing like a green tree in its native soil,

but he soon passed away and was no more; though I looked for him, he could not be found.

Consider the blameless, observe the upright; there is a future for the man of peace.

But all sinners will be destroyed; the future of the wicked will be cut off.

The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.**

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 100

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

John 11:1-27

Congregational Response

Hymn 679

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 67. *Which is the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment is, “You shall not murder.”

Q. 68. *What is required in the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment requires all lawful endeavors to preserve our own lives and the lives of others.

Q. 69. *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment forbids the taking away of our own lives or the lives of our neighbors unjustly, or whatever tends to do so.

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 11:28-44

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [based on Psalm 78:1-7])

Hymn 364

Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds

Let children hear the mighty deeds
Which God performed of old;
Which in our younger years we saw,
And which our fathers told.

He bids us make his glories known,
His works of pow'r and grace;
And we'll convey his wonders down
Through ev'ry rising race.

Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
And they again to theirs;
That generations yet unborn
May teach them to their heirs.

Thus shall they learn in God alone
Their hope securely stands,
That they may ne'er forget his works,
Bur practice his commands. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Seventh Sign: Raising the Dead”
John 11:1-44

1. We have a loving Savior (vv. 1-16).
Ephesians 5:25
2. We have a life-giving Savior (vv. 17-27).
1 Corinthians 15:20-23
3. We have a human Savior (vv. 28-37).
Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:15-16
4. We have a praying Savior (vv. 38-44).
Hebrews 7:25

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 693

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. 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

In John 11 we read about the seventh sign that John the Evangelist recorded in his gospel. Each of the signs he recorded were meant to reveal the glory of Christ and the salvation that comes through him alone. John explains toward the end of his gospel why he recorded seven signs in particular as he wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:30-31).

The life that Jesus gives was vividly displayed in his raising raising Lazarus from the dead. When Jesus effectually called Lazarus to come out of the tomb, Jesus revealed that he is both Lord of our souls as well as our bodies. By his Spirit he gives us spiritual life, and when he returns he will raise our mortal bodies and clothe them with immortality. By raising Lazarus, Jesus was pointing his people forward to his own resurrection on the third day, and he points us today to his return and our resurrection on the Last Day. "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26).

1. Read John 11:1-44. What are some details in this story that were not addressed in the sermon yet peak your interest? Why do you think this passage is often preached at Christian funerals?
2. When Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25), he was revealing his divine glory. What examples of Jesus' divine glory do you find throughout the account of the raising of Lazarus from the dead?
3. What do you learn about Jesus from his prayer in John 11:41-42? How does what you learn affect your understanding of prayer in your own relationship with the Lord?
4. Read Westminster Confession of Faith chapter 32. What happens to the soul of a Christian when he dies? What happens to his body? Why does the Bible emphasize that our bodies will be raised?
5. In preparation for next Sunday, read John 11:45 - 12:8. Why did the religious leaders want to kill Jesus? How does Mary's display of affection contrast with their display of aggression?

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, August 17

Scripture: Nehemiah 12:27 - 13:31; 1 Cor. 11:1-16; Psalm 35:1-16; Prov. 21:17-18

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 16

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

Tuesday, August 18

Scripture: Esther 1:1 - 3:15; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; Psalm 35:17-28; Prov. 21:19-20

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 74

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

Wednesday, August 19

Scripture: Esther 4:1 - 7:10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-26; Psalm 36:1-12; Proverbs 21:21-22

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 75

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in the United Arab Emirates and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, August 20

Scripture: Esther 8:1 - 10:3; 1 Cor. 12:27 - 13:13; Psalm 37:1-11; Prov. 21:23-24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 76

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

Friday, August 21

Scripture: Job 1:1 - 3:26; 1 Corinthians 14:1-17; Psalm 37:12-29; Proverbs 21:25-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 77

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, August 22

Scripture: Job 4:1 - 7:21; 1 Corinthians 14:18-40; Psalm 37:30-40; Proverbs 21:27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 78

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

Sunday, August 23

Scripture: Job 8:1 - 11:20; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28; Psalm 38:1-22; Proverbs 21:28-29

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 79

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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