

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 19, 2018

And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Mark 2:17

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 92 (p. 817)

Hymn of Preparation*

“My God, How Wonderful Thou Art” Hymn 35

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that we were conceived and born in iniquity. By one man’s disobedience we were all made sinners.

All: We mourn our sinfulness and the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed. We are grieved that we have offended you by breaking your holy commandments.

Leader: We do earnestly repent and are sincerely sorry for our sins. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. By his work of obedience we have been made righteous.

All: Heal us from our sinful ways and cause us to walk in newness of life before you. Conform us more and more to the image of the Lord Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit. This we ask in Christ’s precious name. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Acts 10:42-43

And God commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Leviticus 16

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

“O God beyond All Praising” Hymn 660

Confession of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Day 26

Q. 69. *How does Baptism remind you and assure you that Christ’s one sacrifice on the cross is for you personally?*

A. In this way: Christ instituted this outward washing and with it gave the promise that, as surely as water washes away the dirt from the body, so certainly his blood and his Spirit wash away my soul’s impurity, in other words, all my sins.

Q. 70. *What does it mean to be washed with Christ’s blood and Spirit?*

A. To be washed with Christ’s blood means that God, by grace, has forgiven my sins because of Christ’s blood poured out for me in his sacrifice on the cross.

To be washed with Christ’s Spirit means that the Holy Spirit has renewed me and set me apart to be a member of Christ so that more and more I become dead to sin and increasingly live a holy and blameless life.

Q. 71. *Where does Christ promise that we are washed with his blood and Spirit as surely as we are washed with the water of Baptism?*

A. In the institution of Baptism where he says: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

This promise is repeated when Scripture calls Baptism the washing of regeneration and the washing away of sins.

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*

John 19

Congregational Response (Psalm 103:13-18)

“The Tender Love a Father Has” Hymn 93

Pastoral Prayer (based on Psalm 23)

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Jesus Christ Is the Same
Yesterday and Today and Forever”
Hebrews 13:7-19

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

“There Is a Green Hill Far Away” Hymn 256

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to TRINITY)

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.

LORD’S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

The good news of the gospel is that Christ has offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, and has brought us to God (1 Peter 3:18). The sacrificial system of the Old Covenant pointed forward to the offering Jesus made to the Father, the single offering by which he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified (Hebrews 10:14). However, though Christ has fulfilled the ceremonial law and done away with sacrifices for sins, all sacrifices are not over. Hywel Jones writes, “Sacrifices to remove one’s sin are finished—Christ has died—but sacrifices because one’s sin has been removed are not.” As Christians we now offer a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, one that is mediated through Christ and motivated by gratitude for the grace we have received. We present our bodies as a living sacrifice, because we have been made holy and acceptable to God through Christ, and can now offer spiritual worship that is pleasing to him (Romans 12:1).

Questions:

1. Review last week’s sermon text from Hebrews 13:1-6. What is the basis of the exhortations in these verses? Discuss the exhortations and their importance in the life of the Church.
2. What does it mean to “imitate” the faith of godly leaders according to Hebrews 13:7? Read and discuss Heb. 6:11-12; 1 Cor. 4:14-16; 1 Thess. 1:6-7; 2:13-16; and 3 John 11.
3. What does Hebrews 13:8 mean in this context? Why is it important for us to know and believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ does not change?
4. Consider Hebrews 13:9-13 and our First Reading from Leviticus 16 (which describes the Day of Atonement). What is the connection the author of Hebrews makes between the Day of Atonement and the cross?
5. Read Hebrews 13:14-16. What sacrifices are pleasing to God and why?
6. Read Hebrews 13:17-19. How might you support the elders in their leadership and shepherding?
7. In preparation for next Sunday, read Hebrews 13:20-25. What connections do you notice between vv. 20-21 and what we have learned in our series through Hebrews?

