

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 2, 2020

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.... We love because he first loved us.

**1 John 4:10, 19**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 78:1-8

A MASKIL OF ASAPH.

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

**I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,**

things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.

**We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.**

He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,

**that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children,**

so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

**and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.**

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 15

### *Stand Up and Bless the Lord*

Stand up and bless the Lord, you people of his choice;  
Stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.

Though high above all praise, above all blessing high,  
Who would not fear his holy name, and laud and magnify?

O for the living flame from his own altar brought,  
To touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heav'n our thought!

God is our strength and song, and his salvation ours;  
Then be his love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed pow'rs.

Stand up and bless the Lord, the Lord your God adore;  
Stand up and bless his glorious Name henceforth forevermore. Amen.

## Congregational Confession of Sin

**Leader:** Our Father in heaven, God of all comfort, we thank you that your mercy toward us triumphs over your judgment. We confess our sins to you and plead for forgiveness, not because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy.

**All:** We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have wronged you and our neighbors by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Be merciful toward our iniquities and remember our sins no more.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and grant us repentant hearts. Sanctify us by your Spirit, and cleanse us from every defilement of body and soul.

**All:** We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who intercedes for us even now before the throne of grace. Amen.

## Private Confession of Our Sins

### Assurance of Forgiveness

John 6:37-39

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

### First Reading

Romans 8:12-39

### Congregational Response

Hymn 94 (stanzas 1-3, 6)

#### *How Firm a Foundation*

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;  
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.” Amen.

**Q. 57.** *Which is the fourth commandment?*

**A.** The fourth commandment is “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

**Q. 58.** *What is required in the fourth commandment?*

**A.** The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

**Q. 59.** *Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath?*

**A.** From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.

**Q. 60.** *How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?*

**A.** The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God’s worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

**Q. 61.** *What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?*

**A.** The fourth commandment forbids the omission, or careless performance, of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.

**Q. 62.** *What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment?*

**A.** The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are, God’s allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath day.

## 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

Ephesians 1:1-14

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,  
But practice his commands. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

“The Golden Chain of Redemption”  
Romans 8:28-30

Guest Preacher

Isaiah 46:9-11  
John 6:35-44

The Golden Chain - Promise of Glory  
Philippians 1:6

1. God Has Foreknown Us - Loved Before Time  
1 John 4:19
2. God Has Predestined Us - Chosen for Life  
Romans 9:11-16
3. God Has Called Us - Saved by Grace  
Ephesians 2:1-5
4. God Has Justified Us - Righteous in Christ  
Romans 3:24-27
5. God Has Glorified Us - Eternally Secure  
1 John 3:2

## GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 699

### *Like a River Glorious*

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,  
Over all victorious in its bright increase;  
Perfect, yet it floweth fuller ev'ry day,  
Perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way.

*Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,  
Finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest.*

Hidden in the hollow of his blessed hand,  
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;  
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,  
Not a blast of hurry, touch the spirit there.

*Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,  
Finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest.*

Ev'ry joy or trial falleth from above,  
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.  
We may trust him fully all for us to do;  
They who trust him wholly find him wholly true.

*Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,  
Finding, as he promised, perfect peace and rest. 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 2009, *TIME* magazine named Calvinism one of the “10 ideas changing the world right now.” Known for its emphasis on Scripture and the sovereignty of God, some additional distinctive marks of Calvinism (or Reformed theology) are the 5 *Sola's* and the 5 Points of Calvinism (TULIP), sometimes called the “Doctrines of Grace.” The “Golden Chain of Redemption” in Romans 8:28-30 provides an exegetical foundation for this theology, and supplies Christians with the assurance that God’s promises are eternal and true. Reflecting on these truths, the late J.I. Packer wrote in his classic book, *Knowing God*, that “Your faith will not fail while God sustains it; you are not strong enough to fall away while God is resolved to hold you.”

1. Read Romans 8:28-30. What is the relationship of the Golden Chain of Redemption in vv. 29-30 to the promise in v. 28?
2. Name the 5 *Sola's* and the 5 Points, and give a brief definition of each. Describe how each of these Doctrines of Grace is expressly or implicitly taught in Romans 8:29-30.
3. Which link in the Golden Chain do you think is the most difficult for people to accept? Why? How would you discuss this with a fellow Christian? How would you discuss it with a non-Christian?
4. Read the Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 18, *Of the Assurance of Grace and Salvation*. Why do so many Christians struggle to find assurance that they are children of God, both now and forever? If you have had doubts about your own assurance, how have you dealt with them? What additional steps could you take to strengthen your faith in this area?

# 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 3**

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 33:14 - 34:33; Romans 16:10-27; Psalm 26:1-12; Prov. 20:19

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 14

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

## **Tuesday, August 4**

Scripture: 2 Chron. 35:1 - 36:23; 1 Corinthians 1:1-17; Psalm 27:1-6; Prov. 20:20-21

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 62

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

## **Wednesday, August 5**

Scripture: Ezra 1:1 - 2:70; 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 2:5; Psalm 27:7-14; Proverbs 20:22-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 63

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

## **Thursday, August 6**

Scripture: Ezra 3:1 - 4:23; 1 Corinthians 2:6 - 3:4; Psalm 28:1-9; Proverbs 20:24-25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 64

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

## **Friday, August 7**

Scripture: Ezra 4:24 - 6:22; 1 Corinthians 3:5-23; Psalm 29:1-11; Proverbs 20:26-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 65

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

## **Saturday, August 8**

Scripture: Ezra 7:1 - 8:20; 1 Corinthians 4:1-21; Psalm 30:1-12; Proverbs 20:28-30

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 66

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

## **Sunday, August 9**

Scripture: Ezra 8:21 - 9:15; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Psalm 31:1-8; Proverbs 21:1-2

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 67

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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