

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 9, 2020

[God] delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:13-14

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 37:1-9 (p. 797 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

OF DAVID.

Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong;

for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:

He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 32

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty God, you are rich in mercy to all who call upon you. Hear us as we come to you, humbly confessing our sins and transgressions.

All: We have broken your holy laws by our deeds and words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess our disobedience and shortcomings toward you and our neighbors.

Leader: Have mercy on us, most merciful Father.

All: Grant that from now on we may serve and please you in newness of life, through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Acts 10:42-43

[Jesus Christ] 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.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading

Ezekiel 36:22-26

Congregational Response

Hymn 347 (verses 1-2, 4, 6)

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 63. *Which is the fifth commandment?*

A. The fifth commandment is, “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.”

Q. 64. *What is required in the fifth commandment?*

A. The fifth commandment requires the preserving of the honor, and performing the duties, belonging to everyone in their various situations and relationships, as superiors, inferiors, or equals.

Q. 65. *What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?*

A. The fifth commandment forbids the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty that belong to everyone in their various situations and relationships.

Q. 66. *What is the reason attached to the fifth commandment?*

A. The reason attached to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God’s glory, and their own good) to all who keep this commandment.

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

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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

Pastor Clayton Willis

“Fruit of Election”
1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

1. Our Election Can Be Known (v. 4)
2. Our Election Is Rooted in God's Love for Us (v. 4)
3. The Effects of Election Are Manifested in the Life of the Believer (vv. 3, 5)

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 600

He Leadeth Me

He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.*

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.*

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.*

And when my task on earth is done, when, by thy grace, the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me. 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

The doctrine of election is a doctrine of comfort and assurance. In today's passage, Paul writes to the new believers in Thessalonica to encourage them in their faith. He does that in part by pointing them to the evidence of God's electing love for them in Christ manifested in their changed hearts and changed lives (v. 3). Paul says he *knows* that God has chosen them because the hearing of the gospel was accompanied with power—the work of faith, labor of love, and steadfastness of hope (v. 3)—the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and full conviction of the truth of the gospel. This is true for us today. We can be sure of our election when our faith is manifested in works of obedience, labors of love, and a steadfast hope in Christ. This means that our assurance is not in some secret, mysterious, sometimes elusive feeling, but grounded in the covenantal, electing love of God, and the observable effects of our faith lived out in obedience.

1. Sometimes we struggle with a sense of assurance of our election and salvation. Read The Westminster Confession of Faith, ch. 14.3. What does it teach concerning our faith and assurance?
2. Why can you have the same assurance of salvation that the Thessalonians had?
3. How do works of obedience done in faith point us away from ourselves and point us to God for our assurance of salvation?
4. What are some ways you can strengthen your faith and your assurance?

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 10

Scripture: Ezra 10:1-44; 1 Corinthians 6:1-20; Psalm 31:9-18; Proverbs 21:3

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 15

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

Tuesday, August 11

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1 - 3:14; 1 Corinthians 7:1-24; Psalm 31:19-24; Proverbs 21:4

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 68

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

Wednesday, August 12

Scripture: Nehemiah 3:15 - 5:13; 1 Corinthians 7:25-40; Psalm 32:1-11; Prov. 21:5-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 69

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

Thursday, August 13

Scripture: Nehemiah 5:14 - 7:73; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Psalm 33:1-11; Prov. 21:8-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 70

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

Friday, August 14

Scripture: Nehemiah 8:1 - 9:21; 1 Corinthians 9:1-18; Psalm 33:12-22; Prov. 21:11-12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 71

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, August 15

Scripture: Nehemiah 9:22 - 10:39; 1 Cor. 9:19 - 10:13; Psalm 34:1-10; Prov. 21:13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 72

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

Sunday, August 16

Scripture: Nehemiah 11:1 - 12:26; 1 Cor. 10:14-33; Psalm 34:11-22; Prov. 21:14-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 73

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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