

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, September 13, 2020

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing

Responsive Reading

Psalm 40:11-17 (p. 799)

Do not withhold your mercy from me, O LORD; may your love and your truth always protect me.

For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.

They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me.

Be pleased, O LORD, to save me; O LORD, come quickly to help me.

May all who seek to take my life be put to shame and confusion;
may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.

May those who say to me, "Aha! Aha!" be appalled at their own shame.

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

may those who love your salvation always say, "The LORD be exalted!"

Yet I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me.

You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, do not delay.

Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 53

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do, if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief, spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly fore'er we adore him. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Most holy and merciful Father, we confess that we have broken your commandments and sinned against you.

All: We confess that we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways. We have rebelled against your wisdom and sought after foolishness. We have rejected your fatherly commands and have done what is right in our own eyes.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Enable us to receive and rest in the truth that we have been justified by faith and have peace with you through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Give us a growing desire to joyfully serve you and one another as we follow after our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading

Revelation 22:6-21

Congregational Response

Hymn 76

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless;
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes;
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Widely as his mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;
But while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space,
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him,
Praise with us the God of grace. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 76. *Which is the ninth commandment?*

A. The ninth commandment is, “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”

Q. 77. *What is required in the ninth commandment?*

A. The ninth commandment requires the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and of our own and our neighbor’s good name, especially in testifying as witnesses.

Q. 78. *What is forbidden in the ninth commandment?*

A. The ninth commandment forbids whatever is prejudicial to truth, or injurious to our own or our neighbor’s good name.

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 4:17-24

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 84])

Hymn 371 (*music on pg. 5*)

O Lord of Hosts, How Lovely

O Lord of Hosts, how lovely the place where thou dost dwell!

Thy tabernacles holy in pleasantness excel.

My soul is longing, fainting, Jehovah’s courts to see;

My heart and flesh are crying, O living God, for thee.

Blest who thy house inhabit, they ever give thee praise;
Blest all whom thou dost strengthen, who love the sacred ways.

So they from strength unwearied go forward unto strength,

Till they appear in Zion before the Lord at length.

O hear, Lord God of Jacob, to me an answer yield;
The face of thine anointed, behold, O God, our shield.

One day excels a thousand if spent thy courts within;
I’ll choose thy threshold, rather than dwell in tents of sin.

Our sun and shield, Jehovah, will grace and glory give;
No good will he deny them that uprightly do live.

O God of hosts, Jehovah, how blest is ev’ry one
Who confidence reposes on thee, O Lord, alone. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Clayton Willis

“A Powerful Reputation”
1 Thessalonians 1:8-10

1. A Resounding Reputation (v. 8)
2. A Complete Change (v. 9)
3. An Expectant Hope (v. 10)

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 296

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!

All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God who from his altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse’s rod, and crown him Lord of all;
Extol the Stem of Jesse’s rod, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget the wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all;
Go, spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.

Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall;
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all;
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. 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.

O Lord of Hosts, How Lovely

371

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! Ps. 84:1

1. O Lord of Hosts, how love - ly the place where thou dost dwell!
 2. Blest who thy house in - hab - it, they ev - er give thee praise;
 3. O hear, Lord God of Ja - cob, to me an an - swer yield;
 4. Our sun and shield, Je - ho - vah, will grace and glo - ry give;

Thy tab - er - na - cles ho - ly in pleas - ant - ness ex - cel.
 blest all whom thou dost strength - en, who love the sa - cred ways.
 the face of thine a - noint - ed, be - hold, O God, our shield.
 no good will he de - ny them that up - right - ly do live.

My soul is long - ing, faint - ing, Je - ho - vah's courts to see;
 So they from strength un - wea - ried go for - ward un - to strength,
 One day ex - cels a thou - sand if spent thy courts with - in;
 O God of hosts, Je - ho - vah, how blest is ev - 'ry - one

my heart and flesh are cry - ing, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 till they ap - pear in Zi - on be - fore the Lord at length.
 I'll choose thy thresh - old, rath - er than dwell in tents of sin.
 who con - fi - dence re - pos - es on thee, O Lord, a - lone.

From Psalm 84
 Associate Reformed Presbyterian *Psalter*, 1931; alt. 1961

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6.D.
 Welsh hymn melody
 David Evans's *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

The change that took place in the lives of the Thessalonian believers was plain and evident to all; they turned from serving idols to serving and worshipping the living and true God. It might not sound like much to 21st-century ears, but to put aside idols in the 1st century was not insignificant. It would be similar to tossing out your smart phone and only having a land line, or living with no electricity. Idol worship, like smart devices and electricity today, was an accepted and normal part of the culture. To only worship one god was to effectively become an 'atheist' (in fact, some early Christians were accused of atheism for that very reason) and not participate in 'normal' cultural activity since community activities were often tied to god/goddess worship.

Faith in Christ requires us to change how we live; not just in private, but publicly, even if that means that we live contrary to our culture in some things. When we live faithfully, we are an example and encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

1. Is your life a faithful example to others of obedience to Christ? Why or why not? If not, prayerfully consider how you can better imitate Christ in your life.
2. What should Christians be known for? What should the church be known for? What are three ways you can work toward achieving that?
3. How is hope in the return of the Lord Jesus lived out in your life?

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, September 14

Scripture: Isaiah 15:1 - 18:7; Galatians 1:1-24; Psalm 58:1-11; Proverbs 23:12

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 20

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

Tuesday, September 15

Scripture: Isaiah 19:1 – 21:17; Galatians 2:1-16; Psalm 59:1-17; Proverbs 23:13-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 98

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

Wednesday, September 16

Scripture: Isaiah 22:1 – 24:23; Galatians 2:17 – 3:9; Psalm 60:1-12; Proverbs 23:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 99

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

Thursday, September 17

Scripture: Isaiah 25:1 – 28:13; Galatians 3:10-22; Psalm 61:1-8; Proverbs 23:17-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 100

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

Friday, September 18

Scripture: Isaiah 28:14 – 30:11; Galatians 3:23 – 4:31; Psalm 62:1-12; Prov. 23:19-21

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 101

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, September 19

Scripture: Isaiah 30:12 – 33:9; Galatians 5:1-12; Psalm 63:1-11; Proverbs 23:22

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 102

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

Sunday, September 20

Scripture: Isaiah 33:10 – 36:22; Galatians 5:13-26; Psalm 64:1-10; Proverbs 23:23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 103

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