

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION
The Lord's Day
January 9, 2022
10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

You Are My Hiding Place
By Michael Ledner

Call to Worship: 1 Chronicles 29:10b-13

The Invocation

***Hymn of Praise 94 (vs. 1-4, 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.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"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."

The Confession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism, 1 & 2

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ,**

by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Pastor: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

People: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

***Song of Praise**

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable "I Am",
The King of glory and of grace.
One with himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

I bow before the cross of Christ,
And marvel at this love divine,
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
To make me righteous in God's eyes.
This river's depths I cannot know,
But I can glory in its flood;
The Lord Most High has bowed down low,
And poured on me his glorious love,
And poured on me his glorious love.

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The Lord's Prayer / Pastoral 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.

Offertory

Sing Hallelujah
Arranged by Tom Keene

***Doxology**

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.

Sermon Series: Romans: Gospel Partnership ***Sermon Text: Romans 5:1-5 (ESV)*** ***Sermon Title: Gospel Peace***

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through 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. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

This morning we are returning to our study of the book of Romans and launching into the section chapters 5-8. If chapters 1-4 were all about giving us a gospel vision, chapters 5-8 have as their focus gospel life.

Commentator Tom Wright says, "Having laid the foundation in chapters 1 to 4, Paul is beginning to build the structure: a picture of Christian life in which all the ancient promises of God are coming true. And at the center of these promises is the establishment of a loving, welcoming personal relationship between individual humans and the creator God himself?" (Tom Wright, Paul for Everyone: Romans: Part One). So, Romans 5-8 paints a picture of the Christian life. Having been made right with God (the wonderful doctrine of justification) what difference does it make practically, and what does it look like in our ordinary day to day lives?

In 1 Corinthians 13 Paul summarizes the Christian life under the headings of faith, hope and love. And one way you could outline the book of Romans is to say that Romans 1-4 are about faith (resulting in justification), chapters 5-8 are about hope (energizing the Christian life) and chapters 9-16 are about love (the outworking of faith and hope).

This morning we will be exploring the first five verses of chapter five under the title Gospel Peace. Verse 1 tells us “*Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*” This morning we will look at three consequences of our being justified by faith.

- I. The Possession of Peace
- II. The Power of Personal Presence
- III. Perspective in Pain

Reflection

“God promises us redemption, but his sacred path leads us away from safety, predictability, and comfort. Any attempt to fly over the dangerous terrain or make a detour to safer ground is doomed because it will not take us to God. Instead, it leads to a host of other idols that can’t provide us with the confidence of faith, the dynamic of hope, or the passion of love we so deeply crave” (Dan Allender, The Healing Path).

The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

***Hymn 252**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

***The Benediction**

Postlude

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