

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION

The Lord's Day

November 14, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

Thanksgiving Medley

Arranged by Victor Labenske

Call to Worship: Psalm 147:1-3

The Invocation

***Hymn of Praise 457**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander – Lord, I feel it –
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

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**

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe,
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save,
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again.
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand,

'Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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: Chancel Choir

At the Table of the Lord

By Jay Althouse

***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: Hope According to Isaiah

Sermon Text: Isaiah 50:4-11 (ESV)

Sermon Title: The Determination of the Servant

*The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶ I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.
⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.
⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.*

*Who is my adversary?
 Let him come near to me.
 9 Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?
 Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
 the moth will eat them up.
 10 Who among you fears the LORD
 and obeys the voice of his servant?
 Let him who walks in darkness
 and has no light
 trust in the name of the LORD
 and rely on his God.
 11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire,
 who equip yourselves with burning torches!
 Walk by the light of your fire,
 and by the torches that you have kindled!
 This you have from my hand:
 you shall lie down in torment.*

This morning we are going to be looking at Isaiah 50:4-11, which is the third of four songs of this mysterious figure called the Servant of the Lord. We learn from the New Testament that this Servant is identified as Jesus Christ.

These songs reveal the heart and mission of the servant and today we will explore the theme of the determination of the servant. This servant has a determined obedience. And this determined obedience will lead him in two directions which will form the outline of our message.

- I. It Will Lead to Suffering
- II. In Order to Lead Through Darkness

Jesus, as the fulfillment of the Servant went through the ultimate darkness in our place so that we would never have to. We never need to fear the darkness. The question is will you trust Him?

Reflection

“Nothing could sum up better the blessings of being in Christ than the expression the reign of grace. When we are convinced that “grace reigns,” we will remember that God’s throne is a throne of grace and will come to it boldly to receive mercy and to find grace for every need.”
 (John Stott)

The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

***Hymn 500**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me
 Let me hide myself in thee;
 Let the water and the blood,*

From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.

***The Benediction**

Postlude

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