

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION
The Lord's Day

November 7, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

Now Thank We All Our God
By Johann Cruger

Call to Worship: Matthew 11:28-30

The Invocation

***Hymn of Praise 100**

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

The Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Song of Praise**

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us;
Shine on me, shine on me.

(Chorus)

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with
The Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with
Grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word,
Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness;
Shine on me, shine on me. *(Chorus)*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory;
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. *(Chorus)*

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

My Shepherd

By Michael Card

***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 49:1-16 (ESV)

Sermon Title: I Will Not Forget You

*Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God.”
⁵ And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says:
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”
⁷ Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:
“Kings shall see and arise;*

*princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”*

⁸ *Thus says the LORD:*

*“In a time of favor I have answered you;
in a day of salvation I have helped you;
I will keep you and give you
as a covenant to the people,
to establish the land,*

to apportion the desolate heritages,

⁹ *saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’
to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’*

*They shall feed along the ways;
on all bare heights shall be their pasture;*

¹⁰ *they shall not hunger or thirst,
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,
for he who has pity on them will lead them,
and by springs of water will guide them.*

¹¹ *And I will make all my mountains a road,
and my highways shall be raised up.*

¹² *Behold, these shall come from afar,
and behold, these from the north and from the west,
and these from the land of Syene.”*

¹³ *Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!*

*For the LORD has comforted his people
and will have compassion on his afflicted.*

¹⁴ *But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me;
my Lord has forgotten me.”*

¹⁵ *“Can a woman forget her nursing child,
that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?
Even these may forget,
yet I will not forget you.*

¹⁶ *Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;
your walls are continually before me.*

We have all felt abandoned at times. The feelings of helplessness and hopelessness can be paralyzing. Who will help us? Where will our hope come from?

In the original context that Isaiah was prophesying to, the nation of Israel faced two problems. The first was their exile. They were facing captivity in a foreign land, Babylon. The second was their sin. What was to be done about the sin that got them into this mess in the first place?

The answer: the Servant of the LORD. We were introduced to this mysterious figure last week, focusing on who this Servant was. This morning as we explore Isaiah 49:1-16 we will focus more on the Servant's work. What did the Servant come to accomplish?

And the promise of the passage from the LORD is "I Will Not Forget You." What an amazing promise. How do we see that promise address the problem of our captivity to sin? The text shows us three ways:

- I. God Sends a Savior
- II. Who Is Our Substitute
- III. Who Brings Us Security

Reflection

"Only a fraction of the present body of professing Christians are solidly appropriating the justifying work of Christ in their lives. Many have so light an apprehension of God's holiness and of the extent and guilt of their sin that consciously they see little need for justification, although below the surface of their lives they are deeply guilt-ridden and insecure. Many others have a theoretical commitment to this doctrine, but in their day-to-day existence they rely on their sanctification for justification, drawing their assurance of acceptance with God from their sincerity, their past experience of conversion, their recent religious performance or the relative infrequency of their conscious, willful disobedience. Few know enough to start each day with a thoroughgoing stand upon Luther's platform: you are accepted, looking outward in faith, and claiming the wholly alien righteousness of Christ as the only ground for acceptance, relaxing in that quality of trust which will produce increasing sanctification as faith is active in love and gratitude" (Richard Lovelace, Dynamics of Spiritual Life).

***Hymn 598**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land'
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy pow'rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;

Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,
Be thou sill my strength and shield,
Be thou sill my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

***The Benediction**

Postlude

**All songs covered by CCLI license #1257045*