

August 29, 2021  
Welcome  
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Ps 100:4-5

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Hymn: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less  
Invocation

#521

The Law of Christ: Eph 4:31-32

Pastor: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God by saying,

**Congregation: Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.**

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore let us corporately confess our sin:

Corporate Confession of sin: *From the 1585 Reformed Liturgy of the Palatinate.*

**I, a poor sinner, acknowledge before you, my God and Creator, that I have terribly and in many ways sinned against you, not only outwardly, but much more with inward blindness, unbelief, doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, covetousness, envy, hatred, malice, and other sinful affections, as you, my Lord and God, know well, and I cannot deeply enough deplore. But I repent of these things, and am sorry for them, and heartily ask you for mercy, for the sake of your beloved Son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Eph 1:7-8

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

**Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.**

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

**Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ**

**All: Praise and glory be to God our Father and to his Son Jesus our only Savior!**

Response:

Minister: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. ( Ps 92:1 )

Congregation: **For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!** (Ps 92:4-5)

Hymn: Jesus Lover of My Soul

#508

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism 60-61

60. Q. How are you righteous before God?

**A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Although my conscience accuses me that I have grievously sinned against all God's commandments, have never kept any of them, and am still inclined to all evil, yet God, without any merit of my own, out of mere grace, imputes to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ. He grants these to me as if I had never had nor committed any sin, and as if I myself had accomplished all the obedience which Christ has rendered for me, if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.**

61. Q. Why do you say that you are righteous only by faith?

**A. Not that I am acceptable to God on account of the worthiness of my faith, for only the satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ is my righteousness before God. I can receive this righteousness and make it mine my own by faith only.**

Song: No Condemnation

No con-dem-na-tion now in Christ Je-sus!

Great con-so-la-tion—Je-sus has died!

Our sin laid on Him, full par-don gives us.

Look-ing by faith dim, we're jus-ti-fied!

With judg-ment sure, must God re-com-pense us?

He per-fect-ly just, what is our plea?

This: "Christ is for us! Who is a-gainst us?"

His blood shed for us par-dons, sets free!

In Him and through Him—Christ our De-fend-er!

Prai-ses all due Him, what mys-ter-y!

God in Christ dy-ing as the of-fend-er!

His blood sup-ply-ing our par-don free.

Christ the great sure-ty to those be-liev-ing;

He all the pur-ity God can de-mand

Right-eous-ness given—con-science re-liev-ing!

By blood for-giv-en, in Christ we stand!

To Christ all bles-sing, praise with-out mea-sure!

In Him we're rest-ing, His peace made known.

His all the la-bors—ours all the plea-sure!  
God's gra-cious fa-vors through Christ our own.

When there be-fore Him—then, in full glo-ry  
We sing our new hymn, new prai-ses give;  
'Twill be this old song, of Christ our glo-ry;  
Through a-ges told long: "In Christ we live!"

### Pastoral Prayer

OT Reading: Gen 6:1-13

Psalter: Ps 9:1-2, 7-11 O Lord Most High, with All My Heart

#48

NT Responsive Reading: Romans 4:1-12

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh?

**For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.**

For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness."

**Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.** And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

**"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."**

Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised?

**For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness.**

How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised?

**It was not after, but before he was circumcised.**

He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

**and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.**

Sermon: Abel to Joseph      Heb 11:1-23

### Lord's Supper

Bread: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

#252

Cup: The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn  
Of the darkest day:

Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men,  
Torn and beaten, then  
Nailed to a cross of wood.

Chorus:  
This, the power of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us  
Took the blame, bore the wrath—  
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain  
Written on Your face,  
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Every bitter thought,  
Every evil deed  
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Chorus:  
Now the daylight flees  
Now the ground beneath  
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two,  
Dead are raised to life;  
"Finished!" the victory cry.

Chorus:  
Oh, to see my name  
Written in the wounds,  
For through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death  
Life is mine to live,  
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:  
Son of God—slain for us  
What a love! What a cost!  
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Offering:  
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.

Prayer

Closing Song:           **May the Grace of Christ Our Savior**

May the grace of Christ our Savior  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favor,  
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord,  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys, which earth cannot afford.

Benediction

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