

First Sunday in Advent  
November 28, 2021  
Welcome  
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 99:1-3

The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake. Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations. Let them praise your great and awesome name-- he is holy.

Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

#196

Invocation

The Law of Christ:

Col 3:8-9

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

**Congregation: But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices.**

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

**Father we are guilty of duplicity – a cursed duplicity. We try to serve you, but we mix that service up with serving all sorts of other gods. Our hearts are not pure; our love is not complete, and we are not holy as you are. We confess that we are often interested in serving ourselves and our peace and comfort. We do not regard you as the Creator and Sustainer as we ought. We are deficient in acknowledging you as Redeemer! At times, we actually believe that you owe us a good life. This is unmitigated folly and a great evil. We need your forgiveness! Purge this folly from us, and grant us the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins accomplished for us only in the blood of Christ. May your grace be shed abroad in our hearts so that we will live grateful and obedient lives focused on your glory as our greatest good – through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Ps 32:1-2

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

**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: Come Ye Thankful People Come

#715

Confession of Faith: Westminster Chapter 16, article 2

p857

Song: His Name is Wonderful

His name is Wonderful, His name is Wonderful,  
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord;  
He is the mighty King, Master of everything,  
His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages,  
Almighty God is He;  
Bow down before Him, love and adore Him,  
His name is Wonderful, Jesus my Lord.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel:

Matt 6:28-7:6

Psalter: Ps 104 My Soul Bless the Lord (Tune Lyons, NT #2)

#126

Epistle:

Rom 3:21-31

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

**But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it--**

the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

**for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**

and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, **whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.**

It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith.**

For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

**Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, since God is one-- who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.**

Do we then overthrow the law by this faith?

**By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.**

Sermon: Trustworthy Saying

2 Tim 2:8-13

Lord's Supper

Bread: As When the Hebrew Prophet Raised

#506

Cup: Before the Throne

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.

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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