August 14, 2022 Welcome Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Ps 95:6

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Hymn: Kind and Merciful God, We Have Sinned

#496

Invocation

The Law of Christ: Matt 22:37-39

Pastor: The Lord Jesus Christ summarized the moral law of God by saying,

Congregation: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore let us 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: Ps 103:2-4

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

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!

Pastor: Rom 6:6-8

We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Congregation: O Lord, thank you that in your crucifixion we too died to sin. We thank you for freeing us from sin. Grant us your grace that we will live to your glory and grow in works that honor your name. Amen.

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, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit #331

Confession of Faith: Cannons of Dort, Head 3&4, article 12: Regeneration a Supernatural Work

And this is the regeneration, the new creation, the raising from the dead, and the making alive so clearly proclaimed in the Scriptures, which God works in us without our help. But this certainly does not happen only by outward teaching, by moral persuasion, or by such a way of working that, after God's work is done, it remains in human power whether or not to be reborn or converted. Rather, it is an entirely supernatural work, one that is at the same time most powerful and most pleasing, a marvelous, hidden, and inexpressible work, which is not less than or inferior in power to that of creation or of raising the dead, as Scripture (inspired by the author of this work) teaches. As a result, all those in whose hearts God works in this marvelous way are certainly, unfailingly, and effectively reborn and do actually believe. And then the will, now renewed, is not only activated and motivated by God, but in being activated by God is also itself active. For this reason, people themselves, by that grace which they have received, are also rightly said to believe and to repent.

Song: Christ is Risen, He's Risen Indeed

How can it be, the One who died, Has borne our sin through sacrifice To conquer every sting of death? Sing, sing hallelujah.

For joy awakes as dawning light When Christ's disciples lift their eyes. Alive He stands, their Friend and King; Christ, Christ He is risen.

CHORUS

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah. Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed; Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.

Where doubt and darkness once had been, They saw Him and their hearts believed. But blessed are those who have not seen, Yet, sing hallelujah.

Once bound by fear now bold in faith, They preached the truth and power of grace. And pouring out their lives they gained Life, life everlasting.

CHORUS

The power that raised Him from the grave Now works in us to powerfully save. He frees our hearts to live His grace; Go tell of His goodness.

CHORUS

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

Psalter: Ps 45:1-10 My Heart Does Overflow #169

Epistle: 1 Cor 4:1-7

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court.

In fact, I do not even judge myself.

For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted.

It is the Lord who judges me.

Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.

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For who sees anything different in you?

What do you have that you did not receive?

If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Sermon: Dry Bones Ezekiel 37

Lord's Supper

Bread: Not All the Blood of Beasts

Cup: Depth of Mercy

Depth of Mercy! Can there be Mercy reaching even me? God, the just, his wrath forbears, Me, the chief of sinners spares. So many times my heart has strayed From his kind and perfect ways, Making clear my desp'rate need For his blood poured out for me.

Give me grace, Lord, let me own All the wrongs that I have done.

Let me just my sins deplore, Look to you and sin no more. There, for me, the Savior stands Holding forth his wounded hands, Scars which ever cry for me Once condemned but now set free

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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