

January 8, 2023
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-3

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

Hymn: Give to Our God Immortal Praise
Invocation

#3

The Law of Christ:

Mark 12:31

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus 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 and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

Lord we are sinners. We have obeyed the craving call of our hearts rather than the law of Christ. We have served ourselves rather than love our neighbors. We have honored ourselves rather than seek your glory above all else. We have allowed old habits and foolish imaginations to captivate our thinking and control our behavior.

We confess that Christ has died for guilty sinners, and we claim his death for ourselves.

Renew our minds that we may grow in our faith and obedience. Help us to be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving, so that Christ would be honored in our lives – and we ask these things in his strong and blessed name. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Jn 1:8-9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

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)

Pastor: 1 John 2:1, 29; 5:12

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. If you know that He is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of Him. The one who has the Son has life.

Congregation: Lord Jesus Christ, you are our life, and in You we live. Thank you for causing us to be born again by your Holy Spirit so that we might live in Your love. Help us see and overcome the destruction we work to our bodies, our minds, and our hearts; strengthen us to pursue the good and thankful use of this world, rather than to abuse it; and animate us to pursue earnestly Your upbuilding and life-giving love and peace for those around us.

Hymn: 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee

#471

Confession of Faith: Westminster Chapter 3, Art. 6

p850

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

Gospel: Luke 1:1-23

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

#126

Epistle: I Cor 15:12-33

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.

We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet."

But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him.

When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

Why are we in danger every hour?

I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day!

What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus?

If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

Sermon: Show No Partiality

Jas 2:1-8

Lord's Supper

Bread: Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

#427

Cup: I Will Boast in the Cross

God did not call us because we were wise

Or gifted with riches and might

His chosen ones are the weak in this world

Who hope in His all saving name,
That He might receive all the praise.

Chorus

So I will boast in the cross of Christ
And I will glory in Jesus and His sacrifice.
I will boast in the cross of Christ.
It is the power; it is the wisdom of God
And my great ransom, the cross of Christ.

Great is the mystery of God's sovereign ways
That flow from the depths of His grace.
That He would give up His one precious Son
To bear all the cost of my sin,
Is a wonder I can't comprehend.
(Chorus)

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

CCLI License # 2267065