March 19, 2023 Welcome Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Ps 146:10

The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.

Hymn: O Love of God How Strong and True #81

Invocation

The Law of Christ: Gal 5:13-15

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

Congregation: You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

#### 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)

Pastor: Titus 2:13-14

The Savior Jesus Christ gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Congregation: Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for coming into this world to redeem us from sin and lawlessness; purify us more and more and increase our zeal to walk in Your law and do good works by the power of your Holy Spirit and faith in You. Amen.

Hymn: A Debtor to Mercy Alone #463

Confession of Faith: Shorter Catechism Q20-22 p870-871

Song: I Come By the Blood

You are the perfect and righteous God
Whose presence bears no sin
You bid me come to Your holy place, how can I enter in
When your presence bears no sin
Through Him who poured out His life for me
The atoning Lamb of God
Through Him, and His work alone, I boldly come

Chorus: I come by the Blood

I come by the Cross

Where your mercy flows from hands pierced for me

For I dare not stand on my righteousness My every hope rests on what Christ has done

And I come by the Blood

You are the high and exalted King, the One the angels fear So far above me in every way, Lord how can I draw near To the One the angels fear Through Him who laid down His life for me And ascended to Your side Through Him, through Jesus alone I boldly come

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 6:24-49

Psalter: Ps 148 Praise Ye Praise Ye the Lord (Tune Darwall #18) #112

Epistle:2 Cor 4:1-7

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.

## But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways.

We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

### And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing.

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

# For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Sermon: Mercy for All Romans 11:25-32

[Licentiate, RE Matt Seufert]

Lord's Supper

Bread: Come Ye Disconsolate #615

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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