

March 12, 2023  
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: This Is My Father's World  
Invocation

#111

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.**

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

**Gracious Lord for all the blessings I have received, for the forgiveness of sins, for the abundance of goods I possess, I ought to be profoundly grateful and offer thanks to you at all times – But I do not. Rather I tend to grumble and complain. I covet and envy what others have. Clear away my understanding so that I can see with clear eyes the degree of your grace to me. Pardon my ingratitude. Make me a patient, loving, and thankful person – thankful especially for the blood of Jesus which cleanses me from all sin. Lord be merciful to me, a sinner, and forgive me for Jesus' sake. Amen**

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: 1 Tim 1:15 - This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

**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: John 3:17-21

<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

**Congregation: We give thanks to you, Heavenly Father, for sending your Son into this world to be the Light to us. We pray that we will live according to that light and do things that are true, thereby and demonstrating that you are at work in us by your Holy Spirit.**

Hymn: In the Hour of Trial

#568

Confession of Faith: Scots Confession Ch. 9 - Christ's Death, Passion, and Burial

**That our Lord Jesus offered himself a voluntary sacrifice unto his Father for us, that he suffered contradiction of sinners, that he was wounded and plagued for our transgressions, that he, the clean innocent Lamb of God, was condemned in the presence of an earthly judge, that we should be absolved before the judgment seat of our God; that he suffered not only the cruel death of the cross, which was accursed by the sentence of God; but also that he suffered for a season the wrath of his Father which sinners had deserved. But yet we avow that he remained the only, well beloved, and blessed Son of his Father even in the midst of his anguish and torment which he suffered in body and soul to make full atonement for the sins of his people. From this we confess and avow that there remains no other sacrifice for sin; if any affirm so, we do not hesitate to say that they are blasphemers against Christ's death and the everlasting atonement thereby purchased for us.**

Song: Lion of Judah

You're the Lion of Judah, the Lamb Who was slain,  
You ascended to heaven and evermore will reign;  
At the end of the age when the earth You reclaim,  
You will gather the nations before You.  
And the eyes of all men will be fixed on the Lamb  
Who was cru - ci - fied;  
With wisdom and mercy and justice You'll reign  
at your Fa - ther's side.

Chours:

And the angels will cry, "Hail the Lamb  
Who was slain for the world, rule in pow'r"  
And the earth will reply, "You shall reign  
As the King of all kings and the Lord of all lord's"

There's a shield in our hand and a sword at our side,  
There's a fire in our spirits that cannot be denied;  
For the Father has told us, for these you have died,

For the nations who gather before You.  
And ears of all men need to hear of the Lamb  
Who was cru – ci – fied;  
Who rose from the grave and was raised up to reign,  
At His Fathers side.

(Chorus)

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 6:1-23

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

#169

Epistle: 2 Cor 3:4-18

Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit.

**For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.**

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory?

**For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory.**

Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it.

**For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.**

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.

**But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.**

Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts.

**But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.**

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

**And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.**

Sermon: Friendship with the World Jas 4:4-6

Lord's Supper

Bread: God Be Merciful to Me

#486

Cup: His Robes for Mine

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!  
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.  
Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified.  
In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

*Refrain:*

*I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:  
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.  
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.  
My praise-my all-shall be for Christ alone.*

His robes for mine: what cause have I for dread?  
God's daunting Law Christ mastered in my stead.  
Faultless I stand with righteous works not mine,  
Saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life.  
(*Refrain*)

His robes for mine: God's justice is appeased.  
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father's pleased.  
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried "'Tis done!"  
Sin's wage is paid; propitiation won.  
(*Refrain*)

His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.  
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though His foe.  
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;  
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!  
(*Refrain*)

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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