

March 5, 2023
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 9:1-2

I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Hymn: God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory

#122

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.

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

Holy Father, ever since the fall that which comes naturally to us is not peace and patience, but rather seeking our own will. We interrupt peace, exercise impatience, demonstrate unjust anger and return evil for evil. You have given us opportunities to be gracious to others and we have ignored them. We desire to run our lives according to our own plan rather than according to your holy will. We are grievous sinners, and we know better. We have sinned willfully. We stand in need of grace. Hear this confession of our sin and deal with us according to your loving kindness and not as our sins deserve. Cleanse us by the Blood of Christ. Work in us by your Spirit to turn us from serving self to be instruments of grace and mercy in your hands so that we will be a blessing to others.

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 9:26-28

Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

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: 1Pe 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Congregation: We give thanks to you, our blessed Lord, that in Christ's death we died to sin. Grant that we may live unto righteousness, and that we would delight in obedience to you commands. Please, Holy Spirit, continue your work in us to cause us to reflect the image of Christ in all of our dealings.

Hymn: Breath on Me Breath of God

#334

Confession of Faith: 3rd stanza of the Te Deum Laudamus a 4th century Latin hymn

**You are the King of Glory, O Christ.
You are the Everlasting Son of the Father.
When you took upon yourself to deliver mankind,
You humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.
When you overcame the sharpness of death,
You opened the Kingdom of heaven to all who believe.
You sit at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that you shall come to be our judge.
We therefore pray: help your servants whom
you have redeemed with your most precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with your Saints,
in glory everlasting.**

Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.
His mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord,
Great is Thy faithfulness.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 5

Psalter: Ps 37:3-7 Forever Trusting in the Lord

#671

Epistle: 2 Cor 2:12-3:4

When I came to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ, even though a door was opened for me in the Lord, my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there.

So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia.

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.

Who is sufficient for these things?

For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you?

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all.

And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God.

Sermon: Battling Desires

James 4:1-3

Lord's Supper

Bread: He Was Wounded for Our Transgressions

#244

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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