

July 16, 2023
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 149:1 Praise the LORD. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints.

Hymn: O Light That Knew No Dawn
Invocation

#25

The Law of Christ:

Eph 4:21-24

Pastor: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God when he said:

Congregation: Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

Lord you already know the depth of our sin. You know that our attitudes are not like those of Christ Jesus. Our hearts lead us astray. We confess that we have been angry unjustly, hard-hearted, weak in our stand for Christ, prayer has been without zeal or passion; we have dishonored you in countless ways. Lord we have sinned in private, sinned in our families, sinned at work, sinned here while supposedly worshipping you.

For the sake of Christ and by his merit, pardon all my sins known and unknown, felt and unfelt, confessed and unconfessed, remembered or forgotten. You do indeed know the depth of it all and we pray that you forgive us for your glory, Christ's sake and our good. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 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 who is faithful and just. Who has forgiven us of our sins and cleansed us from unrighteousness.

Pastor: How pure has the blood of Christ made you?

Congregation: Although our sins were like scarlet, they are as white as snow (Isa 1:18).

All: **Praise and glory be to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

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: We Gather Together

#363

Confession of Faith: Shorter Catechism in Modern English

Q. 4. What is God?

God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Q. 5. Are there more Gods than one?

There is only one God, the living and true God.

Q. 6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Song: I'm Forever Grateful

You did not wait for me to draw near to You,
But You clothed Yourself in frail humanity.
You did not wait for me to cry out to You,
But You let me hear Your voice calling me, and ...

I'm forever grateful to You,
I'm forever grateful for the cross.
I'm forever grateful to You,
That you came ... to seek and save the lost.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 13:23-35

Psalter: Ps 47 Rejoice, All People, Homage Give

#73

Epistle: Gal. 1:1-10

Paul, an apostle--not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead--

and all the brothers who are with me, To the churches of Galatia:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel--

not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man?

If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Sermon: Queen Esther

Esther 2

Lord's Supper

Bread: Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Cup: Depth of Mercy

#254

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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