

July 23, 2023
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-3

I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

Hymn: God Is Known among His People
Invocation

#66

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:

O, Lord our God, we humbly confess that we are not what we should be. So often the demands, longings and cravings of our hearts get in the way of our resting in you. We are so often distracted by the allurements of the world; and our flesh is always ready to follow those basic principles, rather than follow after you. Ingratitude, greed and envy are present in our lives. We add to our guilt every day. Break our hearts over our sin and cause us to mourn over them. We thank you that Christ has taken all of our guilt and nailed it to the cross and He has brought us a righteousness from you apart from the works of the Law, so that we are now righteous in Him. Help us and turn us away from the basic principles of the world and may we live in new freedom and gratitude in Christ our blessed Redeemer. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Ps 103:2-4

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits--who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

Congregation: We give praise to God for the abundance of His blessings. For His forgiveness, healing, redemption, and compassion.

Pastor: How has He shown you compassion?

Congregation: He cast all our sins into the depths of the sea in the death of His Son (Micah 7:19).

All: Praise and glory be to God our Father, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

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: 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. (Titus 2:13-14)

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: May the Mind of Christ My Savior

#644

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 Stand in Awe of You

You are beautiful beyond description,
too marvelous for words,
Too wonderful for comprehension,
like nothing ever seen or heard.

Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom,
who can fathom the depth of Your love?
You are beautiful beyond description,
majesty enthroned above.

And I stand, I stand in awe of You,
I stand, I stand in awe of You;
Holy God, to Whom all praise is due,
I stand in awe of You.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 14

Psalter: Ps 2 O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage

#314

Epistle: Gal. 1:11-24

For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.
For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it.

And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers.

But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone;

nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days.

But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

(In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.

And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ.

They only were hearing it said, "He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy."

And they glorified God because of me.

Sermon: The Plot Esther 3

Lord's Supper

Bread: Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

#248

Cup: 'Tis finished' The Messiah Dies

'Tis finished! The Messiah dies.
Cut off for sins, but not His own
Accomplished is the sacrifice,
The great redeeming work is done.
'Tis finished! all the debt is paid:
Justice divine is satisfied;
The grand and full atonement made;
God for a guilty world hath died.

The veil is rent in Christ alone:
The living way to Heaven is seen,
The middle wall is broken down,
And all mankind may enter in.
The types and figures are fulfilled;
Exacted is the legal pain:
The precious promises are sealed.
The spotless Lamb of God is slain.

The reign of sin and death is o'er,
And all may live from sin set free,-
Satan hath lost his mortal power.
'Tis swallowed up in victory.
Saved from the legal curse I am,
My Savior hangs on yonder tree'
See there the meek, expiring Lamb'
'Tis finished! He expires for me.

Accepted in the Well-beloved.
And clothed in righteousness divine.
I see the bar to heaven removed:
And all Thy merits, Lord. are mine.
Death, hell. and sin are now subdued:
All grace is now to sinners given.
And lo, I plead the atoning blood,
And in Thy right I claim Thy Heaven'

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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