

August 27, 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: The God of Abraham Praise  
Invocation

#34

The Law of Christ:

Col 3:12-15

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

**Congregation: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.**

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

**Great and holy God we could never stand before you by our own righteousness and merit; there is still too much desire for the world in us, and our love for you is both incomplete and insufficient. After all that you have done for us in Christ, we still fall short on a daily basis. We need a Redeemer outside of ourselves. We need someone with perfect and complete righteousness to be our substitute. Thank you, for your only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus, who is our perfect redeemer. Blot out our sin and rebellion, and may our hearts be turned toward him and away from the world. We pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Personal (silent)

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.**

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.**

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: O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts Desire (Tune Azmon #164) #161

Confession of Faith: Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English

Q. 10. How did God create man?

**God created man, male and female, in his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with rule over the creatures.**

Q. 11. What are God's works of providence?

**God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preservation and control of all his creatures, and all their actions.**

Q. 12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the state in which he was created?

**When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, on condition of perfect obedience, forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil on penalty of death.**

Song: I Will Glory in My Redeemer

I will glory in my Redeemer  
Whose priceless blood has ransomed me  
Mine was the sin that drove the bitter nails  
And hung Him on that judgment tree  
I will glory in my Redeemer  
Who crushed the power of sin and death  
My only Savior before the Holy Judge  
The Lamb Who is my righteousness  
The Lamb Who is my righteousness

I will glory in my Redeemer  
My life He bought, my love He owns  
I have no longings for another  
I'm satisfied in Him alone  
I will glory in my Redeemer  
His faithfulness my standing place  
Though foes are mighty and rush upon me  
My feet are firm, held by His grace  
My feet are firm, held by His grace

I will glory in my Redeemer  
Who carries me on eagle's wings  
He crowns my life with lovingkindness  
His triumph song I'll ever sing  
I will glory in my Redeemer  
Who waits for me at gates of gold  
And when He calls me it will be paradise  
His face forever to behold  
His face forever to behold

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 18:1-17

Psalter: Ps 69 The Loving-kindness, Lord, Is Good and Free

#607

Epistle: Gal 3:21-29

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God?

**Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.**

But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

**Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.**

So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

**But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian,**

for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

**For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

**And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.**

Sermon: Purim Esther 9:18-10:3

Lord's Supper

Bread: I Need Thee Precious Jesus

#497

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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