

January 7, 2024
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Ps. 103: 20-22

Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Hymn: Praise Waits for Thee in Zion (Tune Aurelia, #311) #372
Invocation

The Law of Christ: Rom 12:10-18

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

Congregation: Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

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

Corporate Confession of sin: Adapted from The Litany, Book of Common Prayer

O God the Father, creator and ruler of heaven and earth; have mercy upon us miserable sinners. O God the Son, redeemer of the world; have mercy upon us miserable sinners. O God the Holy Ghost, sanctifier of the faithful; have mercy upon us miserable sinners. O Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity, three persons, one God; have mercy upon us miserable sinners. Remember not against us, LORD, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: spare us, good LORD, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever – through Christ our sufficient Redeemer, Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon:

Leviticus 16:30 On that day, the priest shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.

Congregation: We give praise to God who has atoned for our sins and cleansed us from them all.

Pastor: How has He made atonement for you?

Congregation: He has placed our sins on the Lamb of God, who was slain for us.

All: Praise and glory be to God the Father, Christ the Lamb, and the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Colossians 3:1

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Congregation: We praise you for the position we have in Christ. We pray that our lives will reflect him in all we do. Thank you that in Christ we too have died to sin. Help us to set our minds on the heavenly things so that we would love you above all and our neighbors as ourselves.

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 Come, O Christ, to You

#181

Confession of Faith: Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English

Q. 27. In what did Christ's humiliation consist?

Christ's humiliation consisted in being born, and that in a poor circumstance;^[a] in being subject to God's law;^[b] in undergoing the miseries of this life,^[c] the wrath of God^[d] and the curse of death on the cross;^[e] in being buried; and in continuing under the power of death for a time.^[f]

Q. 28. In what does Christ's exaltation consist?

Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day;^[a] in ascending into heaven;^[b] in sitting at the right hand^[c] of God the Father; and in coming to judge the world at the last day.^[d]

Q. 29. How are we made to share in the redemption purchased by Christ?

We are made to share in the redemption purchased by Christ by the effective application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.^[a]

Song: Be Unto Your Name

We are a moment, You are forever.
Lord of the ages God before time
We are a vapor, You are Eternal
Love everlasting reigning on high

Chorus:

Holy, holy Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name; Be unto Your name

We are the broken, You are the Healer
Jesus, Redeemer, Mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You blessing Your name.
(Chorus)

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: John 3

Psalter: Ps 107:1-9 O Praise the Lord for He is Good

#83

Epistle: Eph 5:11-21

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret.

But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Sermon: I Have Loved You

Mal 1:1-5

Lord's Supper

Bread: It Is Well with My Soul

#691

Cup: I Come By the Blood

You are the perfect and righteous God

Whose presence bears no sin

You bid me come to Your holy place, how can I enter in

When your presence bears no sin

Through Him who poured out His life for me

The atoning Lamb of God

Through Him, and His work alone, I boldly come

Chorus:

I come by the Blood

I come by the Cross

Where your mercy flows from hands pierced for me

For I dare not stand on my righteousness

My every hope rests on what Christ has done

And I come by the Blood

You are the high and exalted King, the One the angels fear

So far above me in every way, Lord how can I draw near

To the One the angels fear

Through Him who laid down His life for me

And ascended to Your side
Through Him, through Jesus alone I boldly come

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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