

August 18, 2024
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-3

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

Hymn: God in the Gospel of His Son
Invocation

#141

The Law of Christ:

James 1:19-22

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

Congregation: My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

Gracious Lord for all the blessings I have received, for the forgiveness of sins, for the abundance of goods I possess, I ought to be profoundly grateful and offer thanks to you at all times – But I do not. Rather I tend to grumble and complain. I covet and envy what others have. Clear away my understanding so that I can see with clear eyes the degree of your grace to me. Pardon my ingratitude. Make me a patient, loving, and thankful person – thankful especially for the blood of Jesus which cleanses me from all sin. Lord be merciful to me, a sinner, and forgive me for Jesus' sake. 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: John 3:17-21

¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ 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: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

#303

Confession of Faith: Confession of Faith: Shorter Catechism in Modern English

Q. 57. Which is the fourth commandment?

The fourth commandment is: Remember the sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien/stranger within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, but he rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the seventh day and made it holy.^[a]

Q. 58. What is required in the fourth commandment?

The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word, in particular, one whole day in seven.^[a]

Q. 59. Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly sabbath?

From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly sabbath,^[a] but thereafter he appointed the first day of the week, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian sabbath /or Lord's Day/.^[b]

Q. 60. How is the sabbath to be sanctified?

The sabbath /or Lord's Day, which is given for man's good and as a pointer to his eternal destiny, is to be kept holy by resting all that day from our work and recreations,^[b] and spending the whole time in the public and private worship,^[c] except the time spent in works of necessity and mercy.^[d]

Q. 62. What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment?

The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are God's allowance of six days for worldly tasks,^[a] his claim to special ownership of the seventh, his own example, and his blessing of the sabbath day.^[b]

Song: Church Arise

O Church, arise and put your armor on
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Acts 1

Psalter: Ps 5 O Jehovah, Hear My Words

#51

Epistle: 1 Thes 4:9-18

Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another,

for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more,

and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, **so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one.**

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Sermon: Sin Is of the Devil

1 John 3:7-10

Lord's Supper

Bread: O Love How Deep How Broad How True

(Tune Jerusalem #81)

#155

Cup: 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

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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