

August 4, 2024
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1-4

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Hymn: Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts
Invocation

#646

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:

Lord you are the only Righteous God; you are the one who determines truth, justice, right and good. You have called us to be your disciples, to think your thoughts after you and to reflect your image in the world. But at times we are more like salt that has lost its taste, we can be like broken buckets that hold no water, our reflection of your image is fractured at best.

Holy Father, we confess and bewail our sins, great and small, inward and outward, omission and commission; we are helpless apart from your grace.

We acknowledge that there is abundant grace for us in the work and merits of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for uniting us to him by your Spirit. Renew our wills and our affections that we would love you and the things that you love; thereby being an influence for good, righteousness and justice in the world. All this we ask in the name of and for the sake of Jesus your Son and our Savior and King. 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.

Pastor: 1Pe 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Congregation: We give thanks to you, our blessed Lord, that in Christ's death we died to sin. Grant that we may live unto righteousness, and that we would delight in obedience to you commands. Please, Holy Spirit, continue your work in us to cause us to reflect the image of Christ in all of our dealings.

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: Alas and Did My Sovereign Die

#254

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]

Song: Lion of Judah

You're the Lion of Judah, the Lamb Who was slain,
You ascended to heaven and evermore will reign;
At the end of the age when the earth You reclaim,
You will gather the nations before You.
And the eyes of all men will be fixed on the Lamb
Who was cru - ci - fied;
With wisdom and mercy and justice You'll reign
at your Fa - ther's side.

Chours:

And the angels will cry, "Hail the Lamb
Who was slain for the world, rule in pow'r"
And the earth will reply, "You shall reign
As the King of all kings and the Lord of all lord's"

There's a shield in our hand and a sword at our side,
There's a fire in our spirits that cannot be denied;
For the Father has told us, for these you have died,
For the nations who gather before You.
And ears of all men need to hear of the Lamb
Who was cru – ci – fied;
Who rose from the grave and was raised up to reign,
At His Fathers side.

(Chorus)

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Psalter: Ps 32 How Blest Is He Whose Trespass

#551

Epistle: 1 Thes 3

Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone, and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith, that no one be moved by these afflictions.

For you yourselves know that we are destined for this.

For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know.

For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain.

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you--

for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith.

For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord.

For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,

so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Sermon: The Practice of Sin

1 John 3:4-6

Lord's Supper

Bread: Arise My Soul Arise
Cup: In Christ Alone

#305

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my Light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm;
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease;
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save;
'Til on the cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied,
For ev'ry sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay;
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day;
Up from the grave he rose again.
And as he stands in victory,
Sins curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death;
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand
'Til he returns or calls me home,
Here in the powr of Christ I'll stand.

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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