Sept 1, 2024 Welcome Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Isa 11:6

Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Hymn: I Know Whom I Have Believed #705

Invocation

The Law of Christ: Col 3:1-2 & 5-6

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

Congregation: Set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things... Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

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

Corporate Confession of sin:

My Heavenly Father, If your mercy had bounds, where would my refuge be from your just anger? But your love in Christ is without measure.

Therefore I present myself to you with sins - the things I have done which You have forbidden and the things you have commanded me to do which I have left undone-sins against you My Father sins against you, My Savior and Redeemer

sins against you and your work, O Holy Spirit

sins against my own conscience

sins against the teachings of your word

sins against my neighbors, my family and myself

Do not enter into judgment against me, for I plead no righteousness of my own. But your only Son has been my sacrifice and has granted me his righteous merit. So my only plea is your boundless mercy and your limitless love - through Jesus, Your Son and my Savior. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Col 1:13-14

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ

All: Praise and glory be to God our Father and to his Son Jesus our only Savior!

Pastor: Titus 2:13-14

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.

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.

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: Amazing Grace #460

Confession of Faith: Shorter Catechism in Modern English

O. 63. Which is the fifth commandment?

The fifth commandment is: Honour your father and your mother so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.^[a]

Q. 64. What is required in the fifth commandment?

The fifth commandment requires us to preserve the honour and perform the duties belonging to everyone in their different positions and relationships in life.^[a]

O. 65. What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?

The fifth commandment forbids us to neglect or to do anything against the honour and duty which belongs to everyone in their various positions and relationships in life. [a]

Q. 66. What is the reason attached to the fifth commandment?

The reason attached to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (so far as it shall serve for God's glory and their own good) to all those who keep this commandment.^[a]

Hymn: Not All the Blood of Beasts #242

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Acts 2:25-47

Psalter: Ps 29:1-5, 9-11 Now unto Jehovah Ye Sons of the Mighty #45

Epistle: 1 Thes 5:11-22

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work.

Be at peace among yourselves.

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle,

encourage the fainthearted,

help the weak,

be patient with them all.

See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.

Rejoice always,

pray without ceasing,

give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Do not quench the Spirit.

Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good.

Abstain from every form of evil.

Sermon: Pursue Peace and Upbuilding Romans 14:13-23 [Licentiate: RE Matt Seufert]

Hymn: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

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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