

September 29, 2024
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 104:1

Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

Hymn: O God Beyond All Praising
Invocation

#660

The Law of Christ: 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: *Adapted from the Valley of Vision*

Eternal Father, you are good beyond all thought. I bring my soul to you; break it, wound it, bend it, mold it. Unmask to me sin's deformity that I may hate it, and flee from it. My faculties have been a weapon of revolt against you; as a rebel I have misused my strength, and served the foul adversary of your Kingdom. Give me grace to grieve over insensitive folly, grant me to know that the way of a sinner is hard, that evil paths are wretched paths, and that to depart from you is to lose all good. Grant that through repentance I may see more clearly the brightness and glories of the Saving Cross - through the glorious merit of your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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 of all our sins.

Pastor: What has He done with your sins?

Congregation: He has trampled them underfoot at the cross of Christ (Micah 7:19).

All: Praise and glory be to God our Father, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Healer.

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.

³ 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: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

#252

Confession of Faith: Shorter Catechism in Modern English

Q. 70. Which is the seventh commandment?

The seventh commandment is: *You shall not commit adultery.*^[a]

Q. 71. What is required in the seventh commandment?

The seventh commandment requires us to preserve our own and our neighbour's chastity in heart, speech, and behaviour.^[a]

Q. 72. What is forbidden in the seventh commandment?

The seventh commandment forbids all impure thoughts, words, and actions.^[a]

Song: The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn

Of the darkest day:

Christ on the road to Calvary.

Tried by sinful men,

Torn and beaten, then

Nailed to a cross of wood.

Chorus:

This, the power of the cross:

Christ became sin for us

Took the blame, bore the wrath—

We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain

Written on Your face,

Bearing the awesome weight of sin.

Every bitter thought,

Every evil deed

Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Chorus:

Now the daylight flees

Now the ground beneath

Quakes as its Maker bows His head.

Curtain torn in two,

Dead are raised to life;

"Finished!" the victory cry.

Chorus:

Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:
Son of God—slain for us
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Acts 5:1-18

Psalter: Ps 6 O Lord Be Gracious to Me

#612

Epistle: 2 Thes 2:9-17

The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Sermon: Christ Laid Down His Life for Us

1 John 3:16-20

Lord's Supper

Bread: Hark the Voice of Love and Mercy

#259

Cup: Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us - and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.

So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ,
Torn for you - eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
Shed for you - drink and remember
He drained death's cup that we may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life,
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond, - and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering
We proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King

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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