

August 31, 2025
Welcome
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Psalm 113:1-4

Praise the LORD. Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.

2 Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore. 3 From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised. 4 The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.

Hymn: Come Thou Almighty King
Invocation

#101

The Law of Christ: Matt. 5:46-48

Pastor: Our blessed Lord Jesus summarized the moral law of God by saying:

Congregation: If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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: 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: 1 Cor 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Congregation: Holy Lord God, hear our words of thanks for sending us your Spirit, and that he now resides in us. Help us to follow him in all our thoughts, words, and actions, so that we would

live to your glory. May He cause the love of Christ to shine forth from us. Through Christ our Lord. 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: For Your Gift of God the Spirit (Tune Hyfrydol, #196)

#339

Confession of Faith: Scots Confession Ch. 9 - Christ's Death, Passion, and Burial

That our Lord Jesus offered himself a voluntary sacrifice unto his Father for us, that he suffered contradiction of sinners, that he was wounded and plagued for our transgressions, that he, the clean innocent Lamb of God, was condemned in the presence of an earthly judge, that we should be absolved before the judgment seat of our God; that he suffered not only the cruel death of the cross, which was accursed by the sentence of God; but also that he suffered for a season the wrath of his Father which sinners had deserved. But yet we avow that he remained the only, well beloved, and blessed Son of his Father even in the midst of his anguish and torment which he suffered in body and soul to make full atonement for the sins of his people. From this we confess and avow that there remains no other sacrifice for sin; if any affirm so, we do not hesitate to say that they are blasphemers against Christ's death and the everlasting atonement thereby purchased for us.

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: Matt 7:1-12

Psalter: Ps 47 (Tune Forrest Green, #119)

All peoples, clap your hands for joy;
To God in triumph shout;
For awesome is the Lorn Most High,
Great King the earth throughout.
He brings the peoples under us
In mastery complete;
And He it is Who nations all
Subdues beneath our feet.

The land of our inheritance
He chooses out for us,
And He to us the glory gives
Of Jacob whom He loves.
God is ascended with a shout,
The Lord with trumpeting.
Sing praises unto God! Sing praise!
Sing praises to our King!

For God is King of all the earth;
Sing praise with skillfulness.
God rules the nations; God sits on
His throne of holiness.
Assemble, men of Abrah'm's God!
Come, people, princes, nigh!
The shields of earth belong to God,
He is exalted high.

Epistle: Heb 7:15-28

This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.

For it is witnessed of him, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness **(for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.**

And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever.'"

This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, **unstained,** separated from sinners, **and exalted above the heavens.**

He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Sermon: Our Inheritance

Eph 1:11-14

[Licentiate, RE Matt Seufert]

Hymn: The Sands of Time Are Sinking

#546

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

CCLI License # 2267065