

July 26, 2026
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: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#92

Invocation

The Law of Christ:

Col 3:12-15

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

Congregation: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

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

Corporate Confession of sin: *From the 1585 Reformed Liturgy of the Palatinate.*

I, a poor sinner, acknowledge before you, my God and Creator, that I have terribly and in many ways sinned against you, not only outwardly, but much more with inward blindness, unbelief, doubts, despondency, impatience, pride, covetousness, envy, hatred, malice, and other sinful affections, as you, my Lord and God, know well, and I cannot deeply enough deplore. But I repent of these things, and am sorry for them, and heartily ask you for mercy, for the sake of your beloved Son Jesus Christ. 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: How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

#647

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism #44

44. Q. Why is there added: He descended into hell?

A. In my greatest sorrows and temptations I may be assured and comforted that my Lord Jesus Christ, by His unspeakable anguish, pain, terror, and agony, which He endured throughout all His sufferings but especially on the cross, has delivered me from the anguish and torment of hell.

Song: Everlasting

Oh God our Redeemer
Our Savior our friend
Creator of the universe
Your goodness knows no end
And our voices join
With the thousands who
Know mercy because of the Cross
All sinners washed
In Your precious blood
Forever we will sing

From everlasting to everlasting
Praise be to You
From everlasting to everlasting
Praise be to You
Oh God

Oh God our Deliverer
And Lord of all grace
How can I stand in silence
When the heavens sing Your praise
And our voices join
With the thousands who
Know mercy because of the Cross
All sinners washed
In Your precious blood
Forever we will sing

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel:

Mark 9:1-29

Psalter: Ps 72 Christ Shall Have Dominion

#439

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:9-16

Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you;

yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

Sermon: Transfer to Caesarea

Acts 23:12-35

Lord's Supper

Bread: Approach My Soul the Mercy Seat

#507

Cup: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to Glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished,
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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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