

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 30, 2022

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

Psalm 123:1

Prelude

Greeting and Call to Worship*

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

All: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Hymn*

Hymn 92

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever. Amen.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Gracious God, we acknowledge and confess that we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have walked in darkness rather than living according to what you have revealed to us in your holy Word. Forgive us, we pray. Enable us by your Holy Spirit to put off sin and to put on Christ. Strengthen us in our fight against sin, and empower us to act, speak, and think in ways that glorify you, for we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Hymn

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer; there is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom, my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior, He will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need His power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven; the future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus; all the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: yet not I, but through Christ in me. Amen.

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee. Amen.

Prayer

Sermon

“Faith Under Fire”
Romans 4:13-25

Rev. Dr. Brad Bitner

1. Faith Under Fire – Then and Now (WSC Q. 86)
2. Faith and the Promise (Romans 4:13-15)
3. Faith of Father Abraham (Romans 4:16-21; WCF 14.3)
4. Faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 4:22-25; WCF 14.2; HC Q. 60)

Hymn*

Hymn 87

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,
For thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:
And in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit, be to God and God alone!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One in Three and Three in One. Amen.