

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, September 25, 2022

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 99 (p. 820)

The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble;

he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.

Let them praise your great and awesome name—he is holy.

The King is mighty, he loves justice—

you have established equity;

in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy.

Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel was among those who called on his name;

they called on the LORD and he answered them.

He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;

they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.

O LORD our God, you answered them; you were to Israel a forgiving God,
though you punished their misdeeds.

**Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his holy mountain,
for the LORD our God is holy.**

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

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name;
The name, all victorious, of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still he is nigh—his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right,
All glory and pow'r, and wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing for infinite love. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we approach your throne of grace, confident that we are being heard because of Christ's mediation and the Holy Spirit's intercession.

All: Forgive our sins, we pray, and help us to put off greed, pride, anger, unbelief, covetousness, impurity, and all the sinful, earthly thoughts and desires that still have influence in our lives.

Leader: Through the power of your Holy Spirit, cause us to put on our new nature, clothing ourselves with compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, bearing with one another, and if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other as we have been forgiven.

All: Above all, cause us to put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony, as we together await the return of our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose Name we pray. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 44:21-22

Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Genesis 11:10 - 12:9

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

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.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Hebrews 11:1-16

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 51])

Hymn 485

O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry

O thou that hear'st when sinners cry,
Though all my crimes before thee lie,
Behold them not with angry look,
But blot their mem'ry from thy book.

Create my nature pure within,
And form my soul averse to sin;
Let thy good Spirit ne'er depart,
Nor hide thy presence from my heart.

I cannot live without thy light,
Cast out and banished from thy sight;
Thy holy joys, my God, restore,
And guard me, that I fall no more.

A broken heart, my God, my King,
Is all the sacrifice I bring;
The God of grace will ne'er despise
A broken heart for sacrifice.

My soul lies humbled in the dust,
And owns thy dreadful sentence just:
Look down, O Lord, with pitying eye,
And save the soul condemned to die.

Then will I teach the world thy ways;
Sinners shall learn thy sovereign grace;
I'll lead them to my Savior's blood,
And they shall praise a pard'ning God. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Living in the Gap Between Promise and Fulfillment”
Genesis 11:10 - 12:9

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 498

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins.
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul.
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'ertakes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry.
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine.
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

May the peace of God, our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God, the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.*

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his communion,
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings. Amen.*

SERMON NOTES

“Living in the Gap Between Promise and Fulfillment” Genesis 11:10 - 12:9

The godly line: Seth (4:25-26), Noah (6:8), Shem (9:26), Abram.

1. God’s effectual call is gracious (11:27-32).
Joshua 24:2
John 8:56
2. God will accomplish his purposes (12:1-3).
Galatians 3:7-9
3. God calls us to live by faith (12:4-9).
Hebrews 11:8-10

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, September 26

Scripture: Isaiah 48:12 - 50:11; Ephesians 4:17-32; Psalm 69:1-18; Proverbs 24:5-6

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 27

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, September 27

Scripture: Isaiah 51:1 - 53:12; Ephesians 5:1-33; Psalm 69:19-36; Proverbs 24:7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 92

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, September 28

Scripture: Isaiah 54:1 - 57:14; Ephesians 6:1-24; Psalm 70:1-5; Proverbs 24:8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 93

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Iraq and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, September 29

Scripture: Isaiah 57:15 - 59:21; Philippians 1:1-26; Psalm 71:1-24; Proverbs 24:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 94

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, September 30

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1 - 62:5; Philippians 1:27 - 2:18; Psalm 72:1-20; Proverbs 24:11-12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 95

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.

Saturday, October 1

Scripture: Isaiah 62:6 - 65:25; Philippians 2:19 - 3:3; Psalm 73:1-28; Proverbs 24:13-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 96

Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, October 2

Scripture: Isaiah 66:1-24; Philippians 3:4-21; Psalm 74:1-23; Proverbs 24:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 97

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebuyuganda@gmail.com

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

God chose Abraham to be the one through whom all the families of the earth would be blessed because from Abraham's line came our Savior, Jesus Christ. But why did God choose Abraham? Was Abraham righteous or more deserving than others? Not at all. In fact, Abraham and his family were idolators (Joshua 24:2). But God graciously called Abraham out of spiritual death and into his marvelous light in the same way that he calls all his people to saving faith. The Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 10, explains the power and grace that God demonstrates through his effectual call:

All those—and only those—whom God has predestined to life, he is pleased to call effectually in his appointed and accepted time, by his Word and Spirit. He calls them from the state of sin and death—in which they are by nature—to grace and salvation by Jesus Christ. In this calling, God enlightens their minds spiritually and savingly, so that they understand the things of God. He takes away their hearts of stone and gives them hearts of flesh, renews their wills, and by his almighty power turns them to what is good and effectually draws them to Jesus Christ. Yet he does this in such a way that they come most freely, being made willing by his grace.

This effectual call is from God's free and special grace alone, and not from anything at all that God foresees in man, who is entirely passive in it, until—being made alive and renewed by the Holy Spirit—he is enabled to answer the call and embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it.

1. Why are the genealogies in Genesis that trace Seth's line all the way to Abram important? How do they connect with Genesis 3:15?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3. What did God promise Abram? How is God's grace revealed in these verses?
3. As you think about Genesis 12:3, read Galatians 3:7-9. What do these verses reveal about the diversity of Christ's church?
4. Read Genesis 12:4-9. How did Abram demonstrate his faith in God even though he had not yet seen the fulfillment of God's promises?
5. How does Hebrews 11:8-10 explain Abram's faith? How does this apply to us as Christians today?