

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, January 22, 2023

I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

**Psalm 145:1**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing\*

Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 4 (p. 786 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God.

**Give me relief from my distress;  
be merciful to me and hear my prayer.**

How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame?  
How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?

**Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;  
the LORD will hear when I call to him.**

In your anger do not sin;  
when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.

**Offer right sacrifices and trust in the LORD.**

Many are asking, "Who can show us any good?"

**Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

You have filled my heart with greater joy  
than when their grain and new wine abound.

**I will lie down and sleep in peace,  
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

\* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

*O Father, You Are Sovereign*

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;  
Your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.  
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,  
Sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;  
No pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.  
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,  
You hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,  
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.  
All evil over-ruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,  
Your love pursues its purpose—our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,  
But soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.  
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:  
Our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you! Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Father, we come before you to acknowledge our sin, because if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**All:** We confess that we have walked in darkness rather than living according to what you have revealed to us in your Word. We have sinned against you and our neighbors, and we are ashamed and sorry for how we have displeased you.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and renew our wills. We desire to be conformed more and more to the likeness of Christ; grant us grace and work in us by your Holy Spirit to that end.

**All:** Thank you for the assurance we have of forgiveness through the blood of our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Genesis 2:15-25

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 342

### *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of the Lord and precious,  
Binding all the church in one;  
Holy Zion's help forever,  
And her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,  
Dearly loved of God on high,  
In exultant jubilation  
Pours perpetual melody;  
God the One in Three adoring  
In glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call thee,  
Come, O Lord of hosts, today:  
With thy wonted loving-kindness  
Hear thy people as they pray;  
And thy fullest benediction  
Shed within its walls alway.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants  
What they ask of thee to gain,  
What they gain from thee forever  
With the blessed to retain,  
And hereafter in thy glory  
Evermore with thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father,  
Laud and honor to the Son,  
Laud and honor to the Spirit,  
Ever Three and ever One,  
One in might, and One in glory,  
While unending ages run. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 33.** *What is justification?*

**A.** Justification is an act of God's free grace, in which he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

**Q. 34.** *What is adoption?*

**A.** Adoption is an act of God's free grace, by which we are received as sons of God, and have a right to all the privileges of that standing.

## 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\*

Romans 1:18-32

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 72])

Hymn 439

## *Christ Shall Have Dominion*

Christ shall have dominion over land and sea,  
Earth's remotest regions shall his empire be;  
They that wilds inhabit shall their worship bring,  
Kings shall render tribute, nations serve our King.  
*Christ shall have dominion over land and sea,  
Earth's remotest regions shall his empire be.*

When the needy seek him, he will mercy show;  
Yea, the weak and helpless shall his pity know;  
He will surely save them from oppression's might,  
For their lives are precious in his holy sight.  
*Christ shall have dominion over land and sea,  
Earth's remotest regions shall his empire be.*

Ever and forever shall his name endure,  
Long as suns continue it shall stand secure;  
And in him forever all men shall be blest,  
And all nations hail him King of kings confessed.  
*Christ shall have dominion over land and sea,  
Earth's remotest regions shall his empire be.*

Unto God Almighty joyful Zion sings;  
He alone is glorious, doing wondrous things.  
Evermore, ye people, bless his glorious name,  
His eternal glory through the earth proclaim.  
*Christ shall have dominion over land and sea,  
Earth's remotest regions shall his empire be. Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Sins of Sodom”  
Genesis 19:1-11

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 299

### *Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious*

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious:  
See the Man of Sorrows now;  
From the fight returned victorious,  
Ev’ry knee to him shall bow.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Crowns become the Victor’s brow.

Crown the Savior, angels, crown him;  
Rich the trophies Jesus brings;  
In the seat of pow’r enthrone him,  
While the vault of heaven rings.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Crown the Savior King of kings.

Sinners in derision crowned him,  
Mocking thus the Savior’s claim;  
Saints and angels crowd around him,  
Own his title, praise his name.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Spread abroad the Victor’s fame!

Hark! those bursts of acclamation!  
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!  
Jesus takes the highest station;  
O what joy the sight affords!  
Crown him! Crown him!  
King of kings, and Lord of lords. Amen.

**Benediction\***

**Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father,  
Praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit,  
Three in One,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.

# SERMON NOTES

## “The Sins of Sodom” Genesis 19:1-11

### 1. God’s Design

- a. God created Eve in his image to be like Adam but also different from Adam.  
Genesis 2:20-25
- b. God described Adam and Eve’s intimacy as a “one flesh” union.  
Mark 10:6-9
- c. God’s design in this “one flesh” union enabled them to be fruitful and multiply.
- d. This “one flesh” union pointed to the relationship between Christ and his Church.  
Ephesians 5:28-32

### 2. Sin’s Corruption

The sin of Sodom: homosexuality.

Not just a lack of hospitality. (Ezekiel 16:49-50)  
Not just violence and abuse.

The Bible clearly teaches that homosexuality is a sin.  
Leviticus 18:22; 20:13  
Romans 1:18-32

### 3. Our Response

- a. Remain steadfast in what the Bible teaches.
- b. Lovingly confront people with what the Bible teaches.
- c. Trust in Christ’s power to break the dominion of every sin, including homosexuality.  
1 Corinthians 6:9-11

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# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

## **Monday, January 23**

Scripture: Genesis 46:1 - 47:31; Matthew 15:1-28; Psalm 19:1-14; Proverbs 4:14-19

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 11

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

## **Tuesday, January 24**

Scripture: Genesis 48:1 - 49:33; Matthew 15:29 - 16:12; Psalm 20:1-9; Prov. 4:20-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 87

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

## **Wednesday, January 25**

Scripture: Genesis 50:1 - Exodus 2:10; Matthew 16:13 - 17:9; Ps. 21:1-13; Prov. 5:1-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 88

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Lebanon and persecuted Christians.

## **Thursday, January 26**

Scripture: Exodus 2:11 - 3:22; Matthew 17:10-27; Psalm 22:1-18; Proverbs 5:7-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 89

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

## **Friday, January 27**

Scripture: Exodus 4:1 - 5:21; Matthew 18:1-20; Psalm 22:19-31; Proverbs 5:15-21

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 90

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

## **Saturday, January 28**

Scripture: Exodus 5:22 - 7:25; Matthew 18:21 - 19:12; Psalm 23:1-6; Proverbs 5:22-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 91

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

## **Sunday, January 29**

Scripture: Exodus 8:1 - 9:35; Matthew 19:13-30; Psalm 24:1-10; Proverbs 6:1-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 92

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**

[followtruth99@gmail.com](mailto:followtruth99@gmail.com)

**Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda**

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## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

The Apostle Paul describes the power of the gospel for overcoming the sinful passions that wage war against our souls. He writes in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11:

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

All of these sins (including homosexuality) had defined the lives of the members of the church in Corinth, but Paul describes how Christ, by his Spirit, broke the dominion those sins had among them. The members of Corinth were no longer identified by their former sins and temptations—they were now identified by their union with Christ. The same is true for every believer who trusts in Christ. The old has passed away; the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17). We must never define ourselves by our former sins, or our current temptations, but only by our union with Christ. He began a gracious and powerful work in us by bringing us from spiritual death to spiritual life, and he has promised that he will complete it (Philippians 1:6).

1. For review, read Genesis 18. Why did the Lord ask about Sarah specifically? What was the purpose of his visit? What do you learn from the way that Abraham interceded for the righteous people living in Sodom?
2. Read Genesis 19:1-3 and 2 Peter 2:6-10. What do you think these passages reveal about Lot?
3. Read Genesis 19:4-11. What did the men of Sodom say and do that showed their wicked desires and intent?
4. Read the Preparation for Worship printed on the inside cover of the bulletin, and consider Lot's offer of his daughters to the mob. Why did Lot make such a wicked offer? What does this reveal about the danger of Christians conforming to the world?
5. Do you or someone you know struggle with same-sex attraction? How does 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 reveal the power of Christ to break the bonds of every sin? How might you use this passage to encourage those struggling with this particular sinful desire?