

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, February 19, 2023

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your
faithfulness known through all generations.

Psalm 89:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 33 (p. 796 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

The LORD loves righteousness and justice;

the earth is full of his unfailing love.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.

For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind;

from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—

he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.

No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength.

A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,

to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

We wait in hope for the LORD;

he is our help and our shield.

In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

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

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

God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory

God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;
Ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;
Beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;
All the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.

Clearer still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
Ruler of creation's glory, image of thy majesty.
Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days,
Are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise.

But our sins have spoiled thine image; nature, conscience only serve
As unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve.
Yet thy grace and saving mercy in thy Word of truth revealed
Claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed.

God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
We, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;
With our acts as with our voices thy commandments to fulfill. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty God and heavenly Father, we approach your throne of grace in sorrow and frustration as we consider how we have sinned against you and others.

All: We have broken your laws, and we have failed to love others as you command us in your Word. Though you have equipped us with many gifts and graces, we did not faithfully use them for your glory.

Leader: Have mercy on us, we pray, and grant us forgiveness through our Lord Jesus Christ. Cause us to grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

All: All glory be to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

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.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Genesis 21:1-21

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 456

By Grace I'm Saved, Grace Free and Boundless

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No; then this word must true remain:
By grace you too shall heav'n obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in his love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace! O mark this word of promise
When you are by your sins oppressed,
When Satan plagues your troubled conscience,
And when your heart is seeking rest.
What reason cannot comprehend
God by his grace to you will send.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
So long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in his Word our God commands,
What our whole faith must rest upon,
Is grace alone, grace in his Son. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 39. *What is the duty that God requires of man?*

A. The duty that God requires of man is obedience to his revealed will.

Q. 40. *What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?*

A. The rule that God at first revealed to man for his obedience was the moral law.

Q. 41. *Where is the moral law found to be summarized?*

A. The moral law is found summarized in the Ten Commandments.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Doxology*

Hymn 732

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. 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*

Galatians 4:21-31

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 89:1-4, 14-18, 28-29])

Hymn 99

My Song Forever Shall Record

All: My song forever shall record
The tender mercies of the Lord;
Your faithfulness will I proclaim,
And every age shall know your name.

Men: I sing of mercies that endure,
Forever builded firm and sure,
Of faithfulness that never dies,
Established changeless in the skies.

Ladies: Behold God's truth and grace displayed,
For he has faithful cov'nant made,
And he has sworn that David's son
Shall ever sit upon his throne:

Men: "For him my mercy shall endure,
My cov'nant made with him is sure;
His throne and race I will maintain
Forever, while the heav'ns remain."

Ladies: Almighty God, your lofty throne
Has justice for its cornerstone,
And shining bright before your face
Are truth and love and boundless grace.

Men: With blessing is the nation crowned
Whose people know the joyful sound;
They in the light, O Lord, shall live,
The light your face and favor give.

Ladies: Your name with gladness they confess,
Exalted in your righteousness;
Their fame and might to you belong,
For in your favor they are strong.

All: All glory unto God we yield,
Jehovah is our help and shield;
All praise and honor we will bring
To Israel's Holy One, our King. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
All thy lambs in safety keep;
Nothing can thy power withstand;
None can pluck them from thy hand.

May they praise thee every day,
Gladly all thy will obey,
Like thy blessed ones above,
Happy in thy precious love.

Loving Shepherd, ever near,
Teach thy lambs thy voice to hear;
Suffer not their steps to stray
From the straight and narrow way.

Where thou leadest may they go,
Walking in thy steps below;
Then, before thy Father's throne,
Savior, claim them for thine own. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Joy to the World!”
Genesis 21:1-21

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 108

Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right

Whate'er my God ordains is right:
His holy will abideth;
I will be still whate'er he doth,
And follow where he guideth.
He is my God: though dark my road,
He holds me that I shall not fall:
Wherefore to him I leave it all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right:
He never will deceive me;
He leads me by the proper path;
I know he will not leave me.
I take, content, what he hath sent;
His hand can turn my griefs away,
And patiently I wait his day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right:
Though now this cup, in drinking,
May bitter seem to my faint heart,
I take it, all unshrinking.
My God is true; each morn anew
Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

Whate'er my God ordains is right:
Here shall my stand be taken;
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
Yet am I not forsaken.
My Father's care is round me there;
He holds me that I shall not fall:
And so to him I leave it all. 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

“Joy to the World!”
Genesis 21:1-21

1. The Power of God Revealed in the Son’s Birth

Genesis 3:15
Hebrews 11:12

2. The Joy of God Revealed in the Son’s Birth

Psalm 30:11-12

“Those who serve the flesh as their god are miserable (Rom. 16:18; Phil. 3:18) because their god is vile, weak, deceitful, and transitory (Ps. 49:20; 73:25; Isa. 31:3; Jer. 17:9). Similarly, those who prize the world as their god are miserable because their god is vain, troublesome, uncertain, and fleeting (Eccl. 1:2–3; 5:10; 1 Cor. 7:29–31; 1 Tim. 6:9–10). But those who have an interest in this great God are happy: ‘Happy is that people whose God is the LORD’ (Ps. 144:15).”
—George Swinnock (1627-1673)

3. The Grace of God Revealed in the Son’s Birth

Galatians 4:21-31
Titus 3:3-7

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, February 20

Scripture: Leviticus 9:7 - 10:20; Mark 4:26 - 5:20; Psalm 37:30-40; Proverbs 10:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 15

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

Tuesday, February 21

Scripture: Leviticus 11:1 - 12:8; Mark 5:21-43; Psalm 38:1-22; Proverbs 10:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 4

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

Wednesday, February 22

Scripture: Leviticus 13:1-59; Mark 6:1-29; Psalm 39:1-13; Proverbs 10:10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 5

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Liechtenstein and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, February 23

Scripture: Leviticus 14:1-57; Mark 6:30-56; Psalm 40:1-10; Proverbs 10:11-12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 6

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

Friday, February 24

Scripture: Leviticus 15:1 - 16:28; Mark 7:1-23; Psalm 40:11-17; Proverbs 10:13-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 7

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

Saturday, February 25

Scripture: Leviticus 16:29 - 18:30; Mark 7:24 - 8:10; Psalm 41:1-13; Proverbs 10:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 8

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

Sunday, February 26

Scripture: Leviticus 19:1 - 20:21; Mark 8:11-38; Psalm 42:1-11; Proverbs 10:17

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 9

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

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

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GATHERING for EVENING PRAYER and HYMNS

Scripture Reading and Opening Prayer

Hymn 115 “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

Devotion | Rudy Manrique

Prayer of Gratitude for Our Salvation and Intercession for the Lost

Hymn 469 “How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place”

Hymn 94 “How Firm a Foundation”

Prayer of Supplication

Hymn 355 “We Are God’s People”

Prayer for Our Country

Hymn 402 “Abide with Me”

Closing Prayer