

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, April 9, 2023

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

Greeting and Call to Worship*

Psalm 89:1-5

Leader: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

All: You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

Hymn*

Hymn 3

Give to Our God Immortal Praise

Give to our God immortal praise; mercy and truth are all his ways:
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown; the King of kings with glory crown:
His mercies ever shall endure, when lords and kings are known no more.

He built the earth, he spread the sky, and fixed the starry lights on high:
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light; he bids the moon direct the night:
His mercies ever shall endure, when suns and moons shall shine no more.

He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and darkness and the grave:
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

Through this vain world he guides our feet, and leads us to his heav'nly seat:
His mercies ever shall endure, when this vain world shall be no more. Amen.

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

Congregational Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before you this evening and confess our many sins. We have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Our sins weigh heavy on our hearts, and we are ashamed of our disobedience. Forgive us, O God, for the sake of your only-begotten Son, the Lord Jesus, who died to free us from both the penalty and power of sin. In his strong Name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 130:7-8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Hymn

Hymn 517

I've Found a Friend, O Such a Friend!

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! He loved me ere I knew him;
He drew me with the cords of love, and thus he bound me to him;
And round my heart still closely twine those ties which naught can sever,
For I am his, and he is mine, forever and forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! He bled, he died to save me;
And not alone the gift of life, but his own self he gave me!
Naught that I have mine own I'll call, I'll hold it for the Giver,
My heart, my strength, my life, my all are his, and his forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! All pow'r to him is given,
To guard me on my onward course, and bring me safe to heaven:
Eternal glory gleams afar, to nerve my faint endeavor:
So now to watch, to work, to war; and then to rest forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend! So kind and true and tender,
So wise a Counselor and guide, so mighty a defender!
From him who loves me now so well what pow'r my soul can sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell? No! I am his forever. Amen.

Scripture Reading*

Acts 26

Hymn

Hymn 170

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine. Amen.

Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

The Spirit-Empowered Witness Desires that
All People Would Believe in Christ
Acts 26:24-29

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn*

Hymn 441

Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns; the pris'ner leaps to lose his chains,
The weary find eternal rest, and all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen! 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.