

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, June 25, 2023

Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

John 6:33

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 30 (p. 794 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.

O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit.

Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

When I felt secure, I said, “I will never be shaken.”

**O LORD, when you favored me, you made my mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.**

To you, O LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:

“What gain is there in my destruction, in my going down into the pit?

“Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?

“Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help.”

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

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

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

Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

Amidst us our Beloved stands,
And bids us view his pierced hands;
Points to the wounded feet and side,
Blest emblems of the Crucified.

What food luxurious loads the board,
When at his table sits the Lord!
The wine how rich, the bread how sweet,
When Jesus deigns the guests to meet!

If now, with eyes defiled and dim,
We see the signs, but see not him;
O may his love the scales displace,
And bid us see him face to face!

O glorious Bridegroom of our hearts,
Your present smile a heav'n imparts!
O lift the veil, if veil there be,
Let every saint your glory see! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: O Lord our God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. As we consider your glory and holiness, we are humbled and readily acknowledge our sinfulness.

All: We confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray, and grant that as we hear your assurance of pardon, we would accept, receive, and rest on Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life.

All: We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our risen and ascended Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 6:37-39

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Genesis 32:1-21

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 141

God, in the Gospel of His Son

God, in the gospel of his Son,
Makes his eternal counsels known;
Where love in all its glory shines,
And truth is drawn in fairest lines.

Here sinners of a humble frame
May taste his grace, and learn his name;
May read, in characters of blood,
The wisdom, pow'r, and grace of God.

The pris'ner here may break his chains;
The weary rest from all his pains;
The captive feel his bondage cease;
The mourner find the way of peace.

Here faith reveals to mortal eyes
A brighter world beyond the skies;
Here shines the light which guides our way
From earth to realms of endless day.

O grant us grace, almighty Lord,
To read and mark your holy Word;
Its truths with meekness to receive,
And by its holy precepts live. 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.

❖ *Tithes and offerings may be placed in the box at the entrance to the sanctuary or given online through our church's website.*

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Luke 11:1-13

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 23])

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.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“A Way to Pray”
Genesis 32:1-21

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 642

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
Thou my soul’s shelter, thou my high tow’r: raise thou me heav’n-ward, O Pow’r of my pow’r.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all. 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

“A Way to Pray”
Genesis 32:1-21

1. Use God’s names and titles as you begin your prayer. (v. 9)
Luke 11:2
 2. Use God’s Word to form your prayer. (v. 9)
Genesis 28:12-15; 31:3
 3. Humble yourself before God in prayer. (v. 10)
Luke 18:9-14
 4. Ask God for help in prayer. (v. 11)
Psalm 142
 5. Use God’s promises to embolden yourself in prayer. (v. 12)
Hebrews 4:14-16
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HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, June 26

Scripture: 2 Kings 9:14 - 10:31; Acts 17:1-34; Psalm 144:1-15; Proverbs 17:27-28

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 33

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

Tuesday, June 27

Scripture: 2 Kings 10:32 - 12:21; Acts 18:1-22; Psalm 145:1-21; Proverbs 18:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 5

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

Wednesday, June 28

Scripture: 2 Kings 13:1 - 14:29; Acts 18:23 - 19:12; Psalm 146:1-10; Proverbs 18:2-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 6

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Moldova and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, June 29

Scripture: 2 Kings 15:1 - 16:20; Acts 19:13-41; Psalm 147:1-20; Proverbs 18:4-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 7

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

Friday, June 30

Scripture: 2 Kings 17:1 - 18:12; Acts 20:1-38; Psalm 148:1-14; Proverbs 18:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 8

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

Saturday, July 1

Scripture: 2 Kings 18:13 - 19:37; Acts 21:1-17; Psalm 149:1-9; Proverbs 18:8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 9

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

Sunday, July 2

Scripture: 2 Kings 20:1 - 22:2; Acts 21:18-36; Psalm 150:1-6; Proverbs 18:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 10

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.

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LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

As Jacob prepared to return home after spending 20 years in Laban's household, he feared what Esau would do to him. Before Jacob ran away to Laban's house, Esau had vowed to kill Jacob because Jacob had deceived their father and stolen Esau's blessing. We read in Genesis 27:41, "Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, 'The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.'"

In preparation for his encounter with Esau, Jacob made preparations to try to appease him by sending him gifts and displaying his wealth. But most importantly, Jacob prayed and asked the Lord for help. This is the most important thing that we can do when we fear others and when we fear the future—we must turn to the Lord in prayer. The promise we find in Scripture is that God is our heavenly Father who loves us in Jesus Christ, so that when we pray, we can be assured that he hears us and will answer us according to his will.

1. As you think about the first point in the sermon, what are the names and titles that you most often use in your prayers? What do those names and titles that you most often use reveal about God, and how do they help shape your prayers?
2. Do you use Scripture passages to help guide your prayers? What are the spiritual benefits of praying the Bible? Choose a short psalm or a passage of Scripture that is familiar to you and try to pray it.
3. What does it mean to humble yourself before God in prayer? How did Jacob do that, and how does Jesus' parable in Luke 18:9-14 reveal the difference between pride and humility?
4. What did Jacob ask for in his prayer (verse 11)? What does this reveal about Jacob's need and his confidence in God's strength?
5. In verse 12, Jacob quotes one of God's promises back to God as a way of emboldening himself in prayer. What promises of God can you think of from Scripture that you can use in your prayers to embolden you?