

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—
he is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

Psalm 68:35

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 76

- 1 In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel.
- 2 **His abode has been established in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion.**
- 3 There he broke the flashing arrows, the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war.
- 4 **Glorious are you, more majestic than the mountains full of prey.**
- 5 The stouthearted were stripped of their spoil; they sank into sleep;
all the men of war were unable to use their hands.
- 6 **At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned.**
- 7 But you, you are to be feared! Who can stand before you when once your anger is roused?
- 8 **From the heavens you uttered judgment; the earth feared and was still,**
- 9 when God arose to establish judgment, to save all the humble of the earth.
- 10 **Surely the wrath of man shall praise you;
the remnant of wrath you will put on like a belt.**
- 11 Make your vows to the Lord your God and perform them;
let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared,
- 12 **who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.**

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

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

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we come before you with guilt and shame as we consider how we have offended you by our sinful actions, our hurtful words, and our disgraceful thoughts.

All: You know us even better than we know ourselves; none of our sins are hidden from your sight. It grieves us that we continually fall short of what your Word commands.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray, and grant us repentant hearts. Enable us to lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and strengthen us to run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at your right hand.

All: All praise, honor, glory, and power be to you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 Timothy 1:15-17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Deuteronomy 5:6-21; Matthew 22:34-40

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 168

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in ev'ry place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

Thou art the Life, by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive;
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,
Strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.

Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
No harshness hast thou and no bitterness:
Make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee
And ever stay in thy sweet unity.

Our hope is in no other save in thee;
Our faith is built upon thy promise free;
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure
That we can boldly conquer and endure. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 88. *What are the outward means by which Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption?*

A. The outward and ordinary means by which Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption are his ordinances, especially the Word, sacraments, and prayer; all of which are made effectual to the elect for salvation.

Q. 89. *How is the Word made effectual to salvation?*

A. The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith to salvation.

Q. 90. *How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?*

A. That the Word may become effectual to salvation we must attend to it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love; lay it up in our hearts; and practice it in our lives.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

Doxology*

Hymn 731

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.

❖ *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*

Isaiah 65:17-25

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 76])

Hymn 66

God Is Known Among His People

God is known among his people,
Every mouth his praises fill;
From of old he has established
His abode on Zion's hill;
There he broke the sword and arrow,
Bade the noise of war be still.

Excellent and glorious are you,
With your trophies from the fray;
You have slain the mighty warriors,
Wrapped in sleep of death are they;
When your anger once is risen,
Who can stand in that dread day?

When from heav'n your sentence sounded,
All the earth in fear was still,
While to save the meek and lowly
God in judgment wrought his will;
E'en the wrath of man shall praise you,
Your designs it shall fulfill.

Vow and pay unto Jehovah,
Him your God forever own;
All men, bring your gifts before him,
Worship him, and him alone;
Mighty kings obey and fear him,
Princes bow before his throne. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Rudy Manrique

“Everything Is Going to Be Okay”
Revelation 21:1-4

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 390

Lord of the Sabbath, Hear Us Pray

Lord of the Sabbath, hear us pray,
In this your house, on this your day;
And own, as grateful sacrifice,
The songs which from your temple rise.

Now met to pray and bless your name,
Whose mercies flow each day the same,
Whose kind compassions never cease,
We seek instruction, pardon, peace.

Your earthly Sabbaths, Lord, we love,
But there’s a nobler rest above;
To that our lab’ring souls aspire
With ardent hope and strong desire.

In your blest kingdom we shall be
From ev’ry mortal trouble free;
No sighs shall mingle with the songs
Resounding from immortal tongues.

No rude alarms of raging foes;
No cares to break the long repose;
No midnight shade, no waning moon,
But sacred, high, eternal noon.

O long-expected day, begin,
Dawn on these realms of woe and sin!
Break, morn of God, upon our eyes;
And let the world’s true Sun arise! 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.

SERMON NOTES

“Everything Is Going to Be Okay”
Revelation 21:1-4

1. No More Chaos (v. 1)
 - This old creation will be no more. (v. 1a)
Isaiah 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13
 - The sea will be no more. (v. 1b)
Psalm 104:5-7; 69:1-2

2. No More Corruption (vv. 2-3)
 - God’s people will be perfected in holiness. (v. 2)
John 14:1-3; Isaiah 62:5
 - God will dwell with his people forever. (v. 3)
Leviticus 26:11-12; John 1:14

3. No More Death (v. 4)
 - God will wipe away your tears. (v. 4a)
Isaiah 25:8
 - God’s enemies will be no more. (v. 4b)
Isaiah 65:19; Psalm 30:11

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, July 3

Scripture: 2 Kings 22:3 - 23:30; Acts 21:37 - 22:16; Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 18:11-12

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 1

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

Tuesday, July 4

Scripture: 2 Kings 23:31 - 25:30; Acts 22:17 - 23:10; Psalm 2:1-12; Proverbs 18:13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 11

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

Wednesday, July 5

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 1:1 - 2:17; Acts 23:11-35; Psalm 3:1-8; Proverbs 18:14-15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 12

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Monaco and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, July 6

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 2:18 - 4:4; Acts 24:1-27; Psalm 4:1-8; Proverbs 18:16-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 13

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

Friday, July 7

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 4:5 - 5:17; Acts 25:1-27; Psalm 5:1-12; Proverbs 18:19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 14

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

Saturday, July 8

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 5:18 - 6:81; Acts 26:1-32; Psalm 6:1-10; Proverbs 18:20-21

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 15

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

Sunday, July 9

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 7:1 - 8:40; Acts 27:1-20; Psalm 7:1-17; Proverbs 18:22

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 16

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

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Some Christians are afraid to read the book of Revelation. They believe it is a book about the coming judgment in which God will judge unrepentant sinners and end the world as we know it. Although the book vividly describes these events, it offers much more to God's people. This is because the book of Revelation is our book. It is one of the most encouraging books in all of Scripture because it assures us that the Lord will be victorious over sin, death, Satan, and every other demonic force that rises up against his people. Revelation 21:1-4 assures us of that reality. This will all occur when Christ returns to abolish sin and death, consummate his everlasting kingdom, glorify his people, and "wipe away every tear from their eyes" (Rev. 21:4). *Maramatha!* As you rest this Lord's Day, consider these encouraging words from Joel Beeke's commentary on Revelation. Commenting on Revelation 21:2, Beeke writes:

John adds something very personal and human: "And there was no more sea" (Rev. 21:1b). As a prisoner on an island, John constantly heard the sound of crashing waves, the cry of wild birds in the sky, and the roar of thunder. The sea formed the walls of his prison. It separated him from everyone he loved in Christ. In the distance, he could see mountains on the mainland. He knew that the people he loved in the seven churches of Asia were there. But the sea prevented him from leaving the island. Now God says to him: "John, in the new age, there will be no more sea for you. There will be no more goodbyes, no more separations, and no more broken fellowship. You will no longer suffer isolation, persecution, pain, or suffering for the sake of Christ. It will be a world where there will be none of this, where you will dwell with Me." Or, as John saw it, "there [will be] no more sea."

1. In Revelation 21:1a, John says he saw a new heaven and new earth. Why does there need to be a new heaven and a new earth? How does this relate to Adam and Eve's fall into sin (see Gen. 3:17-19; Rom. 8:18-25)? What does John mean when he says he saw that "the former things have passed away" (Rev. 21:1, 4)?
2. In Revelation 21:1b, John saw that the sea was no more. While that may sound puzzling, according to the sermon, what is the significance of the sea in Scripture? For clues, read Gen. 1:9-12, 8:1-5; Ex. 14:21-31; Jos. 3:10-16; and Matt. 8:23-27. In light of these passages, what then does John mean when he says that the sea was no more?
3. Read Revelation 21:2. What is the relationship between the new Jerusalem and the people of God? Is John talking about a literal city, an actual people, or both? What does the phrase "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" mean and how does it relate to justification and sanctification, respectively.
4. "I will be your God, and you will be my people" is known as the covenant formula and is found throughout Scripture (Gen. 17:8; Ex. 29:45; Lev. 26:45; Zech. 8:8; 2 Cor. 6:16). What is the significance of God dwelling with his people? What does the word "dwelling" mean (see Lev. 26:11; Jn. 1:14)? What are some other ways in Scripture that God has dwelt with his people?
5. Revelation 21:4 is one of the most encouraging verses in all of Scripture. What kind of tears will God wipe away from our eyes? Are they tears of shame?