

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name,
for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things,
things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalms 84 (p. 814)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!

**My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young—

a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.

As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs;
the autumn rains also cover it with pools.

They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.

Hear my prayer, O LORD God Almighty; listen to me, O God of Jacob.

Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one.

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor;

no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

O LORD Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

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

O Worship the King

O worship the King all glorious above, O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
Has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain; and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love! While angels delight to hymn you above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall lisp to your praise. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God and Father, we confess that you are holy and perfect. We feel unworthy to enter into your presence because we again have failed to keep all your commandments.

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 not worthy to be called your children.

Leader: Our sins and failures weigh heavy on our hearts, and we feel how our fellowship with you has suffered. Forgive us and restore us, we pray, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who loves us and gave himself for us.

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, now and 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*

Psalm 40

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 80

Lord, with Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee

Lord, with glowing heart I'd praise thee
For the bliss thy love bestows,
For the pard'ning grace that saves me,
And the peace that from it flows.
Help, O God, my weak endeavor;
This dull soul to rapture raise:
Thou must light the flame, or never
Can my love be warmed to praise.

Praise, my soul, the God that sought thee,
Wretched wand'rer far astray;
Found thee lost, and kindly brought thee
From the paths of death away.
Praise, with love's devoutest feeling,
Him who saw thy guilt-born fear,
And, the light of hope revealing,
Bade the blood-stained cross appear.

Praise thy Savior God that drew thee
To that cross, new life to give,
Held a blood-sealed pardon to thee,
Bade thee look to him and live.
Praise the grace whose threats alarmed thee,
Roused thee from thy fatal ease;
Praise the grace whose promise warmed thee,
Praise the grace that whispered peace.

Lord, this bosom's ardent feeling
Vainly would my lips express:
Low before thy footstool kneeling,
Deign thy suppliant's pray'r to bless.
Let thy love, my soul's chief treasure,
Love's pure flame within me raise;
And, since words can never measure,
Let my life show forth thy praise. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 98. *What is prayer?*

A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

Q. 99. *What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?*

A. The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is the form of prayer that Christ taught his disciples, commonly called “the Lord’s Prayer.”

Q. 100. *What does the Preface of the Lord’s Prayer teach us?*

A. The Preface of the Lord’s Prayer, which is, “Our Father in heaven,” teaches us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

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*

Matthew 26:57-68

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 47])

Hymn 73

Rejoice, All People, Homage Give

Rejoice, all people, homage give,
to God with voice of triumph sing;
He rules us in dread majesty,
The great, the universal King.

He puts the nations under us
And makes us all triumphant stand;
He gives us for our heritage
His promised rest, a goodly land.

God has ascended with a shout,
Jehovah with the trumpet's sound;
Sing praise to God our King, sing praise,
Yes, let his glorious praise abound.

Our God is King of all the earth,
With thoughtful heart his praise make known;
O'er all the nations God does reign,
Exalted on his holy throne.

To praise and serve our cov'nant God
The princes of the earth draw nigh;
All kingly pow'rs belong to him,
He is exalted, God Most High. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Clayton Willis

“Jesus Before Pilate”
John 18:28-38

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 311

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, great David’s greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
Before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

O’er ev’ry foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blessed;
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever— that name to us is Love. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to TRINITY)

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be, hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity love and adore. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

“Jesus Before Pilate”
John 18:28-38

1. Jesus is accused. (vv. 28-32)
2. Jesus is questioned. (vv. 33-35)
3. Jesus bears witness to the truth. (vv. 36-38)

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, October 18

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:27 - 32:44; 1 Timothy 3:1-16; Psalm 88:1-18; Prov. 25:20-22

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 11

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

Tuesday, October 19

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:1 - 34:22; 1 Timothy 4:1-16; Psalm 89:1-13; Proverbs 25:23-24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 12

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

Wednesday, October 20

Scripture: Jeremiah 35:1 - 36:32; 1 Timothy 5:1-25; Psalm 89:14-37; Prov. 25:25-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 13

Pray for: Our covenant children, and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Croatia and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, October 21

Scripture: Jeremiah 37:1 - 38:28; 1 Timothy 6:1-21; Psalm 89:38-52; Proverbs 25:28

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 14

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

Friday, October 22

Scripture: Jeremiah 39:1 - 41:18; 2 Timothy 1:1-18; Psalm 90:1 - 91:16; Prov. 26:1-2

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 15

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

Saturday, October 23

Scripture: Jeremiah 42:1 - 44:23; 2 Timothy 2:1-21; Psalm 92:1 - 93:5; Proverbs 26:3-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 16

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

Sunday, October 24

Scripture: Jeremiah 44:24 - 47:7; 2 Timothy 2:22 - 3:17; Psalm 94:1-23; Prov. 26:6-8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 17

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

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LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In the betrayal and trials of Jesus we are confronted with our own weaknesses and sin. In the disciples' abandonment of Jesus we see our own cowardice. In Peter's boast of courage and then his three-time denial of even knowing Jesus we see our own weakness in the face of adversity. And in the outward piety of the Jewish religious leaders who wanted to maintain ceremonial purity while knowingly murdering an innocent man, we see our own hypocrisy. R.C. Sproul writes:

These Jews went through all the motions, maintained all the rituals, and kept themselves totally clean while they crucified the Son of God. Of course, we can look back from our vantage point in the twenty-first century and say what hypocrites these people were, but we need to look at ourselves, because we crucify the Son of God afresh every time we honor Him with our lips while our hearts are far from Him. Instead of looking disdainfully at these people who betrayed Jesus, we have to see ourselves in that crowd, because this is what fallen humanity is like. This is what fallen humanity does.

But in the betrayal, trials, and even the death of Jesus we see something else. We see the perfect, sinless Son of God suffering for and atoning for those who by faith are of the truth and listen to his voice (John 18:37). Fallen humanity schemes to put Jesus on the cross; our loving Savior planned to go to the cross (John 18:32) in order to offer himself as a sacrifice so that through him we would be forgiven of our sins and reconciled to our heavenly Father.

1. Read John 18:28-32. Why do you think the Jewish leaders could be concerned about outward defilement and not concerned about the moral defilement of murdering an innocent man?
2. Read Matthew 15:10-20. The Pharisees were overly concerned with the appearance of holiness measured by outward cleanliness according to their "human rules" but were ignorant of the true cleanliness (holiness) required by God. Ask God to reveal ways you are satisfied with the appearance of holiness rather than with true holiness.
3. How does Jesus explain the difference between Pilate's kingdom (the kingdom of the world) and his kingdom (the kingdom of God) in John 18:33-36? How would you characterize the differences between these two kingdoms?
4. Look up 1 Timothy 6:12-16, then look again at John 18:36-37. What is the "good confession" Jesus made before Pilate? What is Jesus affirming in his good confession?

Rejoice, All People, Homage Give

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Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. Ps. 47:1

1. Re - joice, all peo - ple, hom - age give, to God with voice of tri - umph sing;
2. He puts the na - tions un - der us and makes us all tri - um - phant stand;
3. God has as - cend - ed with a shout, Je - ho - vah with the trum - pet's sound;
4. Our God is King of all the earth, with thought - ful heart his praise make known;
5. To praise and serve our cov - nant God the princ - es of the earth draw nigh;

he rules us in dread maj - es - ty, the great, the u - ni - ver - sal King.
he gives us for our her - i - tage his prom - ised rest, a good - ly land.
• sing praise to God our King, sing praise, yes, let his glo - rious praise a - bound.
o'er all the na - tions God does reign, ex - alt - ed on his ho - ly throne.
all king - ly pow'rs be - long to him, he is ex - alt - ed, God Most High.

From Psalm 47
The Psalter, 1912; alt. 1990, mod.

TRURO L.M.
Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789