

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Psalm 103:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 13 (p. 787)

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?

**How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and every day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me?**

Look on me and answer, O LORD my God.
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death;

**my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.**

But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

I will sing to the LORD, for he has been good to me.

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

O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord

O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker, and all within me bless his holy name;
Bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies, his pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion, most slow to anger, plenteous in love;
Rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him, boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

His love is like a father's to his children, tender and kind to all who fear his name;
For well he knows our weakness and our frailty, he knows that we are dust, he knows our frame.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty, like tender grass that soon will disappear;
But evermore the love of God is changeless, still shown to those who look to him in fear.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever, his kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;
Bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion, bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, you are rich in mercy to all those who call upon you. Hear us as we come before you to confess our sins and ask for your forgiveness.

All: We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader: Grant us repentant hearts to understand the sinfulness of sin, but also the assurance of forgiveness. We thank you that our sins will not be counted against us, because they all have been laid upon Christ, our risen and ascended King.

All: All praise to you, O God, for such wondrous grace! We are loved with an everlasting love! Grant that we, by your Spirit, may live daily unto you and may seek to glorify you in thought, word, and deed. In Jesus' Name we pray. 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*

Exodus 20:1-17; Romans 13:8-10

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

(printed on p. 12)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I find a place to stand,
And wonder at such mercy
That calls me as I am.
For hands that should discard me
Hold wounds which tell me, "Come!"
Beneath the cross of Jesus
My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus,
His family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,
Now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor
The ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus
See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus,
The path before the crown—
We follow in His footsteps
Where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us
To be His perfect bride!
Beneath the cross of Jesus
We will gladly live our lives. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 104. *For what do we pray in the fourth petition?*

A. In the fourth petition, which is, “Give us this day our daily bread,” we pray that, of God’s free gift, we may receive a sufficient portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them.

Q. 105. *For what do we pray in the fifth petition?*

A. In the fifth petition, which is, “And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,” we pray that God, for Christ’s sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are more encouraged to ask because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.

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.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Acts 2:22-41

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 13])

Hymn 641

How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me

How long wilt thou forget me,
O Lord, thou God of grace?
How long shall fears beset me,
While darkness hides thy face?
How long shall griefs distress me
And turn my day to night?
How long shall foes oppress me
And triumph in their might?

O Lord my God, behold me,
And hear my earnest cries;
Lest sleep of death enfold me,
Enlighten thou mine eyes;
Lest now my foe insulting
Should boast of his success,
And enemies exulting
Rejoice in my distress.

But I with expectation
Have on thy grace relied;
My heart in thy salvation
Shall still with joy confide;
And I with voice of singing
Will praise the Lord above,
Who, richest bounties bringing,
Has dealt with me in love. 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 Clayton Willis

“A Question of Authority”
John 19:6-16

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 261

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on! 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.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, November 8

Scripture: Ezekiel 18:1 - 19:14; Hebrews 9:1-10; Psalm 106:32-48; Proverbs 27:10

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 14

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

Tuesday, November 9

Scripture: Ezekiel 20:1-49; Hebrews 9:11-28; Psalm 107:1-43; Proverbs 27:11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 30

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

Wednesday, November 10

Scripture: Ezekiel 21:1 – 22:31; Hebrews 10:1-17; Psalm 108:1-13; Proverbs 27:12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 31

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

Thursday, November 11

Scripture: Ezekiel 23:1-49; Hebrews 10:18-39; Psalm 109:1-31; Proverbs 27:13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 32

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

Friday, November 12

Scripture: Ezekiel 24:1 – 26:21; Hebrews 11:1-16; Psalm 110:1-7; Proverbs 27:14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 33

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

Saturday, November 13

Scripture: Ezekiel 27:1 – 28:26; Hebrews 11:17-31; Psalm 111:1-10; Proverbs 27:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 34

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

Sunday, November 14

Scripture: Ezekiel 29:1 - 30:26; Hebrews 11:32 - 12:13; Psalm 112:1-10; Prov. 27:17

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 35

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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Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

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LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Power and authority are prized and sought-after commodities in this world. History is replete with the stories of men and women who amassed these precious commodities. Some of these powerful people are remembered fondly because they used their power and position to protect and provide for those who looked to them for those very things, but most are remembered because they abused their power, using it purely for their own gain.

But power and authority are deceptive. Many think that these things provide freedom, but we see in today's passage that the striving to maintain power is a form of bondage. J.C. Ryle writes:

This high-minded claim to absolute power is one which ungodly great men are fond of making. It is written of Nebuchadnezzar, "Whom he would he slew, and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up, and whom he would he put down" (Dan. 5:19). Yet even when such men boast of power, they are often like Pilate, mere slaves, and afraid of resisting popular opinion. Pilate talked of "power to release;" but he knew in his own mind that he was afraid, and so unable to exercise it.

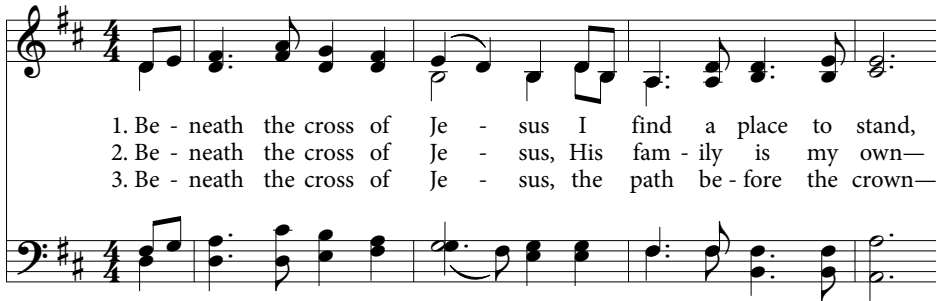
Pilate's claim in John 19:10, that he has the authority to release and the authority to crucify Jesus, was meant to intimidate Jesus. Jesus corrected Pilate's misunderstanding of his position by pointing Pilate to the true source of his authority, "you would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above" (John 19:11).

In this one verse, we are shown true power and authority, and with it, true freedom. When we understand that all power and authority are given by God, we are freed from the fear of popular opinion and are free to serve God.

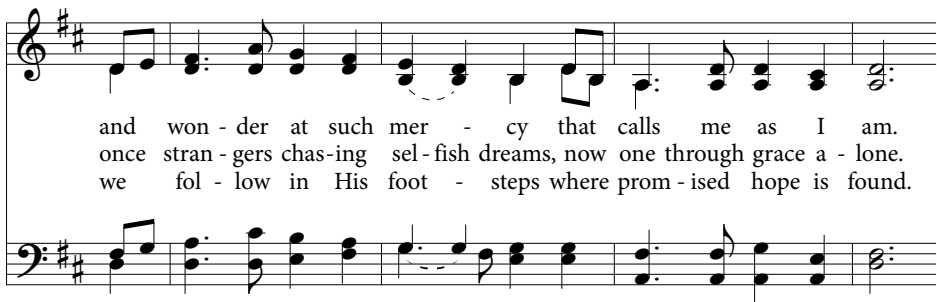
1. Why do you think so many people desire power and authority? How are power and authority deceptive?
2. According to John 19:11, where does all authority and power come from? How does this verse reveal God's sovereignty?
3. How did the Jewish leaders abuse their authority? How did Pilate abuse his authority?
4. Read Acts 2:23. How could Peter claim that the actions of the Jewish leaders and Pilate were according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God?
5. Look up Mark 12:12 and John 11:45-48. How did the power and authority of the Jewish leaders make them a slave to popular opinion? Look up John 19:13-16. How did the power and authority of Pilate make him a slave to popular opinion?
6. How does understanding the source of all power and authority make us free?

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross... Colossians 1:19-20



1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I find a place to stand,
2. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus, His fam - ily is my own—
3. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus, the path be - fore the crown—



and won - der at such mer - cy that calls me as I am.
once stran - gers chas - ing sel - fish dreams, now one through grace a - lone.
we fol - low in His foot - steps where prom - ised hope is found.



For hands that should dis - card me hold wounds which tell me, "Come!"
How could I now dis - hon - or the ones that You have loved?
How great the joy be - fore us to be His per - fect bride!



Be - neath the cross of Je - sus my un - wor - thy soul is won.
Be - neath the cross of Je - sus see the chil - dren called by God.
Be - neath the cross of Je - sus we will glad - ly live our lives.

TEXT and MUSIC: Kristyn Lennox Getty and Keith Getty

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