

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, March 7, 2021

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Isaiah 2:5

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 110 (p. 825 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

**The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion;
you will rule in the midst of your enemies.**

Your troops will be willing on your day of battle.

**Arrayed in holy majesty, from the womb of the dawn
you will receive the dew of your youth.**

The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind:
“You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

**The Lord is at your right hand;
he will crush kings on the day of his wrath.**

He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead
and crushing the rulers of the whole earth.

**He will drink from a brook beside the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.**

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

Sing Praise to the Lord!

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him in the height;
Rejoice in his word, you angels of light.
You heavens, adore him by whom you were made,
And worship before him in brightness arrayed.

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him on the earth
In tuneful accord, you saints of new birth.
Praise him who has brought you his grace from above;
Praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.

Sing praise to the Lord! All things that give sound,
Each jubilant chord, re-echo around.
Loud organs, his glory tell forth in deep tone,
And trumpets, the story of what he has done.

Sing praise to the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
To him be outpoured all ages along!
For love in creation, for heaven restored,
For grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: We praise you, our God and King, because you are holy and good. Your unfailing love is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.

All: As we enter into worship, we feel the vast difference between who we are as creatures and who you are as our Creator. We are painfully aware of how we have sinned and fall short of your glory.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Help us not to grow weary in doing good, but instead fill us with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.

All: We ask all this through the merit and mediation of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Acts 10:42-43

And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 22:34-40

Congregational Response

Hymn 460

Amazing Grace!

Amazing grace!—how sweet the sound—that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 22. *How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?*

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man by taking to himself a true body and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

Q. 23. *What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?*

A. Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

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*

Ephesians 1

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month)

(also printed on pg. 10)

The LORD Said to My Lord

The LORD said to my Lord:
“Sit here at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies
A footstool for Your feet.”
The LORD from Zion sends
Your scepter in its strength,
“With mighty power show Your rule
Among Your enemies.”

Your people freely come
Throughout Your day of pow’r;
From morning’s dawn, in holy robes,
Your youth are like the dew.
The LORD has sworn an oath,
And will not change His mind:
“In th’order of Melchizedek,
You ever are a priest.”

The Lord at Your right hand
Will shatter kings in wrath.
Among the nations He will judge,
And fill them with their dead.
Yes, He will smite and crush
Chief men in many lands.
And from the wayside brook He’ll drink,
And therefore lift His head. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Clayton Willis

“God’s Will: Your Sanctification”
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 660

O God Beyond All Praising

O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor
may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we’ll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise. 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.

110D

Psalms 110

The LORD Said to My Lord

*Having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, He sat down...
waiting from that time onward. —Hebrews 10:12-13*



1. ¹The LORD said to my Lord: "Sit here at My right hand
2. ³Your peo - ple free - ly come Through-out Your day of pow'r;
3. ⁵The Lord at Your right hand Will shat - ter kings in wrath.



- Un - til I make Your en - e - mies A foot-stool for Your feet."
From morn-ing's dawn, in ho - ly robes, Your youth are like the dew.
⁶A - mong the na-tions He will judge, And fill them with their dead.



- ²The LORD from Zi - on sends Your scep - ter in its strength,
- ⁴The LORD has sworn an oath, And will not change His mind:
Yes, He will smite and crush Chief men in ma - ny lands.



- "With might - y pow - er show Your rule A - mong Your en - e - mies."
"In th'or - der of Mel - chi - ze - dek, You ev - er are a priest."
⁷And from the way-side brook He'll drink, And there-fore lift His head.



LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Sanctification is not an option for God's people, it is the will of God (1 Thessalonians 4:3); a divine decree. Some people hear this statement as meaning that sanctification is something that ought to happen to them 'auto-magically', without any effort on their part. They continue to live in obvious sin waiting for God to sanctify them. This lack of zeal for holiness has inclined sections of the church to separate God's sovereignty from sanctification. They reason that if believers are responsible for their own sanctification it will lead to greater zeal for holiness. But separating God's sovereignty from sanctification has arguably lead to a decline in holiness among God's people. Richard Phillips describes this situation saying:

Is it not instead the case that at this very moment when God's sovereignty is most strongly compromised and neglected, the church is stained by sin, shattered by division, and so weak that, far from shaping society, the church is instead being strongly reshaped by the world?

God's sovereign decree for our sanctification does not excuse us from striving after holiness; this ought to be clear by the many times in Scripture we are commanded to live in accordance with God's requirements and seek after holiness in all areas of life. Instead, knowing that our sanctification is sovereignly decreed by God ought to give us hope and encouragement that we will, despite our sin and corruption, through the power of the Holy Spirit, actually make progress in our sanctification.

1. Read Ephesians 1:3-4. How is God's sovereignty in our sanctification tied to our election? According to this passage, would it be correct to say that the purpose of our election is our sanctification?
2. Look up Romans 8:29. How does Paul connect our salvation to our sanctification? Notice that the context of this verse is Paul explaining the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. Does this verse encourage or discourage you to seek after holiness?
3. Look up 1 Thessalonians 4:1-2. How does Paul make it clear that his exhortations to holiness are not just his preference, but that believers are commanded by the Lord Jesus to seek after holiness?
4. How will a life devoted to grateful obedience to Jesus' commands be different from that of an unbeliever's? How will it be different from someone who is trying to earn God's favor through obedience?
5. How does God's sovereignty in sanctification remove any excuses you might have in striving after holiness? How does it positively encourage you to live obediently?

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

*The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.
Use our church directory to pray for an individual or family each day.*

Monday, March 8

Scripture: Numbers 10:1 - 11:23; Mark 14:1-21; Psalm 51:1-19; Proverbs 10:31-32

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 12

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

Tuesday, March 9

Scripture: Numbers 11:24 - 13:33; Mark 14:22-52; Psalm 52:1-9; Proverbs 11:1-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 34

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

Wednesday, March 10

Scripture: Numbers 14:1 - 15:16; Mark 14:53-72; Psalm 53:1-6; Proverbs 11:4 Catechism:

The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 35

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Belarus and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, March 11

Scripture: Numbers 15:17 - 16:40; Mark 15:1-47; Psalm 54:1-7; Proverbs 11:5-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 36

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

Friday, March 12

Scripture: Numbers 16:41 - 18:32; Mark 16:1-20; Psalm 55:1-23; Proverbs 11:7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 37

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

Saturday, March 13

Scripture: Numbers 19:1 - 20:29; Luke 1:1-25; Psalm 56:1-13; Proverbs 11:8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 38

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

Sunday, March 14

Scripture: Numbers 21:1 - 22:20; Luke 1:26-56; Psalm 57:1-11; Proverbs 11:9-11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 39

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

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebyuganda@gmail.com