

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 4, 2025

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Psalm 42:1-2a

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 32 (p. 795 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"—and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found;

surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

You are my hiding place;

you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.

Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

^{*} Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

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

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.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we confess that we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep, each of us going our own way and seeking our own path.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you and others. We depended on our own strength and stumbled. We leaned on our own understanding and made foolish decisions. We sought the things of this world and failed to seek first your Kingdom and your righteousness.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, and enable us to walk in your ways. Remove from our hearts and minds every worldly desire, every anxious thought, and every bitter resentment. Work in us by your Holy Spirit so that we will always seek to do what is pleasing in your sight.

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

Psalm 130:7-8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading* Genesis 1:26 - 2:3

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 610

"Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said

"Take up your cross," the Savior said,
"If you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart,
And humbly follow after me."

Take up your cross; let not its weight Fill your weak soul with vain alarm; His strength shall bear your spirit up, And brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross; nor heed the shame, And let your foolish pride be still; Your Lord refused not e'en to die Upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength, And calmly sin's wild deluge brave; 'Twill guide you to a better home, It points to glory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross, and follow on, Nor think till death to lay it down; For only he who bears the cross May hope to wear the glorious crown. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 94. What is Baptism?

A. Baptism is a sacrament, in which the washing with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, does signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and receiving of the benefits of the Covenant of Grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

Q. 95. To whom is Baptism to be administered?

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any who are out of the visible Church, until they profess their faith in Christ and obedience to him; but the infants of those who are members of the visible Church are to be baptized.

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* Hebrews 4:1-13

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 32])

Hymn 551

How Blest Is He Whose Trespass

How blest is he whose trespass has freely been forgiv'n, Whose sin is wholly covered before the sight of heav'n.

Blest he to whom Jehovah will not impute his sin,
Who has a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

While I kept guilty silence my strength was spent with grief, Thy hand was heavy on me, my soul found no relief; But when I owned my trespass, my sin hid not from thee, When I confessed transgression, then thou forgavest me.

So let the godly seek thee in times when thou art near; No whelming floods shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear. In thee, O Lord, I hide me, thou savest me from ill, And songs of thy salvation my heart with rapture thrill.

I graciously will teach thee the way that thou shalt go, And with mine eye upon thee my counsel make thee know. But be ye not unruly, or slow to understand; Be not perverse, but willing to heed my wise command.

The sorrows of the wicked in number shall abound, But those that trust Jehovah, his mercy shall surround. Then in the Lord be joyful, in song lift up your voice. Be glad in God, ye righteous, rejoice, ye saints, rejoice. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Pastor Ben Muresan

"The Fourth Commandment: Worship Only the One True God in the Right Way, with the Right Attitude, and on the Right Day" Exodus 20:8-11

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 394

This Day at Thy Creating Word

This day at thy creating word
First o'er the earth the light was poured:
O Lord, this day upon us shine
And fill our souls with light divine.

This day the Lord for sinners slain In might victorious rose again: O Jesus, may we rais—ed be From death of sin to life in thee!

This day the Holy Spirit came
With fiery tongues of cloven flame:
O Spirit, fill our hearts this day
With grace to hear and grace to pray.

O day of light and life and grace, From earthly toil sweet resting place, Thy hallowed hours, blest gift of love, Give we again to God above.

All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to thee, Whom, with the Spirit, we adore Forever and forevermore. 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

"The Fourth Commandment: Worship Only the One True God in the Right Way, with the Right Attitude, and on the Right Day" Exodus 20:8-11

1. The Sabbath Day and Israel under the Old Covenant

| | The Sabbath Day was to be kept holy. (vv. 9-10) |
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| | The reasons why it was to be kept holy: |
| | Because God rested after completing his work of creation. (v. 11; Genesis 1:31 - 2:2) |
| | Because Israel was to worship God for redeeming them from Egypt. (Deut. 5:15) |
| | |
| 2. | The Sabbath Day was changed to the Lord's Day because of Christ. |
| | Jesus completed the work of redemption. (John 19:30) |
| | He rose on the first day of the week. (John 20:1) |
| | The church met on the first day of the week for worship. (Acts 20:7) |
| | We gather on the Lord's Day to worship as those redeemed by Christ. (Colossians 3:1) |
| | Every Lord's Day is a reminder of heaven. (Hebrews 4:9) |
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| 3. | The Lord's Day and Christians under the New Covenant |
| | Protect It |
| | Prepare for It |
| | Enjoy It |
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HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, May 5

Scripture: Judges 21:1 - Ruth 1:22; John 4:4-42; Psalm 105:1-15; Proverbs 14:24-25

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 31 Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, May 6

Scripture: Ruth 2:1 - 4:22; John 4:43-54; Psalm 105:16-36; Proverbs 14:26-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 52 Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, May 7

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:1 - 2:21; John 5:1-23; Psalm 105:37-45; Proverbs 14:28-29

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 53

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in the Uruguay and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, May 8

Scripture: 1 Samuel 2:22 - 4:22; John 5:24-47; Psalm 106:1-12; Proverbs 14:30-31

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 54
Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, May 9

Scripture: 1 Samuel 5:1 - 7:17; John 6:1-21; Psalm 106:13-31; Proverbs 14:32-33

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 55 Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.

The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

Saturday, May 10

Scripture: 1 Samuel 8:1 - 9:27; John 6:22-42; Psalm 106:32-48; Proverbs 14:34-35

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 56 Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, May 11

Scripture: 1 Samuel 10:1 - 11:15; John 6:43-71; Psalm 107:1-43; Proverbs 15:1-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 57

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 in Belize
Dave Eby in Uganda
Christ Bible Institute in Japan
The Shepherd's Church in Riverside

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Every Lord's Day is a foretaste of the eternal Sabbath rest that we will have with Christ. While we live in a society that is characterized by anxiety and unrest, God calls us to be characterized by the fact that we rest in Christ's finished work on our behalf and the joy and assurance that he alone can give. Consider this remarkable truth as you study the following questions:

- 1. Read Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; 31:12-18; and Hebrews 4:1-13. What are God's reasons for establishing Sabbath rest for his people?
- 2. What do you prioritize individually or as a family on the Lord's Day? What are some activities that you could add to spiritually enrich your Lord's Day? What are some activities that you usually do on the Lord's Day that if you stopped doing them would also enrich the day?
- 3. Spend time reading the questions and answers from the following section of the Shorter Catechism. What do you learn about the Lord's Day from these questions and answers?
 - Q. 57. Which is the fourth commandment?
 - A. The fourth commandment is "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."
 - Q. 58. What is required in the fourth commandment?
 - A. The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.
 - Q. 59. Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath?
 - A. From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.
 - Q. 60. How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?
 - A. The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.
 - Q. 61. What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?
 - A. The fourth commandment forbids the omission, or careless performance, of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.
 - Q. 62. What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment?
 - A. The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath day.



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