

WORSHIP SERVICE

June 23, 2024

I love you, O LORD, my strength. Psalm 18:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 148 (p. 840 in the Trinity Hymnal)

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

He set them in place for ever and ever;

he gave a decree that will never pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,

you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,

kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth,

young men and maidens, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;

his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

He has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart.

Praise the LORD.

* Congregation is requested to stand, if able. The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

Hymn of Preparation*

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that we may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood! To ev'ry believer the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; But purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he has done! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

- Leader: Heavenly Father, we thank you for your moral law which is summarized in the Ten Commandments. Each of the commandments reveal your holiness and our sinfulness.
- All: 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."
- Leader: We confess that we have broken this commandment by not spending each Lord's Day resting in Christ's finished work of salvation for us, and instead have focused too much on our worldly employments and recreations.
- All: Forgive us and guide our thoughts, words, and deeds to be in conformity to what is glorifying and pleasing to you, for we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:5-6

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains: Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day; And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away: Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away; And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply, Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die: And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die; Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save, When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave: Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave; When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow'r, Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more: Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more; Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more. Amen. Hymn 253

Isaiah 55

Confession of Faith

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 *

Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, 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 Westminster Shorter Catechism

Hymn 735

^{*} 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*

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 103])

The Tender Love a Father Has

The tender love a father has For all his children dear, Such love the Lord bestows on them Who worship him in fear.

The Lord remembers we are dust, And all our frailty knows; Man's days are like the tender grass, And as the flow'r he grows.

The flow'r is withered by the wind That smites with blighting breath; So man is quickly swept away Before the blast of death.

Unchanging is the love of God, From age to age the same, Displayed to all who do his will And reverence his name.

Those who his gracious cov'nant keep The Lord will ever bless; Their children's children shall rejoice To see his righteousness. Amen. Acts 26:1-23

Hymn 93

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Rudy Manrique

"Greetings and Blessings from Jesus Christ" Ephesians 1:1-2

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 465

Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt, Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt. Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss; Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, points to the Refuge, the mighty cross. Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, what can avail to wash it away? Look! there is flowing a crimson tide; whiter than snow you may be today. Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

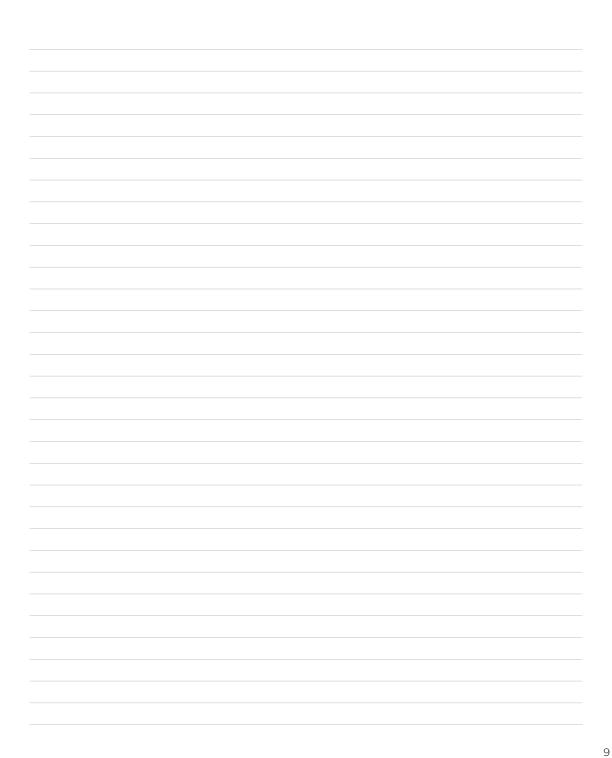
(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, three in One, O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.

SERMON NOTES

"Greetings and Blessings from Jesus Christ" Ephesians 1:1-2

- 1. This letter is from Jesus Christ.
- 2. This letter is for those who belong to Jesus Christ.
- 3. This letter assures us of our salvation.



HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, June 24

Scripture: 2 Kings 6:1 - 7:20; Acts 15:36 - 16:15; Psalm 142:1-7; Proverbs 17:24-25 Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 19 Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, June 25

Scripture: 2 Kings 8:1 - 9:13; Acts 16:16-40; Psalm 143:1-12; Proverbs 17:26 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 103 Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, June 26

Scripture: 2 Kings 9:14 - 10:31; Acts 17:1-34; Psalm 144:1-15; Proverbs 17:27-28
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 104
Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains. The churches in Saudi Arabia and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, June 27

Scripture: 2 Kings 10:32 - 12:21; Acts 18:1-22; Psalm 145:1-21; Proverbs 18:1 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 105 Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, June 28

Scripture: 2 Kings 13:1 - 14:29; Acts 18:23 - 19:12; Psalm 146:1-10; Proverbs 18:2-3
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 106
Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs. The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

Saturday, June 29

Scripture: 2 Kings 15:1 - 16:20; Acts 19:13-41; Psalm 147:1-20; Proverbs 18:4-5 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 107 Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, June 30

Scripture: 2 Kings 17:1 - 18:12; Acts 20:1-38; Psalm 148:1-14; Proverbs 18:6-7 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 1 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 Christ Bible Institute | Nagoya, Japan

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

The Book of Ephesians is about how Jesus Christ inaugurated the new creation. He rules "far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come" (Eph. 1:21). This truth was a great comfort for the Ephesians as they lived in a society overrun by paganism and immorality. Paul wrote this letter to encourage the Ephesians that Christ rules and reigns over all things and that, by grace, they have been brought into these new creation realities. Like the Ephesians, we live in a culture just like theirs. We must be reminded that despite how dark things may be (and get) in our world, Christ rules over everything. He will ensure that what he inaugurated will be consummated to engulf the world. That is our hope, and it is presently yours by grace through faith in Christ alone. Until that day, realize how blessed you are to be counted a citizen of God's new creation, found in his church. In his commentary on Ephesians, Steve Baugh writes:

In a phrase we have grown used to, Paul pronounces a blessing on his audience "from God our Father." That God the Father is our Father should be seen as the most extraordinary privilege imaginable. Both the OT and NT testify that God acts as a Father to his people in the most persistently loving fashion: "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ... As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him" (Ps. 103:11–13). The Sovereign God of the universe intimately and tenderly identifies with us his adopted children, who were once "children of wrath" (2:3). This is all brought about through the mediation of the second person named in the benediction: "grace to you and peace from God our Father *and from Jesus Christ.*"

- 1. In verse 1, Paul refers to himself as "an apostle of Jesus Christ." What is an apostle, and what are the requirements to be one? Why is Paul's apostleship good news for sinners, particularly the Gentiles? For whose sake was Paul called to be an apostle?
- 2. Paul's call to be an apostle was "by the will of God" (v. 1). According to this statement, how much did Paul contribute to being called an apostle? How does this relate to your salvation?
- 3. In verse 1, Paul describes the Ephesians as "saints." What is a saint, and how does someone become one? Do you become a saint by making yourself holy? (See Leviticus 19:2.)
- 4. According to the sermon, what are the two possible meanings of the phrase "faithful in Christ Jesus"? How can you be faithful in the particular place God has called you? What is faith, and what is its object?



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