

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 1, 2021

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 37:1-9 (p. 797)

Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong;

for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:

He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

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

God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory

God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;
Ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;
Beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;
All the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.

Clearer still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
Ruler of creation's glory, image of thy majesty.
Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days,
Are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise.

But our sins have spoiled thine image; nature, conscience only serve
As unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve.
Yet thy grace and saving mercy in thy Word of truth revealed
Claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed.

God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
We, thy creatures, would adore thee now and through eternity.
Saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will;
With our acts as with our voices thy commandments to fulfill. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Lord our God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. As we consider your glory and holiness, we are humbled and readily acknowledge our sinfulness.

All: We confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves.

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: All praise, honor, glory, and power be to you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 44:21-22

Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

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

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 529

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down:
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest:
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be:
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 73. *Which is the eighth commandment?*

A. The eighth commandment is, “You shall not steal.”

Q. 74. *What is required in the eighth commandment?*

A. The eighth commandment requires that we utilize only lawful means in obtaining and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

Q. 75. *What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?*

A. The eighth commandment forbids whatever does, or may, unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor’s, wealth or outward estate.

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*

John 14:15-31

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 37])

Hymn 671

Forever Trusting in the Lord

Forever trusting in the Lord,
Take heed to do his will;
So shall you dwell within the land,
And he your needs shall fill.

Delight now in the Lord, and he
Will grant your heart's request;
To him commit your way in faith,
And thus you shall be blessed.

And he shall make your righteousness
Shine brightly as the light,
And as the burning noonday sun
Your judgment shall be bright.

Rest in the Lord with quiet trust,
Wait patiently for him;
Though wickedness triumphant seem,
Let not your faith grow dim. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“What Difference Does the Holy Spirit Make?
He Convicts the World of Sin and Glorifies Christ”
John 16:5-15

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 331

Come, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit

Come, O come, thou quick’ning Spirit,
God from all eternity!
May thy power never fail us;
Dwell within us constantly.
Then shall truth and life and light
Banish all the gloom of night.

Grant our hearts in fullest measure
Wisdom, counsel, purity,
That we ever may be seeking
Only that which pleaseth thee.
Let thy knowledge spread and grow,
Working error’s overthrow.

Show us, Lord, the path of blessing;
When we trespass on our way,
Cast, O Lord, our sins behind thee
And be with us day by day.
Should we stray, O Lord, recall;
Work repentance when we fall.

Holy Spirit, strong and mighty,
Thou who makest all things new,
Make thy work within us perfect
And the evil foe subdue.
Grant us weapons for the strife
And with vict’ry crown our life. 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, August 2

Scripture: 2 Chron. 32:1 - 33:13; Romans 15:23 - 16:9; Psalm 25:16-22; Prov. 20:16-18

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 33

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

Tuesday, August 3

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 33:14 - 34:33; Romans 16:10-27; Psalm 26:1-12; Prov. 20:19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 53

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

Wednesday, August 4

Scripture: 2 Chron. 35:1 - 36:23; 1 Corinthians 1:1-17; Psalm 27:1-6; Prov. 20:20-21

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 54

Pray for: Our covenant children, and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in the Central African Republic and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, August 5

Scripture: Ezra 1:1 - 2:70; 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 2:5; Psalm 27:7-14; Proverbs 20:22-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 55

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

Friday, August 6

Scripture: Ezra 3:1 - 4:23; 1 Corinthians 2:6 - 3:4; Psalm 28:1-9; Proverbs 20:24-25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 56

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

Our pregnant mom.

Saturday, August 7

Scripture: Ezra 4:24 - 6:22; 1 Corinthians 3:5-23; Psalm 29:1-11; Proverbs 20:26-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 57

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

Sunday, August 8

Scripture: Ezra 7:1 - 8:20; 1 Corinthians 4:1-21; Psalm 30:1-12; Proverbs 20:28-30

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 58

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

After Jesus instructs his disciples about the difficulties they will face because of the world's hatred of him and his Church, Jesus gives them a word of encouragement. Jesus promises that he and the Father will send the Holy Spirit who will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. This means that the Holy Spirit will cause God's people to acknowledge their guilt and sin before God and to repent and believe before Christ's Second Coming in judgment.

The way the Holy Spirit does this is through the preaching of the law and the gospel. As people hear about the moral law of God and the fact that God is holy and wrathful toward sinners, the Spirit of Truth convicts us of these truths. He then causes us to believe in Christ as the one who has saved us from our sins and the judgment that is to come. In this way, the Spirit glorifies Christ as the only Mediator between God and man and therefore as the only way of salvation.

1. Read John 14:15-31, which was our Second Reading today. What are some of the things Jesus says the Holy Spirit does for God's people?
2. Read John 16:7. Why is it to our advantage that Jesus ascended to the Father? After you consider this verse, note how the Heidelberg Catechism Q/A 49 summarizes what the Bible teaches about Jesus' ascension: *How does Christ's ascension into heaven benefit us?*

First, he pleads our cause in heaven in the presence of his Father.

Second, we have our own flesh in heaven—a guarantee that Christ our head will take us, his members, to himself in heaven.

Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a further guarantee. By the Spirit's power we make the goal of our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

3. Read John 16:8-11. How does the Holy Spirit convict people concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment? How does Acts 2:37-41 reveal how Jesus' words were fulfilled at Pentecost?
4. Read John 16:12-15. How does the Holy Spirit glorify Christ?