

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 22, 2021

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 48 (p. 803)

Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth.

Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King.

God is in her citadels; he has shown himself to be her fortress.

When the kings joined forces, when they advanced together,

they saw her and were astounded; they fled in terror.

Trembling seized them there, pain like that of a woman in labor.

You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish shattered by an east wind.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD Almighty, in the city of our God:

God makes her secure forever.

Within your temple, O God, we meditate on your unfailing love.

Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;

your right hand is filled with righteousness.

Mount Zion rejoices, the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgments.

Walk about Zion, go around her, count her towers,

consider well her ramparts, view her citadels, that you may tell of them to the next generation.

For this God is our God for ever and ever;

he will be our guide even to the end.

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

God Is My Strong Salvation

God is my strong salvation;
What foe have I to fear?
In darkness and temptation
My light, my help is near.

Though hosts encamp around me,
Firm to the fight I stand;
What terror can confound me,
With God at my right hand?

Place on the Lord reliance,
My soul, with courage wait;
His truth be your affiance,
When faint and desolate.

His might your heart shall strengthen,
His love your joy increase;
Mercy your days shall lengthen;
The Lord will give you peace. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty God and heavenly Father, we approach you in sorrow and frustration as we consider how we have sinned against you and others.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you by breaking your commandments and by wasting your good gifts to us. We have hurt others and ourselves by our sins, and we are not worthy to be called your children. Forgive us, we pray.

Leader: Have compassion on us and grant us the daily increase of your Holy Spirit. Cause us to continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the Gospel.

All: We pray 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

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 31

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. 82. *Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?*

A. No mere man, since the fall, is able, in this life, to keep perfectly the commandments of God, but does break them daily in thought, word, and deed.

Q. 83. *Are all transgressions of the law equally wicked?*

A. Some sins in themselves, and by reason of aggravating circumstances, are more wicked in the sight of God than others.

Q. 84. *What does every sin deserve?*

A. Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life and that which is to come.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

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 WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Revelation 5

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 Clayton Willis

“Overcoming the World”
John 16:28-33

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 40

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever-present aid,
And therefore though the earth remove, we will not be afraid;
Though hills amidst the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar,
Yea, though the mighty billows shake the mountains on the shore.

A river flows whose streams make glad the city of our God,
The holy place wherein the Lord Most High has his abode.
Since God is in the midst of her, unmoved her walls shall stand,
For God will be her early help, when trouble is at hand.

The nations raged, the kingdoms moved, but when his voice was heard,
The troubled earth was stilled to peace before his mighty word.
The Lord of Hosts is on our side, our safety to secure;
The God of Jacob is for us a refuge strong and sure.

O come, behold what wondrous works Jehovah’s hand has wrought;
Come, see what desolation great he on the earth has brought.
To utmost ends of all the earth he causes war to cease;
The weapons of the strong destroyed, he makes abiding peace.

“Be still and know that I am God, o’er all exalted high;
The subject nations of the earth my name shall magnify.”
The Lord of Hosts is on our side, our safety to secure;
The God of Jacob is for us a refuge strong and sure. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

May the grace of Christ our Savior
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan

Monday, August 23

Scripture: Job 8:1 - 11:20; 1 Corinthians 15:1-28; Psalm 38:1-22; Proverbs 21:28-29

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 3

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

Tuesday, August 24

Scripture: Job 12:1 - 15:35; 1 Corinthians 15:29-58; Psalm 39:1-13; Proverbs 21:30-31

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 71

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

Wednesday, August 25

Scripture: Job 16:1 - 19:29; 1 Corinthians 16:1-24; Psalm 40:1-10; Proverbs 22:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 72

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

The churches in the Channel Islands and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, August 26

Scripture: Job 20:1 - 22:30; 2 Corinthians 1:1-11; Psalm 40:11-17; Proverbs 22:2-4

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 73

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

Friday, August 27

Scripture: Job 23:1 - 27:23; 2 Corinthians 1:12 - 2:11; Psalm 41:1-13; Proverbs 22:5-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 74

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

Our pregnant mom.

Saturday, August 28

Scripture: Job 28:1 - 30:31; 2 Corinthians 2:12-17; Psalm 42:1-11; Proverbs 22:7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 75

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

Sunday, August 29

Scripture: Job 31:1 - 33:33; 2 Corinthians 3:1-18; Psalm 43:1-5; Proverbs 22:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 76

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

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In John 16:33 Jesus tells us plainly that in the world we will have tribulation. This tribulation comes in many forms: insults, mockery, fear, persecution, pain, and finally, death. The disciples thought that their faith in Jesus was strong enough to face any trial (John 13:37). But Jesus, knowing that their faith would be tested by the tribulation of his betrayal, arrest, trial, and crucifixion, tells them that despite their bold words, they will soon abandon him (John 16:32). Jesus knew their weakness, and he knows ours and gives us hope and encouragement in overcoming the world because he has overcome the world. James Boice points out three areas Jesus has overcome the world:

[Jesus] overcame the world in three areas: in his life, in his death, and in his resurrection. He overcame it in life because, in spite of abundant griefs and temptations, he pursued the course God had set before him without deviation, sin, or error. He said of Satan, "The prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me" (John 14:30). He overcame the world in death because his death was the price of sin and thus broke sin's hold upon us. He overcame the world in his resurrection because by his resurrection he began his return to the throne of heaven from which he now rules the church and from which he will one day come again to put down all authority and power.

We who are in Jesus by grace through faith overcome the world because of his strength, and his victory is our victory.

1. Jesus tells us that in the world we will have tribulation. Why does it seem like tribulation often catches us by surprise?
2. Why were the disciples so confident in the strength of their profession of faith?
3. Do we overcome the world by our own strength or through the strength of Jesus?
4. What are some ways you are trying to overcome the world in your own strength?
5. What is the peace we have in Christ (John 16:33) because of his life, death, and resurrection?