

# EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Whom have I in heaven but you?  
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.  
My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.  
**Psalm 73:25-26**

## Prelude

### Greeting and Call to Worship\*

Psalm 96:1-6

**Leader:** Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

**All:** Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary!

### Hymn\*

Hymn 197

#### ***Comfort, Comfort Ye My People***

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;  
All that well deserved his anger he no more will see or heed.  
She hath suffered many a day, now her griefs have passed away;  
God will change her pining sadness into ever-springing gladness.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
Bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
And all flesh shall see the token, that his word is never broken. Amen.

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

## **Congregational Confession of Sin**

Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before you this evening as we confess our many sins. Though you have blessed us with eternal riches in Christ, we have grieved you with our wicked thoughts, our sinful actions, and our careless words. Forgive us, we pray, and cleanse us from all our sins. Give us prayerful hearts and willing minds so that we might always seek to do what is pleasing in your sight, for we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Psalm 103:2-5

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

## **Hymn**

Hymn 335

### ***Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me***

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would gracious be;  
And with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal;  
And with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would truthful be;  
And with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear;  
And with actions brotherly speak my Lord's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would mighty be;  
Mighty so as to prevail where unaided man must fail;  
Ever by a mighty hope pressing on and bearing up.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would holy be;  
Separate from sin, I would choose and cherish all things good,  
And whatever I can be, give to him who gave me thee! Amen.

Scripture Reading\*

Psalm 73

Hymn

Hymn 657

*In Sweet Communion, Lord, with Thee*

In sweet communion, Lord, with thee  
I constantly abide;  
My hand thou holdest in thine own  
To keep me near thy side.

Thy counsel through my earthly way  
Shall guide me and control,  
And then to glory afterward  
Thou wilt receive my soul.

Whom have I, Lord, in heav'n but thee,  
To whom my thoughts aspire?  
And, having thee, on earth is naught  
That I can yet desire.

Though flesh and heart should faint and fail,  
The Lord will ever be  
The strength and portion of my heart,  
My God eternally.

To live apart from God is death,  
'Tis good his face to seek;  
My refuge is the living God,  
His praise I long to speak. Amen.

**Prayer**

**Sermon**

Why Do Good Things Happen to Bad People?  
Psalm 73

Pastor Ben Muresan

**Hymn\***

Hymn 198

***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!***

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!  
Behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near,  
The Savior of the world is here.

A helper just he comes to thee,  
His chariot is humility,  
His kingly crown is holiness,  
His scepter, pity in distress.

O blest the land, the city blest,  
Where Christ the Ruler is confessed!  
O happy hearts and happy homes  
To whom this King in triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heav'n's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide  
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!  
Let me thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in!  
Let new and nobler life begin!  
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,  
Until the glorious crown be won. 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.