

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Prelude

Greeting and Call to Worship*

Psalm 145:1-7

Leader: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

All: One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Hymn*

Hymn 75

O Father, You Are Sovereign

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;
Your mighty Word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;
No pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil over-ruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose—our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,
But soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:
Our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you! Amen.

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

Congregational Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have rebelled against your truth. We have rejected your fatherly commands and have done what is right in our own eyes. Forgive us, we pray, and cause us to walk in your ways. Give us a growing desire to joyfully serve you and one another as we follow after our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hymn

Hymn 468

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

My faith has found a resting place,
From guilt my soul is freed;
I trust the ever-living One,
His wounds for me shall plead.
*I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.*

Enough for me that Jesus saves,
This ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul I come to him,
He'll never cast me out.
*I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.*

My heart is leaning on the Word,
The written Word of God:
Salvation by my Savior's name,
Salvation thro' his blood.
*I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me.*

My great Physician heals the sick,
The lost he came to save;
For me his precious blood he shed,
For me his life he gave.
*I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me. Amen.*

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and bless—ed we shall meet at last. Amen.

Prayer

Sermon

Prayer on the Borderlines
Ephesians 3:14-19

Rudy Manrique

Hymn*

Hymn 646

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts,
Thou fount of life, thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts
We turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;
Thou savest those that on thee call;
To them that seek thee thou art good,
To them that find thee all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread,
And long to feast upon thee still;
We drink of thee, the fountainhead,
And thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee,
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when thy gracious smile we see,
Blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away,
Shed o'er the world thy holy light. 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.