

WORSHIP SERVICE

October 27, 2024

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Romans 1:16-17

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 46 (p. 802 in the Trinity Hymnal)

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

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD Almighty is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

The LORD Almighty is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

^{*} Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he, Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;

His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Father, we come before you to acknowledge our sin, because if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

All: We confess that we have walked in darkness rather than living according to what you have revealed to us in your Word. We have sinned against you and our neighbors, and we are ashamed and sorry for how we have displeased you.

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: Thank you for the assurance we have of forgiveness through the blood of our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and 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 139

Congregational Response

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer; there is no more for heaven now to give. He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom, my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace. To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His. Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior, He will stay.

I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need His power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley He will lead.

Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven; the future sure, the price, it has been paid. For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea.

Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that He will bring me home.

And day by day I know He will renew me until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus; all the glory evermore to Him.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: yet not I, but through Christ in me. Amen.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

[•] 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* Matthew 28:16-20

Congregational Response

Hymn 348

Jesus, with Thy Church Abide

Jesus, with thy church abide, be her Savior, Lord, and Guide, While on earth her faith is tried: we beseech thee, hear us.

Keep her life and doctrine pure; grant her patience to endure, Trusting in thy promise sure: we beseech thee, hear us.

May she one in doctrine be, one in truth and charity, Winning all to faith in thee: we beseech thee, hear us.

May she guide the poor and blind, seek the lost until she find, And the brokenhearted bind: we beseech thee, hear us.

Save her love from growing cold, make her watchmen strong and bold, Fence her round, thy peaceful fold: we beseech thee, hear us.

May her lamp of truth be bright, bid her bear aloft its light Through the realms of heathen night: we beseech thee, hear us.

Arm her soldiers with the cross, brave to suffer toil or loss, Counting earthly gain but dross: we beseech thee, hear us.

May she holy triumphs win, overthrow the hosts of sin, Gather all the nations in: we beseech thee, hear us. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Rev. Joel Kim

"In the Presence of God" Philippians 4:4-9

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heav'n he stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see him there, Who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free; For God, the just, is satisfied To look on him and pardon me, To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by his blood!
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God. 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

"In the Presence of God" Philippians 4:4-9

I. The meaning of "the Lord is at hand" (v. 5).				
II. In the	presence of God:			
1.	The Lord is near, rejoice (v. 4).			
2.	The Lord is near, be gentle (v. 5).			
3.	The Lord is near, pray (v. 6).			
4.	The Lord is near, think about Christ (v. 8).			
5.	The Lord is near, be faithful (v. 9).			

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

One of the lessons from the Reformation is living in the presence of God, summarized in the Latin phrase, *coram Deo*. The sovereignty of God is not an abstract theological concept but the realization that he governs all things, he is always present, and he is the sole reason for our lives. R.C. Sproul writes:

Coram Deo means "in the presence of God" or "before the face of God." It refers to living life in a sense of acute God-consciousness. It's the "Big Idea," in management jargon, of the Christian life.

We do not behold the face of God; he is invisible to us. But God's invisibility does not negate his presence. While the prodigal son left his father and ventured to a far country where he could live a riotous life in anonymity, there is no far country to which we can flee from the presence of God. His presence permeates every corner of our world. There is no refuge from his eye. His sight is not restricted to the interior chambers of a church building. His sovereignty extends to every arena of life.

The Christian life is God-centered. God is neither peripheral nor eccentric to human life. He must be at the core, the very center of our existence.

- 1. As Paul reminds the readers that "the Lord is at hand" (Philippians 4:5), what are the possible meanings of the phrase?
- 2. Reflect on the five exhortations of Paul stemming from the Lord's presence. Which of the five exhortations do you need to hear and heed today?
- 3. How does the knowledge of God's presence shape your thoughts, actions, and purposes?



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