

Sunday, July 19, 2020

**WORSHIP GUIDE**

**Preparatory Reflection:**

*Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings; it is the Lord, who rises with healing in his wings: When comforts are declining, he grants the soul again a season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain. - William Cowper*

**Gathering Words: John 7.37-38**

Leader: [Jesus cried out], "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink."

People: "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise: Before the Throne of God Above**

Before the throne of God above,  
 I have a strong, a 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 of 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

**Conviction of the Gospel: 2 Corinthians 4.7-10**

**But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.**

**Confession of Sin**

**Comfort of the Gospel: 2 Corinthians 4.6**

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Scripture Reading: Psalms 42.1-43.5**

**Sermon: Comfort for the Cast Down**

**Profession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism**

Q. 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

**Prayer of Intercession**

**Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knows our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion, we beseech you, upon our infirmities, and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, mercifully give us for the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. -The Book of Common Prayer 1979, 179**

**Hymn of Response: Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor**

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
 in the fury of the storm  
 When the winds of doubt blow through me  
 and my sails have all been torn  
 In the suffering, in the sorrow  
 when my sinking hopes are few  
 I will hold fast to the anchor  
 it shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
 while the tempest rages on  
 when temptation claims the battle and it  
 seems the night has won  
 deeper still then goes the anchor  
 though I justly stand accused  
 I will hold fast to the anchor  
 it shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
 through the floods of unbelief

Hopeless, somehow, o my soul  
 now lift your eyes to calvary  
 This my ballast of assurance  
 See His love forever proved  
 I will hold fast to the anchor  
 it shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
 as we face the wave of death  
 When these trials give way to glory  
 and we draw our final breath  
 We will cross that great horizon  
 clouds behind and life secured  
 And the calm will be the better  
 for the storms that we endured.  
 Christ the shore of our salvation  
 ever faithful ever true  
 We will hold fast to the anchor  
 it shall never be removed

**Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26**