

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION

The Lord's Day

November 13, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

Call to Worship: Hebrews 12:22-24

The Invocation

Hymn of Praise 111

This Is My Father's World

This is my Father's world,
And to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rust'ling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

Confession of Sin

Need of Confession: Hebrews 12:1

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Personal Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin (Unison)

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge unto You that we were conceived in unrighteousness and are full of sin and transgression in all our life. We do not fully believe Your Word nor follow Your holy commandments. Remember Your goodness, we beseech You, and for Your Name's sake be gracious unto us, and forgive us our iniquity which, alas, is great. Amen. (Martin Bucer)

Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 12:2

² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Song of Praise

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.

I bow before the cross of Christ,
And marvel at this love divine,
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
To make me righteous in God's eyes.
This river's depths I cannot know,
But I can glory in its flood;
The Lord Most High has bowed down low,
And poured on me his glorious love,
And poured on me his glorious love.

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But I can glory in its flood;
The Lord Most High has bowed down low,
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The Lord's Prayer (unison) / Pastoral 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. Amen.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Chancel Choir, and Lynne Fowlkes, flute

Celtic Laud

Arranged by Craig Courtney

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sermon Series: Why the Church?

Gospel Renewal

Isaiah 6:1-8 (ESV)

Pastor Jeff Birch

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

*“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”*

⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”

This morning we not only complete our LOPC 2.0 campaign, but we are coming to the end of our series of sermons on “Why the Church?” And we will be looking at a favorite text of mine, a text to put this whole series together, and that is Isaiah 6:1-8. In a way, Isaiah 6 summarizes everything we have been exploring both in our series and in LOPC 2.0.

Isaiah 6 tells us how to experience spiritual renewal, and the key is gospel renewal. Isaiah’s heart becomes gripped by the gospel, and this leads to his commissioning and being sent out to serve God’s kingdom purposes.

How does Isaiah experience gospel renewal? We discover four things in this text. Isaiah is:

- I. Stunned by Supremacy
- II. Staggered by Sin
- III. Shocked by Salvation
- IV. Sent to Serve

Reflection

“Never again look at your sins apart from Christ. You can’t handle them. You’ll either suppress them and deny that they’re there, or if you see how bad they are, they will overwhelm you. Learn to view your mistakes, your failings, and your transgressions in the light of Jesus’s forgiveness”
(C. John Miller)

Hymn 254 (vss. 1-3)

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed
Alas! and did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sovereign die!
Would he devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I!

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree!

Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut his glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died
For man the creature's sin.

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Hymn 254 (vss. 4-5)

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed
Thus might I hide my blushing face
While his dear cross appears;
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes in tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do.

The Benediction

Postlude

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