

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION
The Lord's Day
May 1, 2022
10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Scholarship Recipient Recognition

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

My Jesus, I Love Thee
By Adoniram J. Gordon, arranged by Mark Hayes

Call to Worship: Psalm 47:1-2

The Invocation

Hymn of Praise 295

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with Many Crowns
Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace;
Whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end;
And round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me:
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

Confession of Sin:

Need of Confession: Romans 7:18-20

¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

Personal Confession of Sin:

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Unison: Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Yet we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. As we remember the lavish gift of your grace we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Acts 4:12

¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Song of Praise

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe,
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones he came to save,
Till on that cross as Jesus died

The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again.
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand,
'Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand,
'Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

The Lord's Prayer / 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 forever. Amen.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Chancel Choir

The Perfect Wisdom of Our God

By Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

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: Romans: Gospel Partnership
Sermon Text: Romans 7:21-25 (ESV)
Sermon Title: Thanks Be to God

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

This morning we are returning to our study of Paul's letter to the Romans and concluding Romans 7 as Paul puts a bow on this section of his letter to the Romans dealing with the issue of the law of God. He has communicated very clearly that the fundamental issue is not the law of God, but sin in the human heart.

In this passage, Romans 7:21-25, Paul concludes his teaching by stating two truths, two discoveries, two realities that he wants his readers (and us) to know and embrace through this passage.

- I. What Did He Find?
- II. What Did He Conclude?

Paul discovers a fundamental law or principle that leads him to a fundamental conclusion. And that conclusion leads him to state boldly that his (and our) only hope is the Lord Jesus Christ. This passage teaches us that we desperately need the gospel. We never outgrow our need of the gospel. And the world needs the gospel. Our community around us needs the gospel. Lake Oconee needs this hope. May our hearts be gripped by and propelled outward by the glorious gospel.

Reflection

“This passage warns us that no one gets so advanced that they don’t struggle with sin. It is quite important to expect a fight with our sinful nature. In fact, just as a wounded bear is more dangerous than a healthy and happy bear, our sinful natures might become more stirred up and active because the new birth has mortally wounded it” (Tim Keller).

Hymn 460 (vss. 1-3, 6)

Amazing Grace!

Amazing grace!— how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

The Benediction

Postlude

**All songs covered by CCLI license #1257045*