

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION

The Lord's Day

May 22, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber

Call to Worship: Psalm 66:1-4

The Invocation

Hymn of Praise

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander – Lord, I feel it –
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

Confession of Sin:

Need of Confession Isaiah 6:5

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!"

Personal Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin (Unison)

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us, and make our hearts fervent for you, that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Isaiah 6:6-7

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."

Song of Praise

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in his hands?
Who has numbered ev'ry grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at his voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Behold our God, seated on his throne.
Come, let us adore him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare,
Come let us adore him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of his words?
Who can teach the one who knows all things?
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on his throne.
Come, let us adore him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare,
Come let us adore him!

Who has felt the nails upon his hand,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave,
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

Behold our God, seated on his throne.
Come, let us adore him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare,
Come let us adore him!

The Lord's Prayer / Pastoral Prayer

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Chancel Choir, featuring Jocelyn Clark, Mezzo Soprano

I Will Sing of My Redeemer / Here Is Love

By Larry Shackley

Doxology

Sermon Series: Romans: Gospel Partnership

Sermon Text: Romans 8:12-17 (ESV)

Sermon Title: The Testimony of the Spirit

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Have you ever had to testify in court? I have not had that particular experience, but I have watched enough episodes of Law and Order to know that if you are called to testify as a witness you are required to swear that you will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

This morning, as we continue to explore and go through Romans 8, we will be looking at another particular work of the Holy Spirit, and that is the testimony of the Spirit. What does the Spirit testify? He testifies, or bears witness with our spirit about the reality of our sonship. Thus, we will be looking at the marvelous doctrine of adoption.

We will explore this text and doctrine by looking at three things:

- I. The Reality
- II. The Characteristics
- III. The Key

Reflection

“Being God’s dearly loved child means that we can start to think spiritually. We learn to think God’s way; to see our experiences – especially the painful ones – through the eyes of Christ. What are the areas in your life where you think like an orphan? Where are you living as if there is no God, no forgiveness, no hope, and no Holy Spirit to change you and others? Identify and reject an orphan viewpoint in yourself.” (C. John Miller)

Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not; thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Chorus)

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided -
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (*Chorus*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Chorus*)

The Benediction

Postlude

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