

**MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION**  
*The Lord's Day*  
**September 4, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch**

**Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber**

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*  
*Arranged by Mark Hayes*

**Call to Worship: Romans 11:33-36**

**The Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise 94 (vss. 1-4, 6)**

*How Firm a Foundation*

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;  
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;  
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

**Confession of Sin**

**Need of Confession: Psalm 115:4-8**

*Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. <sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. <sup>6</sup> They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. <sup>7</sup> They*

*have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat.* <sup>8</sup> *Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.*

### **Personal Confession of Sin**

#### **Corporate Confession of Sin (Unison)**

**Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and when I have failed to boast in Your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.**

#### **Assurance of Pardon: Micah 7:18-19**

*<sup>18</sup> Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. <sup>19</sup> He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.*

### **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 (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 forever. Amen.**

### **Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

#### ***All Creatures of Our God and King***

*Arranged by Mark Hayes*

### **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?***

#### ***Part Two: Jonah: Have You Missed the Heart of God?***

#### ***Salvation Is of the Lord, Jonah 1:17-2:10 (ESV)***

<sup>17</sup> And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

<sup>2</sup> Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, <sup>2</sup> saying, "I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. <sup>3</sup> For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. <sup>4</sup> Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon your holy temple.' <sup>5</sup> The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head <sup>6</sup> at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit,

*O LORD my God. <sup>7</sup> When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. <sup>8</sup> Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. <sup>9</sup> But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!" <sup>10</sup> And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.*

Where we left off Jonah, the prophet on the run from God, he has been thrown overboard, the sea being calmed, and the sailors thus saved from disaster. Jonah is drowning in the Mediterranean Sea, caused by his own stubborn disobedience from the direct call and Word of God.

Through the sacrifice of Jonah's life, the sailors have been shown grace and mercy and they have been delivered, they have been saved. But what about Jonah? What happens to our prophet? We learn in our text for today that the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And now, before we get to thinking *Oh no! How could Jonah go through this?*, let us realize that this fish was a gift. The fish saved Jonah from drowning and gave Jonah three days and three nights to ponder, reflect, think and pray.

What do we learn in this text about God's deliverance of Jonah, and thus, His deliverance of us? Three things:

- I. The Need for Deliverance
- II. The Reality of Deliverance
- III. The Fruit of Deliverance

## **Reflection**

"Faith is a living, bold trust in God's grace, so certain of God's favor that it would risk death a thousand times trusting in it. Such confidence and knowledge of God's grace makes you happy, joyful and bold in your relationship to God and all creatures. The Holy Spirit makes this happen through faith. Because of it, you freely, willingly and joyfully do good to everyone, serve everyone, suffer all kinds of things, love and praise the God who has shown you such grace." (Martin Luther)

## **Hymn 691**

### ***It Is Well with My Soul***

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

*(Chorus)*

It is well with my soul;  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed his own blood for my soul. (*Chorus*)

My sin— O the bliss of this glorious thought!—  
My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (*Chorus*)

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;  
"Even so"— it is well with my soul. (*Chorus*)

## **The Benediction**

## **Postlude**

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