

Morning Worship

Sunday, September 19, 2021

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life^[g] will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸ Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Matthew 16:24-28

Let Us Come Together to Worship God

Call to Worship

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ^[a] ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ^[b] ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, ^[c] being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! How the heavenly 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 life, who triumphed over the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

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 Son of God, before the worlds began,
And ye who tread where He hath trod, crown Him the Son of Man;
Who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast,
And takes and bears them for His own, that all in Him may rest.

Crown Him the Lord of lords, who over all doth reign,
Who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,
Now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing
Their songs before Him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King

Prayer of Invocation

We ask God's presence to enable us to worship him as we ought.

We Confess Our Sins

Call to Confession

Colossians 3:1-4

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your^[a] life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Prayer of Confession

(adapted from *Streams of Mercy*)

Glorious Father,

Thank you that you have united our lives to Christ so completely that his perfect life was reckoned as ours, and his death for sin was counted as our death. We have died and been buried with him, and in him we shall live forever! Thank you that when he appears in glory, we too shall bask in that reflected glory and share in the glorious inheritance that he earned.

We confess that our minds are all too often not set upon these glorious heavenly truths. Instead of delighting in Christ and finding our glory and rest in him, we delight in our sins and seek glory and rest from our idols. Our minds are often focused on food, sex, relationships, work, achievements, and even our own attempts at achieving goodness, rather than being fixed on the glory of Christ and the gospel. When we do become aware of the depth of our sin, we are cast down and flounder in the bog of despair, as if our own flawed righteousness were what saved us, instead of running swiftly to you to confess and repent and receive your forgiveness.

Holy Spirit, renew our minds by your sanctifying power. Transform our thinking so that our repeated sin drives us repeatedly to Christ. Change our vision so that our earthly trials and difficulties lead us to ponder the surpassing glories that wait for us in heaven. Open our eyes so that we see one another as magnificent new creatures in Christ, awesome construction projects that you will bring to completion on the day of Christ Jesus. Renew our minds so that we become increasingly confident that you will certainly finish the same work in us, according to your own plan and timetable. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:34-38

³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.ⁱⁱ ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns his face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers.
It was his love that held him there until it was accomplished,
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that “it is finished.”

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no power, no wisdom,
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

Pastoral Prayer

God Reveals Himself to Us in the Reading of His Word

Scripture Reading

John 12:20-36

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷ “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴ So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵ So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

Sermon

“When Christ is Lifted Up”

Reverend Bob Schmidtberger

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper

All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, who are communicant members of a Bible-believing church, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. The cups with lighter liquid contain grape juice, the darker liquid is wine. The darker bread in the paper cup in the center of the plate is gluten-free. While communion is being served, please feel free to join in song or meditate quietly on Christ's sacrifice.

Song of Preparation:

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 ev'ry 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.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response:

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

O that, with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall,
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Benediction

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