

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, January 9nd, 2022

Worship Presider: Elder Ken Brown

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!

Let Us Worship God Together

Call to Worship

Psalm 97: 1-5, 10-12

The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!
² Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
³ Fire goes before him
and burns up his adversaries all around.
⁴ His lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.
⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.

O you who love the LORD, hate evil!
He preserves the lives of his saints;
he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart.
¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

Immortal, Invisible

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Prayer of Invocation

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

We Confess Our Sins

Call to Confession

Isaiah 6:1-5

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵ “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

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

Isaiah 6:6

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchased of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long! (x2)

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
Refrain

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 1

In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the exiles by the Chebar canal, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. ² On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin), ³ the word of the LORD came to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the Chebar canal, and the hand of the LORD was upon him there.

⁴ As I looked, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north, and a great cloud, with brightness around it, and fire flashing forth continually, and in the midst of the fire, as it were gleaming metal. ⁵ And from the midst of it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had a human likeness, ⁶ but each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. ⁷ Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot. And they sparkled like burnished bronze. ⁸ Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: ⁹ their wings touched one another. Each one of them went straight forward, without turning as they went. ¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had a human face. The four had the face of a lion on the right side, the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four had the face of an eagle. ¹¹ Such were their faces. And their wings were spread out above. Each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. ¹² And each went straight forward. Wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. ¹³ As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches moving to and fro among the living creatures. And the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. ¹⁴ And the living creatures darted to and fro, like the appearance of a flash of lightning.

¹⁵ Now as I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the earth beside the living creatures, one for each of the four of them. ¹⁶ As for the appearance of the wheels and their construction: their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl. And the four had the same likeness, their appearance and construction being as it were a wheel within a wheel. ¹⁷ When they went, they went in any of their four directions without turning as they went. ¹⁸ And their rims were tall and awesome, and the rims of all four were full of eyes all around. ¹⁹ And when the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose. ²⁰ Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. ²¹ When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and

when those rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

²² Over the heads of the living creatures there was the likeness of an expanse, shining like awe-inspiring crystal, spread out above their heads. ²³ And under the expanse their wings were stretched out straight, one toward another. And each creature had two wings covering its body. ²⁴ And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of many waters, like the sound of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army. When they stood still, they let down their wings. ²⁵ And there came a voice from above the expanse over their heads. When they stood still, they let down their wings.

²⁶ And above the expanse over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with a human appearance. ²⁷ And upward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were gleaming metal, like the appearance of fire enclosed all around. And downward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him. ²⁸ Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around.

Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

Sermon

“Glory Draws Near”

Robert Pazehoski

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 will be.
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. *Refrain*

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

Receive the Gifts of His Grace

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:

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;
Praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,
Gives his body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the feast.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe;
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, thou has brought us life and light;
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response:

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in his hand?

Who has numbered every 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? *Chorus*

Who has felt the nails upon his hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?

God eternal humbled to the grave; Jesus, Savior risen now to reign! *Chorus*

Benediction

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