Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Worship Presider: Elder Ken Brown

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Sing Praise to the Lord

Call to Worship

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea. A great high Priest whose Name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart. I know that while in heaven he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died my sinful soul is counted free. For God the just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness, The great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace. One in Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood, My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God!

Prayer of Invocation

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

Recount the Wonders of His Mercy

Call to Confession

Matthew 9: 12-13

¹² But when [Jesus] heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.

Prayer of Confession

(adapted from *Prone to Wander*)

Compassionate Father,

We confess to you that we don't want to need your mercy. When we see ourselves as righteous before you, we become lovers of ourselves instead of lovers of mercy; we perform to try to impress instead of showing mercy because we ourselves have been profoundly rescued. Religious duties become more important than loving people, and we easily become blind to the needs of those around us. Sometimes caring for others even becomes the very duty we use to justify ourselves. God, forgive us and have mercy on us.

Father, you have shown us great mercy through the sacrifice of your Son. You piled the awful weight of our sin on Jesus and crushed him in our place, and through his atoning death we have inherited every spiritual blessing imaginable. Dissolve our cool, indifferent hearts with the blazing truth of your astonishing love for us in Christ.

Jesus, you have been merciful to us and for us. You knit yourself to human flesh and walked through this sin-sick world with the eyes of love that saw the overwhelming needs of those around you. You loved and cared for people in their suffering, even when they invaded your privacy and disrupted your plans. So now even though we are confirmed lovers of ourselves and often calloused to the suffering of others, we are credited with all your loving compassion, as though we had done it ourselves. Jesus, how can we ever thank you?

Holy Spirit, keep us mindful of our weakness and sin so that we will come to love the righteousness of Jesus. Give us joyful confidence that you have prepared good works for us to do, and that we will walk in them because you always get your way. Cover our shameful lack of mercy and love for others with the glorious obedience of Jesus, and may our growing love for him compel us to face a needy world with peace and real power to help. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

Psalm 103: 8-14

- ¹² as far as the east is from the west,
 - so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
- ¹⁴ For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

What Wondrous Love is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I Am"; While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be; And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And through eternity, I'll sing on.

(Children may be excused to YWIT class.)

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law?

How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

Sermon

The Golden Parable

Robert Pazehoski

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more Stronger than darkness, new every morn' Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more *Refrain*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us His blood was the payment His life was the cost We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford Our sins they are many, His mercy is more *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: Jesus, Strong and Kind

Jesus said that if I thirst I should come to him; No one else can satisfy I should come to him. Jesus said if I am weak I should come to him; No one else can be my strength I should come to him. For the Lord is good and faithful; he will keep us day and night. We can always run to Jesus; Jesus, strong and kind.

Jesus said that if I fear I should come to him; No one else can be my shield; I should come to him. *Chorus*

Jesus said if I am lost he will come to me, And he showed me on that cross he will come to me. *Chorus*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response: And Can It Be

And can it be that I should gain, an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain—for me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be, that thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be, that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: th'Immortal dies: who can explore his strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more. *Chorus*

He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace, Emptied himself—so great his love!—and bled for all his chosen race: 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for O my God, it found out me! *Chorus*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed thee. *Chorus*

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine; Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own. *Chorus*

Benediction

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