

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Worship Presider: Elder Ken Brown

In the ascension, Jesus left the limitations of the time-space continuum and passed into the presence of the Father. In his incarnation, Jesus was limited to one spot at one moment. If you wanted to speak with him or relate to him, you had to do it at that place. “But at the ascension, Jesus leaves the space-time continuum and passes into the presence of the Father. He is still human, still our second Adam . . . and still our Advocate—yet now he has been so glorified that everything he does has a cosmic scope . . . any time-space limitation passes away.”

Further, thanks to the ascension, Jesus is now engaged in his mediatorial work for his people across the globe.

—Tim Keller

Praise to the Risen and Ascended Christ

Call to Worship

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice,

**“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”**

¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

**“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”**

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Lift High the Name of Jesus

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King.

Make known the power of his grace, the beauty of his peace.

Remember how his mercy reached and we cried out to him.

He lifted us to solid ground, to freedom from our sin.

Oh sing my soul, and tell all he's done,

Till the earth and heavens are filled with his glory!

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord.

His power in us is greater than, is greater than this world.

To share the reason for our hope, to serve with love and grace,

That all who see him shine through us; might bring the Father praise. *Chorus*

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light.

No other name on earth can save, can raise a soul to life.

He opens up our eyes to see the harvest he has grown.

We labor in his fields of grace as he leads sinners home. *Chorus*

Prayer of Invocation

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

Recall the Blessed Assurance of Christ

Call to Confession

Psalm 2:10-12

Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Prayer of Confession

(from Valley of Vision)

O GOD OF GRACE,

Thou hast imputed my sin to Christ my substitute, and hast imputed His righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, decking me with jewels of holiness.

But in my Christian walk I am still in rags;
my best prayers are stained with sin;
my penitential tears are so much impurity;
my confessions of wrong are so many aggravations of sin;
my receiving the Spirit is tinctured with selfishness.

I need to repent of my repentance;

I need my tears to be washed;
I have no robe to bring to cover my sins,
no loom to weave my own righteousness;
I am always standing clothed in filthy garments,
and by grace am always receiving change of raiment,
for thou dost always justify the ungodly;
I am always going into the far country,
and always returning home as a prodigal,
always saying, Father, forgive me,
and thou art always bringing forth the best robe.

Every morning let me wear it,
every evening return in it,
go out to the day's work in it,
be married in it,
be wound in death in it,
stand before the great white throne in it,
enter heaven in it shining as the sun.

Grant me never to lose sight of
the exceeding sinfulness of sin,
the exceeding righteousness of salvation,
the exceeding glory of Christ,
the exceeding beauty of holiness,
the exceeding wonder of grace. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Romans 5:1-6

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

All I Have Is Christ

I once was lost in darkest night yet thought I knew the way.
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave.
I had no hope that you would own a rebel to your will;
And if you had not loved me first I would refuse you still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race indifferent to the cost,
You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross.
And I beheld God's love displayed you suffered in my place;
You bore the wrath reserved for me now all I know is grace.
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ. Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

Now, Lord, I would be yours alone and live so all might see,
The strength to follow your commands could never come from me.
Oh Father, use my ransomed life in any way you choose;
And let my song forever be my only boast is you.

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Sermon

“The Ascension of Christ”

Reverend Robert Schmidtberger

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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)

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.

Song of Preparation:

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!

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response:

Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me!
And like a flood His mercy rains unending love, amazing grace!

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine
But God, who called me here below will be forever mine. *Refrain*

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun. *Refrain*

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, & Holy Ghost.
Amen

Benediction

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