

# **Lord's Day Worship**

**Sunday, July 3, 2022**

**Worship Presider: Elder Eric Bancroft**

I am not what I ought to be. I am not what I want to be. I am not what I hope to be.  
But still, I am not what I used to be. And by the grace of God, I am what I am.

—John Newton

## ***Sing Praise to the Lord***

### **Call to Worship**

**Psalm 111:1-3, 9**

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!**

### **The Church's One Foundation**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the Word:  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food.  
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,  
To guide, sustain and cherish is with her to the end;  
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,  
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation of peace for evermore;  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

## **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**

**Mark 12:28-31**

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

### **Prayer of Confession**

**(adapted from *The Valley of Vision*)**

O lover of the loveless,

It is your will that I should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and my neighbor as myself. But I am not sufficient for these things. There is by nature no pure love in my soul. Every affection in me is turned from you. I am bound, as slave to lust, I cannot love you, lovely as you are, until you set me free. By grace I am your freeman and would serve you, for I believe you are my God in Jesus, and that through him I am redeemed, and my sins are forgiven. With this freedom I would always obey you, but I cannot walk in liberty, any more than I could first attain it, of myself. May your Spirit draw me nearer to you and your ways.

You are the end of all means, for if they lead me not to you, I go away empty. Order all my ways by your holy Word and make your commandments the joy of my heart. May I grow in your love and manifest it to mankind.

Spirit of love, make me like the loving Jesus; that I may shine before men to your glory. The more you work in me and through me, keep me meek, lowly, and always ready to give you honor. Amen.

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-18, 21**

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## **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*

## **Prayer for the Church and Congregation**

### ***Give Attention to His Powerful Word***

## **Scripture Reading**

**Mark 12:1-36**

And he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. <sup>2</sup> When the season came, he sent a servant<sup>1</sup> to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. <sup>3</sup> And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>4</sup> Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. <sup>5</sup> And

he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. <sup>6</sup> He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' <sup>7</sup> But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' <sup>8</sup> And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. <sup>9</sup> What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. <sup>10</sup> Have you not read this Scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
<sup>11</sup> this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?”

<sup>12</sup> And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

<sup>13</sup> And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, “Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?” <sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, “Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.” <sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said to him, “Caesar's.” <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” And they marveled at him.

<sup>18</sup> And Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked him a question, saying, <sup>19</sup> “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. <sup>20</sup> There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no offspring. <sup>21</sup> And the second took her, and died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. <sup>22</sup> And the seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman also died. <sup>23</sup> In the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife.”

<sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God? <sup>25</sup> For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. <sup>26</sup> And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the

God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? <sup>27</sup> He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong.”

<sup>28</sup> And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>30</sup> And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” <sup>32</sup> And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. <sup>33</sup> And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” <sup>34</sup> And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

<sup>35</sup> And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? <sup>36</sup> David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared,

“‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet.””

## **Sermon**

## **“The Session of Christ”**

Reverend Robbie Schmidtberger

### **We Are God’s People**

We are God’s people, the chosen of the Lord,  
Born of his Spirit, established by his Word;  
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in him we stand:  
O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God’s loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;  
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:  
O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases Heaven.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family, diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire:  
Yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.

## ***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:***

#### **How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds**

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds, in a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest.

Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,  
My never failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace!

By thee, my prayers acceptance gain, although with sin defiled;  
Satan accuses me in vain, and I am owned a child.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.

## **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

## ***Song of Response:***

### **Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder**

Let us love, and sing, and wonder; let us praise the Savior's name!  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder; he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.  
He has washed us with his blood (3x)  
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,  
Called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears, and gave us eyes.  
He has washed us with his blood (3x)  
He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down,  
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqueror's crown!  
He, who washed us with his blood (3x)  
Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder: grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;  
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:  
He, who washed us with his blood, (3x)  
Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high!  
Here they trusted him before us; now their praises fill the sky:  
"You have washed us with your blood; (3x)  
You are worthy Lamb of God!"

## **Benediction**

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