

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, August 7, 2022

Worship Presider: Elder Eric Bancroft

"...Christ has come to defeat the powers and principalities, to move the world over onto a new foundation, and to equip a people - informed, devout, determined people – to lead the way in righting what's wrong, in transforming what's corrupted, in doing the things that make for peace, expecting that these things will travel across the border from this world to the new heaven and earth..."

- Cornelius Plantinga, *Engaging God's World*

Sing Praise to the Lord

Call to Worship

Psalm 98: 1-3

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

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*

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

2 Peter 3:9-14

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Prayer of Confession

(adapted from *Streams of Mercy*)

Sovereign Lord,

We confess before you our deep impatience and frustration with life in a fallen world. We strive and do not succeed; we pray and do not see answers; we ask for holiness and find ourselves seemingly stuck in our sin. As a result, we condemn you in our hearts and our words for your slowness to fulfill your promises. We easily become discouraged and give up the fight against our sin. Father, forgive us.

Teach us today that you treasure our humility more than our triumphs, and Christ's righteousness more than our best efforts. Teach us therefore to lift up Jesus as our only hope in life and death. Fix our longing eyes and hearts on your sure and certain promise that one day you will finish the good work you have begun in us and will present us to yourself as utterly spotless. Remind us that your timetable for new creation is neither fast nor slow, but is in keeping with your perfect wisdom.

By your Spirit, Lord, help us to grasp the enormity of the new creation you have already begun in us. May that reality drive us to live lives of holiness and godliness as we wait. Teach us to long for the new heavens and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, and to call others to share this glorious vision of hope. In the meantime, as we wait, grant us your peace in our hearts. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Revelation 21: 5-7

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

I Know Whom I Have Believed

I know not why God’s wondrous grace to me he has made known,
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.
*But “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able
To keep that which I’ve committed unto him against that day.”*

I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
Nor how believing in his Word wrought peace within my heart. *Refrain*

I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing men of sin,
Revealing Jesus through the Word, creating faith in him. *Refrain*

I know not what of good or ill may be reserved for me,
Of weary ways or golden days, before his face I see. *Refrain*

I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noontide fair,
Nor if I’ll walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air. *Refrain*

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Scripture Reading

Psalms 98

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

² The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together

⁹ before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Acts 1: 6-11

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 Return of the King”
Reverend Robert Schmidtberger

Psalm 98

Sing a new song to Jehovah
For the wonders He has wrought;
His right hand and arm most holy
Have to Him salvation brought.

Lo, Jehovah His salvation
Has to all the earth made known;
In the sight of every nation
He His righteousness has shown.

Mindful of His truth and mercy
He to Israel's house has been;
Of our God the great salvation
All the ends of earth have seen.

Sing, O earth, sing to Jehovah;
Shout aloud, rejoice, and sing;
With the harp sing to Jehovah,
With melodious voice and string.

Sound the trumpet and the cornet;
Shout before the LORD, the King;
Seas and all their fullness, thunder;
Earth with all its people sing.

Let the rivers in their gladness
Clap their hands with one accord.
Let the mountains sing together.
And rejoice before the LORD.

For behold he surely cometh,
Judge of all the earth to be.
He with right will judge the nations
And the world with equity.

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:

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*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response:

He is Jesus

There's a treasure great in beauty far surpassing earth's great wealth;
He is Jesus, Prince of Glory, source of all grace, peace, and health.
There's a fountain ever flowing, satisfying all who drink;
He is Jesus, spring of joy to all who hail him as their King.

There's a power, holy power breaking bonds of captive men;
He is Jesus, mighty Jesus, holy warrior and sinner's friend.
There's a Savior rich in mercy, quick to pardon all our sins;

He is Jesus, great Redeemer, reconciling God and man.

There's a glorious Lord returning and all will bow to him alone;
He is Jesus, King of nations, reigning from his gracious throne.
There is one to whom our praises will through every age ascend;
He is Jesus, King forever, whose wondrous rule will never end.

Benediction

The lyrics of the songs are used by permission. CCLI License #3008560

Great Is Thy Faithfulness: words by Thomas O. Chisolm, music by William M. Runyan, © 1923
Hope Publishing Company.

His Mercy is More by Matt Papa, Matt Boswell © 2016 Messenger Hymns, Love Your Enemies
Publishing

He is Jesus: by Stephen Altrogge © 2003 Sovereign Grace Music.