

**Lord's Day Worship**

**Sunday, September 25, 2022**

**Worship Presider: Elder Lewis Waha**

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

### **Call to Worship**

**Isaiah 40: 9, 12-13, 28**

Go on up to a high mountain,  
    O Zion, herald of good news;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
    O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
    lift it up, fear not;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
    “Behold your God!”  
Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
    and marked off the heavens with a span,  
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measured  
    and weighed the mountains in scales  
    and the hills in a balance?  
Who has measure the Spirit of the Lord,  
    or what man shows him his counsel?  
Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
    the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
    his understanding is unsearchable.

### **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*

## **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**

**Colossians 3:16-17**

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**(from *Streams of Mercy*)**

Sovereign God,

You are the God who speaks and acts—you spoke and created the universe; you spoke and redeemed your people out of Egypt; you spoke and commanded them to obey your wise and good laws, which would lead to their blessing and wholeness. But they and we have ignored, neglected, forgotten, and despised your Word. We have left our Bibles untouched, preferring to divert ourselves with work, games, television shows, and the internet. We have sought guidance from our friends and from the gurus of this age, instead of seeking truth from you. Even when we know perfectly well what your Word commands, we repeatedly give in to temptation in order to feed our desires and our lusts, or simply to make our lives easier. Sometimes we even despise the good news of the gospel that is splashed across every page of the Word, preferring to condemn and hate ourselves for our sins rather than confess them and receive your free forgiveness.

Jesus, you are the Father's final Word to this lost world. As the living Word, you were engaged in creation. As the Word appeared in flesh, you came down to this world to redeem us. You constantly loved and obeyed your Father's revelation of himself, delighting in the Scriptures and using them skillfully to refute Satan's temptations. Now you give us your perfect love for the Word as a free gift, covering our half-hearted and bored indifference with your passionate delight in the truth.

Holy Spirit, you have been tasked with leading us into all truth and bringing to our remembrance the things about Jesus. Stir up our dull hearts and energize our apathetic spirits! Give us a fresh enthusiasm to search the Scriptures, eagerly prizing the wisdom that they contain and thrilling in every new insight into the gospel. Show us Jesus on every page; stir our souls with the suffering of Christ and the glories that await us in heaven. Motivate us to strive with every fiber of our being toward holiness, while comforting us with constant reminders of the

righteousness that is ours already in Christ and the assurance that you will complete the good work you have begun in us on the day of his appearing. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**John 1:14, 16-18**

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

### **Break Thou the Bread of Life**

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
Throughout the sacred page I seek thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
As thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,  
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;  
Give me to eat and live with thee above;  
Teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.

O send thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me,  
That he may touch my eyes, and make me see:  
Show me the truth concealed within thy Word,  
And in thy Book revealed I see the Lord.

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

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

### **Scripture Reading**

### **2 Corinthians 3:12-4:6**

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup> Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Sermon**

### **"The Light of the Gospel"**

Col. Rob Ramey, USAF Ret.

### **Confession of Faith**

### **Westminster Larger Catechism**

*Q. 155. How is the word made effectual to salvation?*

A. The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching of the word, an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves, and drawing them unto Christ; of conforming them to his image, and subduing them to his will; of strengthening them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace, and establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

*Q. 159. How is the Word of God to be preached by those that are called thereunto?*

A. They that are called to labor in the ministry of the word, are to preach sound doctrine, diligently, in season and out of season; plainly, not in the enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit, and of power; faithfully, making known the whole counsel of God; wisely, applying themselves to the necessities and capacities of the hearers; zealously, with fervent love to God and the souls of his people; sincerely, aiming at his glory, and their conversion, edification, and salvation.

*Q. 160. What is required of those that hear the word preached?*

A. It is required of those that hear the word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the Scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.

### **May the Mind of Christ My Savior**

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,  
By his love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph only through his pow'r.

May the peace of God, my Father, Rule my life in ev'rything,  
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.  
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,  
Looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,  
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

## ***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:***

#### **Thy Mercy My God**

Thy mercy my God is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue.  
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,  
Hath won my affection and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy, I could not live here.  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair,  
But through thy free goodness, my spirit's revived  
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.  
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground  
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own  
In the covenant love of thy crucified Son.  
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.  
*All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.*

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

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

### **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.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

## **Benediction**

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