

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Worship Presider: Elder Eric Bancroft

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” —Revelation 21:1-4

Sing Praise to the Lord

Call to Worship

Psalm 8:1-5

O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,

Lift up your voice, and with us sing: Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice, *Refrain*

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light, *Refrain*

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care, *Refrain*

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One,
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

Psalm 84:11-12

For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
the LORD bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does he withhold
from those who walk uprightly.
O LORD of hosts,
blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Prayer of Confession

(adapted from *Prone to Wander*)

Lord God,

We thank you from the depths of our hearts for your wondrous grace and love for us in Christ. You have proven your faithfulness to us in the death and resurrection of your only Son and have promised us that you will not withhold any good thing from us. You are our sun and shield, and we should love to dwell in your presence more than anything else on this earth. Yet we confess that we are full of sin and cannot walk uprightly. We are quick to grasp whatever blessings we can for ourselves and reluctant to trust in your perfect will. We scheme endlessly and impatiently to establish our own kingdoms and fail repeatedly to submit to your wisdom, power, and holy will. Help us to repent of these sins.

Jesus Christ, without your perfect obedience given to us, we would have no hope of receiving favor from our heavenly Father. You walked uprightly on our behalf, yet you were treated like a criminal, losing all honor and favor before your Father so we could live forever as treasured sons and daughters of the King. Now you are glorified and exalted, and you have lifted us up and covered our shame with your glory. Jesus, thank you.

Spirit of the Living God, you indwell us and always have your way with us. Help us to find our peace and refuge in God's protection, so that we stop trying so hard to protect ourselves. May we find our true blessing in him. Let us rejoice at the end of each day that you have done all things well and have not withheld from us one thing that we needed. Thank you for the weakness that keeps us near the cross, marveling at your rich and overwhelming grace to broken sinners. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:28-32

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Jesus Paid it All

I hear the Savior say, your strength indeed is small
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all.
*Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe,
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find your power and yours alone,
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone. *Chorus*

For nothing good have I whereby thy grace to claim,
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary's Lamb. *Chorus*

And when before thy throne I stand in him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat! *Chorus*

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over

the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

Sermon “The Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth”
Reverend Robert Schmidtberger

Affirmation of Faith

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.

The Apostles’ Creed

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.

This is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass; He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done:
Jesus Who died shall be satisfied, And earth and Heav'n be one.

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:

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;
Praise we him whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,
Gives his body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the feast.

Where the paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe;
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, thou has brought us life and light;
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Song of Response:

Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his Name.

The saints shall flourish in his days, dressed in the robes of joy and praise;
Peace, like a river, from his throne shall flow to nations yet unknown.

Where he displays his healing power, death and the curse are known no more:
In him the tribes of Adam boast more blessings than their father lost.

Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

Benediction

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