

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, December 10th, 2023

Sing Praise to the Lord

***Call to Worship**

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, 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. 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. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 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.

***O Come, All Ye Faithful**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come, ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

*O come, let us adore him; o come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light from Light Eternal,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created: *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! *Refrain*

Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee with love and awe.
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing! *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

1 John 4:11-13

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

Prayer of Confession

(from *Streams of Mercy*)

Loving heavenly Father,

We confess to you our inability to love and forgive others as we have been loved and forgiven in Christ. We are blinded by our own filthy righteousness and often find ourselves judging others for their sins in spite of our own lengthy record of transgression. We all hate people in our hearts, whether with icy cold resentment or red-hot fury, and we daily struggle to obey your command. Instead of laying down our lives, we murder the reputations of others with our bitter thoughts and spiteful words. Father, forgive us for our mountains of sin.

Lord Jesus, we are debtors to your mercy alone. Having received such vast forgiveness from you, we should love everyone freely and fully, and yet we cannot. How we thank you for loving your enemies, your disciples, and your closest friends and family with sinless perfection. You took on our failure and became sin so that we could be credited with your flawless record of love. You took the punishment for every evil thought we will ever have against others, for our aggressive sins of commission, and for our hateful sins of omission. How can we ever thank you for such a gift of love?

Holy Spirit of the living God, help us to repent daily of our resentments and evil thoughts, to confess our sins wisely to others, and to run to your throne of grace to plead for mercy and help in our many times of great need. Give us your wisdom to know when we should speak the truth in love to others, and when love can cover many sins, for we are easily confused. Make us sons and daughters who forgive with sincerity and with the desire to restore, so that we might reflect our glorious Savior as we struggle against this unforgiving, unloving flesh. We thank you that when we see you, we will love you and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ with perfect love, forever. Until then, keep us fighting against our sinful nature and striving to obey your commands. Keep us near the cross so that we will remember that all our failures are wiped away, and all our successes come from your loving hand. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:6-11

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

***Cling to Christ**

Father, I can come to You and boast of deeds I've done
In my pride I strive to earn the favor Christ has won
He alone pleads my acceptance all my works aside
So I come with empty hands and I cling to Christ

Father, I can go astray and battle needless fears
Voices tell me I'm condemned and that I can't draw near
But Your Spirit calls me homeward with Your words of life
Jesus bore my every sin, so, I cling to Christ

It's more than I can do
To keep my hold on You
But all my hope and peace
Is that You cling to me (x2)

Father, all my earthly aims in time will turn to dust
Let me learn that loss is gain for those who know Your love
All the treasures of this world will never satisfy
You alone are endless joy, so, I cling to Christ

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:13-18

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Sermon

Freed from the Law to the Law

Rev. Seob Kim

Sermon Outlines

Proposition: In Galatians 5:13-18, the Apostle Paul reveals to the Galatians that they are freed from the slavish obedience in the Law of Moses to the joyful and free obedience in the Law of Christ as he commands the Galatians to love and serve one another by walking with the Holy Spirit.

I. The Apostle Paul's Command to _____.

II. The Apostle Paul's Command to _____.

Q. 93. Dear Christians, How are the commandments divided?

A. Into two tables.

The first has four commandments,
teaching us how we ought to live in relation to God.

The second has six commandments,
teaching us what we owe our neighbor.

(We will receive our gifts and offerings for the Lord's work during the singing of the next song.)

***Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God**

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for your purity. Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within; may your joy be seen in all I do—
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin in each thought and deed and attitude,
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace. Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made,
Show your power once again on earth;
Cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise. Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

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. While communion is being served, please feel free to join in song or meditate quietly on Christ's sacrifice.

I Come By the Blood

You are the perfect and righteous God whose presence bears no sin
You bid me come to your Holy place, how can I enter in
When your presence bears no sin?
Through him who poured out his life for me, the atoning Lamb of God
Through him and his work alone, I boldly come.
*I come by the blood, I come by the cross
Where your mercy flows from hands pierced for me
For I dare not stand on my righteousness
My every hope rests on what Christ has done, and I come by the blood*

You are the high and exalted King the One the angels fear
So far above me in every way Lord, how can I draw near
To the One the angels fear?
Through him who laid down his life for me and ascended to your side
Through him, through Jesus alone I boldly come. *Refrain (twice)*

Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us: and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.
*So we share in this Bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.*

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, torn for you: eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the price to make us one.
*So we share in this Bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.*

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you: drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.
*So we share in this Bread of life, and we drink of his sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.*

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond: and to remember.
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as his body here on earth.
As we share in his suffering, we proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

***Benediction**

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heav'nly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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