

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, February 12th, 2023

Sing Praise to the Lord

***Call to Worship**

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

***Revelation Song**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, holy, holy, is he.
Sing a new song, to him who sits on heaven’s mercy seat.

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come!
With all creation I sing: Praise to the King of Kings!
You are my everything, and I will adore you.*

Clothed in rainbows, of living color, flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder.
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be,
To you the Only Wise King. *Refrain*

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of your name.
Jesus, your name is power, breath, and living water, such a marvelous mystery!
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

Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that

in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Prayer of Confession

(From *The Valley of Vision*)

MY FATHER,

In a world of created changeable things,

Christ and his Word alone remain unshaken.

O to forsake all creatures,

to rest as a stone on him the foundation,

to abide in him, be borne up by him!

For all my mercies come through Christ,

who has designed, purchased, promised, effected them.

How sweet it is to be near him, the Lamb,

filled with holy affections!

When I sin against you I cross your will, love, life,

and have no comforter, no creature, to go to.

My sin is not so much this or that particular evil,

but my continual separation, disunion, distance from you,

and having a loose spirit towards you.

But you have given me a present, Jesus your Son,

as Mediator between yourself and my soul,

as middle-man who in a pit

holds both him below and him above,

for only he can span the chasm breached by sin,

and satisfy divine justice.

May I always lay hold upon this Mediator,

as a realized object of faith,

and alone worthy by his love to bridge the gulf.

Let me know that he is dear to me by his Word;

I am one with him by the Word on his part,

and by faith on mine;

If I oppose the Word I oppose my Lord when he is most near;

If I receive the Word I receive my Lord where he is close.

O you who have the hearts of all men in your hand,

form my heart according to the Word,

according to the image of your Son,

So shall Christ the Word, and his Word, be my strength and comfort.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him

***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

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not

know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Sermon

God’s “Word”—More Than You Think!

Col. Rob Ramey, USAF Ret.

Sermon Outline

1. The Word and _____ . (verses 1-2)

2. The Word and _____ . (verses 3-5)

3. The Word and _____ . (verses 6-8)

4. The Word _____ . (verses 9-14)

5. The Word’s _____ . (verses 15-18)

***Confession of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith

8.2 The Son of God, the second person of the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon Him man's nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

8.3 The Lord Jesus, in His human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, above measure, having in Him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell; to the end that, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, He might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a Mediator and Surety. Which office He took not unto Himself, but was thereunto called by His Father, who put all power and judgment into His hand, and gave Him commandment to execute the same.

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

***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*

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.

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great high Priest whose Name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heaven he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace.
One in Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood,
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God!

There is a Higher Throne

There is a higher throne, than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace—salvation comes.

*Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'erald courts and sapphire skies, their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high forevermore.*

And there we'll find our home, our life before the throne;
We'll honor him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King; we'll reign with him.

***Benediction**

***Doxology**

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

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