

Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, June 25th, 2023

Sing Praise to the Lord

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 150

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with
tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding
cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath
praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

***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

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words, saying, “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. “You shall have no other gods before me.

Prayer of Confession

(from *Streams of Mercy*)

Almighty God,

We have come before you to worship you, but as we speak words of worship and sing songs of praise, we are reminded by your Word that we are to have no other gods before you. We have fallen woefully short of keeping this great command. Our worship of you is neither consistent nor whole-hearted. You have called us to set our minds on things above, yet we habitually allow our minds to slip back toward things of earth: the fleeting pleasures that this world offers us in food, sexual immorality, and entertainment; the seeming glory it grants us in reputation, success, and money.

Lord Jesus Christ, we have often doubted that you could rescue our souls. We create elaborate systems of salvation to comfort ourselves in our desperate condition. Some of us have learned to live in blindness toward the sin that so easily ensnares us, assuming that we are better than we are and smugly satisfied that we are not like other sinners. Others of us have established rituals of self-hatred to cope with the sin that we find in our hearts, hoping that if we just work hard enough, you might find it possible to forgive our insidious and constant sins. One thing we have in common is that none of us see our own sin clearly. Instead, we make too much or too little of it, and thereby obscure our view of your cross.

Holy Spirit, lead us back to the good news of the Gospel: that all of our sin has been put to death, fully and finally, by Christ on the cross. Help us to see the reality of our justification: we have been raised with Christ, and our relationship with God has been secured as beloved children. Help us to put to death the remaining sin in our hearts, but give us the confidence to admit that our struggle with sin is ongoing, and will be until you glorify us. Give us bold faith that lingers at the cross longer than we linger over our sins. Entice us with the good news from above, so that our worship might flow from transformed hearts enraptured by a God who loved us first. Clear our spiritual vision, we pray, that we might see our souls as hidden with Christ on high, our Savior and our God. In his name we come, amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

O that, with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall,
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. (repeat)

Prayer for the Church and Congregation

Give Attention to His Powerful Word

Children's Message

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:22-26

²² And the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven. ²³ You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold.

²⁴ An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you. ²⁵ If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it. ²⁶ And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.'

Hebrews 13:8-16

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹ Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹ For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹² So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵ Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Sermon

The Blessing of True Worship

Rev. Ben Ward

*Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 21.1 Q: Christians, what do we believe about Worship?

A: The light of nature sheweth that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all; is good, and doeth good unto all; and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might. But the acceptable way of worshiping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that he may not be worshiped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture.

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

*Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love, and sing, and wonder; let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder; he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.
He has washed us with his blood; he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
Called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears, and gave us eyes.
He has washed us with his blood; he presents our souls to God.

Let us sing though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down,
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqueror's crown!
He, who washed us with his blood, soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder: grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:
He, who washed us with his blood, has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high!
Here they trusted him before us; now their praises fill the sky:
"You have washed us with your blood; you are worthy Lamb of God!"

Hark! the name of Jesus sounded loud from golden harps above!
Lord, we blush, and are confounded: faint our praises, cold our love!
Wash our souls and songs with blood, for by you we come to God.

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.

Carried To The Table

Wounded and forsaken, I was shattered by the fall.
Broken and forgotten, I was lost and all alone.
Summoned by the King into the Master's courts,
Lifted by the Savior, and cradled in his arms.

*I was carried to the table, seated where I don't belong,
Carried to the table, swept away by his love.
And I don't see my brokenness anymore
When I'm seated at the table of the Lord.
I'm carried to the table, the table of the Lord.*

Fighting thoughts of fear and wondering why he called my name:
"Am I good enough to share this cup?" This world has left me lame.
Even in my weakness, the Savior called my name;
In his holy presence, I'm healed and unashamed. *Chorus*

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)*

***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

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