## **WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY**

March 13, 2016 10:00 am

Welcome and Announcements

PSALM 96 A

Jonathan Murray, precenting

Prayer for God's Blessing upon Us as We Worship Him

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:26-30

PSALM 105 A

Scripture: Luke 20:41-44; 24:36-53

Sermon: Books about Christ: The Psalms

Pastor Martin Wilsey, Preaching

PSALM 110 D

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings:

Prayer Time for the Congregation

To this my prayer, O Listen LORD; And let my cry for help reach You. In time of grief, hide not Your face, Incline to me Your list'ning ear; And answer quickly when You hear. (Psalm 102 A, stanza 1)

PSALM 98 A, stanzas 1-3

Pastoral Blessing

PSALM 98 A, stanza 7

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Join us for a time of refreshment following the service. Coffee, tea and other drinks are served in the kitchen area.

## **SERMON:** THE PSALMS

A diversion of sorts from the current preaching series....

- I. Thoughts and considerations about singing of praise in worship
  - A. What is worship? How does song fit into worship?
  - B. Music has a place and influence in our lives.
  - C. What are the possible options?
  - D. Has God spoken on this subject? What has He said?
- II. Why only Psalms in worship? Doctrinal and practical considerations:
  - A. The Psalms are the Word of God.
    - 1. Their ultimate author is the Holy Spirit (II Samuel 23:1-2; Hebrews 3:7ff.; Psalm 95)
    - 2. They are objectively true and doctrinally faithful
    - 3. They are much more than man's subjective "opinion" about God and His ways
    - 4. They perfectly present God with biblical balance, as He declares Himself to be
    - 5. They will not lead us astray
  - B. They were given to be sung (II Chronicles 29:29-30; the commands within the Psalter to sing praise to the LORD)
  - C. They have New Testament sanction and content
    - 1. The "hymn" of Matthew 26:30
    - 2. Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16
    - 3. The expressly "Messianic" Psalms (2, 22,69,89,110, etc.) cannot be understood from an Old Testament context or perspective
    - 4. The illustration of two mountains (Dr. J.G. Vos)
  - D. The Psalms ultimately are about Jesus Christ
    - 1. Jesus' testimony (Luke 24:44-48; 20:41-44)
    - 2. Early Apostolic preaching and teaching (Acts 2:25-36; Acts 4:23-31)
  - E. They are timeless, providing a common bond for the saints throughout human history
- III. Other questions, concerns and comments:
  - A. The need for an authorized manual for praise. Is it important?
  - B. The question of adequacy of the Psalter. Is the issue with the Psalms?
  - C. What happens when Psalmody is abandoned? What has history shown?
  - D. The problem that began with the Fall of Adam: is it about what God wants for us or what we want.
  - E. One preacher's personal testimony....