

A SERVICE OF THE WORD & SACRAMENT

September 24, 2023

The Prelude

The Welcome & Announcements

The Silent Preparation

-THE LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP-

The Salutation

Ephesians 1:2

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Call to Worship

Philippians 4:4

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Psalm #22B

All You That Fear Jehovah's Name

1. All you that fear Jehovah's name,
his glory tell, his praise proclaim;
you children of his chosen race,
stand now in awe before his face,
stand now in awe before his face.
2. The suffering One he has not spurned,
who unto him for help has turned;
from him he has not hid his face,
but answered his request in grace,
but answered his request in grace.
3. O Lord, your goodness makes me raise
amid your people songs of praise;
before all them that fear you, now
I worship you and pay my vow,
I worship you and pay my vow.
4. For all the meek you will provide,
they shall be fed and satisfied;
all they that seek the Lord shall live
and never-ending praises give,
and never-ending praises give.
5. The Lord's unfailing righteousness
all generations shall confess;
from age to age shall men be taught
what wondrous works the Lord has wrought,
what wondrous works the Lord has wrought.

The Invocation & Prayer of Praise

Unison:

O Lord, you are the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God. You are the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no one has seen or can see. To you be honor and eternal dominion.

We bless you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. We praise the glory of your grace that chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and blameless before him. We thank you that in love you predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ. We rejoice that we have been sealed in Christ with the Holy Spirit of promise who is given as a pledge of our inheritance. We worship and adore you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Open the eyes of our hearts that we may know the hope of your calling, the riches of the glory of our inheritance and the surpassing greatness of your power toward us in Jesus Christ. All of this you have brought about in Christ when you raised him from the dead and seated him at your right hand in the heavenly places.

Receive now our worship and our praise to the glory of your grace.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

-THE LORD ASSURES US OF HIS FORGIVENESS-

The Call to Confession

Romans 7:21-24

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

The Confession of Sin

- ❖ Silent Prayers of Confession
- ❖ General Prayer of Confession

Unison:

Holy God, Lord most gracious! Rebuke us not in your anger, nor chasten us in your wrath! Holy you are, and we cannot stand in your presence. Yet you have called us to come to you. We feel unworthy, for we have failed you again and again. We feel like running away, yet you keep calling us. Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy!

Holy God, Father most gracious! Rebuke us not in your anger, nor chasten us in your wrath! Heal us from our sin, for we are troubled. Deliver us for the sake of your steadfast love. Our sins trouble us, O God. We are troubled by how they have hurt others. We are troubled by how they have hurt us. Your ways are right! O righteous God! And whenever we have refused to follow them we have found out how right they are. Have mercy on us, O God. Have mercy!

Holy God, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us for the sake of your Son, who died to free us from our sins. To you be honor and glory! Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

Romans 7:25-8:1

²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Hymn #350

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty Rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and the burden of the day.

2. Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me:
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess,
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.

3. I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place:
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss;
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.

The Prayer of the Church

Psalm 34:8-10

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! ⁹ Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! ¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

-THE LORD INSTRUCTS US FROM HIS WORD-

The Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 10:1-12

¹ A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother. ² Treasures gained by wickedness do not profit, but righteousness delivers from death. ³ The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry, but he thwarts the craving of the wicked. ⁴ A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. ⁵ He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame. ⁶ Blessings are on the head of the righteous, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence. ⁷ The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot. ⁸ The wise of heart will receive commandments, but a babbling fool will come to ruin. ⁹ Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out. ¹⁰ Whoever winks the eye causes trouble, and a babbling fool will come to ruin. ¹¹ The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence. ¹² Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

The New Testament Reading

James 5:13-20

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. ¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Sermon

Rev. Dr. Michael J. Matossian

Search and Rescue
James 5:19-20

Hymn #420

Christ for the World We Sing

1. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal:
the poor and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow worn,
whom Christ doth heal.
2. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with fervent pray'r:
the wayward and the lost,
by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost
from dark despair.
3. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with one accord:
with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord.
4. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with joyful song:
the newborn souls whose days,
reclaimed from error's ways,
inspired with hope and praise,
to Christ belong.

-THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS TABLE-

The Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Unison:

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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 there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
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.

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

- ❖ Words of Institution
- ❖ The Breaking of the Bread
- ❖ The Sharing of the Cup

-THE LORD DISMISSES US TO HIS SERVICE-

The Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁴The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Doxology #150C v 1

Sing Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

Sing hallelujah! Praise the Lord!
Praise God within his sacred courts!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise, praise him in his heav'nly height!
Praise, praise him for his deeds of might!
O praise him! O praise him!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!