

# *The Lord's Day*

January 26, 2020  
10:30 AM

*We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.  
As you enter the sanctuary, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.  
Please turn off your cell phone and turn your thoughts toward God.*

## **We prepare for worship**

*Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...*

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born from God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.* *1 John 4:7, 8 (ESV)*

Prelude

Mr. Scott Engel

## **We praise our great God**

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 28:6-9 (ESV)

Blessed be the LORD! for he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

**The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.**

The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

\*Hymn No. 55

*To God Be the Glory*

Doane

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that we may go in.

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,  
And give him the glory, great things he has done!***

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offended who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

\*Invocation

## **We embrace Christ our Savior**

Psalter Reading

Psalm 33

(Hymnal pg. 796)

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

**Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.**

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

**For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.**

The LORD loves righteousness and justice;

**the earth is full of his unfailing love.**

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

**He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses.**

Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.

**For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded and it stood firm.**

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

**But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever. The purposes of his heart through all generations.**

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

**From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind;**

from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—

**he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.**

No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength.

**A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.**

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

**We wait in hope for the LORD;**

he is our help and our shield.

**In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.**

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

\*Hymn of Assurance, No. 485

*O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry*

Hamburg

O thou that hear'st when sinners cry, though all my crimes before thee lie,  
behold them not with angry look, but blot their mem'ry from thy book.

Create my nature pure within, and form my soul averse to sin;  
let thy good Spirit ne'er depart, not hide thy presence from my heart.

I cannot live without thy light, cast out and banished from thy sight;  
thy holy joys, my God, restore, and guard me, that I fall no more.

A broken heart, my God, my King, is all the sacrifice I bring;  
the God of grace will ne'er despise a broken heart for sacrifice.

My soul lies humbled in the dust, and owns thy dreadful sentence just:  
look down, O Lord, with pitying eye, and save the soul condemned to die.

Then will I teach the world thy ways; sinners shall learn thy sovereign grace;  
I'll lead them to my Savior's blood, and they shall praise a pard'ning God.

Confession of Faith (unison)

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 87

What is repentance unto life? **Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.**

Old Testament Reading

Judges 20:1-18

(Pew Bible, pg. 185)

### Israel's War with the Tribe of Benjamin

**20** Then all the people of Israel came out, from Dan to Beersheba, including the land of Gilead, and the congregation assembled as one man to the LORD at Mizpah. <sup>2</sup> And the chiefs of all the people, of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, 400,000 men on foot that drew the sword. <sup>3</sup> (Now the people of Benjamin heard that the people of Israel had gone up to Mizpah.) And the people of Israel said, "Tell us, how did this evil happen?" <sup>4</sup> And the Levite, the husband of the woman who was murdered, answered and said, "I came to Gibeah that belongs to Benjamin, I and my concubine, to spend the night. <sup>5</sup> And the leaders of Gibeah rose against me and surrounded the house against me by night. They meant to kill me, and they violated my concubine, and she is dead. <sup>6</sup> So I took hold of my concubine and

cut her in pieces and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel, for they have committed abomination and outrage in Israel. <sup>7</sup> Behold, you people of Israel, all of you, give your advice and counsel here.”

<sup>8</sup> And all the people arose as one man, saying, “None of us will go to his tent, and none of us will return to his house. <sup>9</sup> But now this is what we will do to Gibeah: we will go up against it by lot, <sup>10</sup> and we will take ten men of a hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and a hundred of a thousand, and a thousand of ten thousand, to bring provisions for the people, that when they come they may repay Gibeah of Benjamin for all the outrage that they have committed in Israel.” <sup>11</sup> So all the men of Israel gathered against the city, united as one man.

<sup>12</sup> And the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, “What evil is this that has taken place among you? <sup>13</sup> Now therefore give up the men, the worthless fellows in Gibeah, that we may put them to death and purge evil from Israel.” But the Benjaminites would not listen to the voice of their brothers, the people of Israel. <sup>14</sup> Then the people of Benjamin came together out of the cities to Gibeah to go out to battle against the people of Israel. <sup>15</sup> And the people of Benjamin mustered out of their cities on that day 26,000 men who drew the sword, besides the inhabitants of Gibeah, who mustered 700 chosen men. <sup>16</sup> Among all these were 700 chosen men who were left-handed; every one could sling a stone at a hair and not miss. <sup>17</sup> And the men of Israel, apart from Benjamin, mustered 400,000 men who drew the sword; all these were men of war.

<sup>18</sup> The people of Israel arose and went up to Bethel and inquired of God, “Who shall go up first for us to fight against the people of Benjamin?” And the LORD said, “Judah shall go up first.”

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

The Prayers of God’s People and the Lord’s Prayer (in unison)

**We respond in gratitude for God’s blessing**

\**The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731)* and Prayer of Dedication

God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory

*The children may dismiss for church-time programs.*

**We hear God speak**

Scripture Reading

Hosea 14

(Pew Bible, pg. 643)

**A Plea to Return to the LORD**

**14** Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God,  
for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.

<sup>2</sup> Take with you words  
and return to the LORD;  
say to him,

“Take away all iniquity;  
accept what is good,  
and we will pay with bulls  
the vows of our lips.

<sup>3</sup> Assyria shall not save us;  
we will not ride on horses;

and we will say no more, ‘Our God,’  
to the work of our hands.

In you the orphan finds mercy.”

<sup>4</sup>I will heal their apostasy;  
I will love them freely,  
for my anger has turned from them.

<sup>5</sup>I will be like the dew to Israel;  
he shall blossom like the lily;  
he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>his shoots shall spread out;  
his beauty shall be like the olive,  
and his fragrance like Lebanon.

<sup>7</sup>They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow;  
they shall flourish like the grain;  
they shall blossom like the vine;  
their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

<sup>8</sup>O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols?  
It is I who answer and look after you.

I am like an evergreen cypress;  
from me comes your fruit.

<sup>9</sup>Whoever is wise, let him understand these things;  
whoever is discerning, let him know them;  
for the ways of the LORD are right,  
and the upright walk in them,  
but transgressors stumble in them.

Sermon

“Triumphant Love”

Pastor Bell

**We respond to God’s grace**

\*Hymn No. 497

*I Need Thee, Precious Jesus*

Meiriondd

I need thee, precious Jesus, for I am full of sin;  
My soul is dark and guilty, my heart is dead within.  
I need the cleansing fountain where I can always flee,  
The blood of Christ most precious, the sinner’s perfect plea.

I need thee, precious Jesus, for I am very poor;  
A stranger and a pilgrim, I have no earthly store.  
I need the love of Jesus to cheer me on my way,  
To guide my doubting footsteps, to be my strength and stay.

I need thee, precious Jesus, and hope to see thee soon,  
Encircled with the rainbow and seated on thy throne.  
There with thy blood-bought children, my joy shall ever be,  
To sing my Jesus’ praises, to gaze, O Lord on thee.

\*Benediction and Three-Fold *Amen* (*Hymnal*, pg. 740)

Danish Postlude

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\*Those who are able, please stand.

