

The Lord's Day

April 26, 2020
10:30 AM

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

We prepare for worship

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

*Lord, worry and fear come because I forget what you've accomplished for me in Jesus Christ. You have defeated sin (so it can't condemn me) and death (so I can be assured of my resurrection). Meanwhile you are working things out for good. Remind me, remind me of all this, so I can rest in you. Amen. **Tim Keller***

Prelude

Mr. Stephen Holmes

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 9:7-11 (ESV)

The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment.

He rules the world in righteousness and judges the people with equity.

The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

Sing the praises of the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what he has done.

Hymn No. 266

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

St. Kevin

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,
And from three days' sleep in death, as a sun hath risen;
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
From his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:
But today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing
Thine own peace, which evermore, passeth human knowing.

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 30

(Hymnal, pg. 794)

I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.

O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit.

Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken."

O LORD, when you favored me, you made my mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

To you, O LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:

What gain is there in my destruction, in my going down into the pit?

"Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?"

"Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help."

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:13-20 (ESV)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 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.

Confession of Faith (unison)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 27

What do we mean by the providence of God? **The almighty and everywhere present power of God; whereby, as it were by His hand, He upholds and governs heaven, earth, and all creatures; so that herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, and all things come, not by chance, but by His fatherly hand.**

Hymn

The Power of the Cross

Getty/Townend
CCLI Lic. No. 944471

O, to see the dawn of the darkest day; Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then, nailed to a cross of wood—

**This the pow'r of the cross; Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; We stand forgiven at the cross.**

O, to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.

Ev'ry bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your blood stained brow—

This the pow'r...

Now the daylight flees; Now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life—"Finished!" the vict'ry cry—

This the pow'r...

O, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love!

**This the pow'r of the cross; Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross**

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

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Genesis 45:1-15 (ESV)

Joseph Provides for His Brothers and Family

45 Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³ And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

⁴ So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰ You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' ¹² And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and

Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

Sermon

“The Forgiving Saint”

Pastor Bell

We respond to God’s grace

Hymn No. 647 (vv. 1-4)

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

St. Peter

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;
‘tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,
My never-failing treas’ry filled with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

Benediction

Postlude
