

The Lord's Day

May 17, 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...

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away; that you might comfort me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. Isaiah 12:1, 2, 4 (ESV)

Prelude

Mr. Stephen Holmes

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 31:1-5 (ESV)

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!

For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

Hymn No. 521

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Bradbury

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 61

(Hymnal, pg. 806)

Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.

From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint;
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe.

I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.

**For you have heard my vows, O God; you have given me the heritage of those who
fear your name.**

Increase the days of the king's life, his years for many generations.

May he be enthroned in God's presence forever;

appoint your love and faithfulness to protect him.

Then will I ever sing praise to your name and fulfill my vows day after day.

The *Gloria Patri* (Hymnal, pg. 735)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 53:4-6 (ESV)

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Confession of Faith (unison)

Second Helvetic Confession, XI.17 (1566) (ed. REB)

We do plainly and openly profess and preach, that Jesus Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior of the world, the King and High Priest, the true and long expected Messiah, that holy and blessed one whom all the shadows of the law, and the prophecies of the prophets, did prefigure and promise; and that God did supply and send Him unto us, so that now we are not to look for any other. And now there remains nothing, but that we all should give all glory to Him, believe in Him, and rest in Him only...for our salvation.

Hymn

Bought by the Blood

Bryan Chapell/Highland Cathedral
Used by permission of the author

Bought by the blood of heaven's perfect Lamb,
Freed from the bonds of earth by pierced hand,
He all my worthiness and I his sin,
Nailed to a cross by pow'r of God's love.

***Though his call take me far away,
Tho' it cost my name, comfort and gain,
I will serve him all my days,
My life now his, my Lord.***

Bold I approach my King's eternal throne,
Robed in a righteousness that's not my own.
Filled with his Spirit for a holy cause,
Bearing his cross by pow'r of God's love. (Refrain)

Lord, now grant me for the Gospel strife,
Grace for the morning and the fearful night,
Strengthen my zeal for my dear Savior's reign

Raising his cross by pow'r of God's love.

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
The Offertory

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Genesis 47:28-48:22 (ESV)

^{47:28} And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years. So the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were 147 years.

²⁹ And when the time drew near that Israel must die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "If now I have found favor in your sight, put your hand under my thigh and promise to deal kindly and truly with me. Do not bury me in Egypt, ³⁰ but let me lie with my fathers. Carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burying place." He answered, "I will do as you have said." ³¹ And he said, "Swear to me"; and he swore to him. Then Israel bowed himself upon the head of his bed. ^[LXX "staff"]

Jacob Blesses Ephraim and Manasseh

48 After this, Joseph was told, "Behold, your father is ill." So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. ² And it was told to Jacob, "Your son Joseph has come to you." Then Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed. ³ And Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty^{[E] Shaddai} appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, ⁴ and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for an everlasting possession.' ⁵ And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are. ⁶ And the children that you fathered after them shall be yours. They shall be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance. ⁷ As for me, when I came from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was still some distance^["about two hours' distance"] to go to Ephrath, and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem)."

⁸ When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" ⁹ Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them." ¹⁰ Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. ¹¹ And Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also." ¹² Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. ¹³ And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. ¹⁴ And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands (for Manasseh was the firstborn). ¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph and said,

“The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked,
 the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,
¹⁶ the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys;
 and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and
 Isaac;
 and let them grow into a multitude^[“like fish”] in the midst of the earth.”

¹⁷ When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father’s hand to move it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s head. ¹⁸ And Joseph said to his father, “Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head.” ¹⁹ But his father refused and said, “I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.” ²⁰ So he blessed them that day, saying,

“By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying,
 ‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.’”

Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh. ²¹ Then Israel said to Joseph, “Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers. ²² Moreover, I have given to you rather than to your brothers one mountain slope ^[Hebrew *shekem* which sounds like Shechem] that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow.”

Sermon

“The Fraternal Selection”

Pastor Bell

We respond to God’s grace

Hymn No. 94

How Firm a Foundation

Traditional American Melody

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord,
 is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
 What more can he say than to you he has said,
 to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you. O be not dismayed;
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
 I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,
 the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
 For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
 and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
 My grace all sufficient, shall be your supply;
 The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
 your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“E’en down to old age all my people shall prove
 my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;

and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Benediction

Postlude
