

The Lord's Day

June 21, 2020

10:30 AM

*We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.
As we begin, please worship quietly with personal prayer.*

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this...

Evil is like a dense cloud that turns the world into darkness and suffocates all those who are breathing its polluted air. But evil functions only with divine permission.

Simon Kistemaker

Prelude

Mr. Stephen Holmes

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Isaiah 60:1-3,19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

See, the darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples,

but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

Nations will come to your light, [O LORD], and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.

Hymn No. 140

O Word of God Incarnate

Munich

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
We praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from her dear Master received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the golden casket, where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner before God's host unfurled;
It shineth like a beacon above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
'mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
To bear before the nations thy true light, as of old.
O teach thy wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading

Psalm 139:1-18,23-24

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.

You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;

if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"

even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.

When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.

When I awake, I am still with you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:12-14

[Give] thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 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.

Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith IX.4

When God converts a sinner, and translates him into the state of grace, he frees him from his natural bondage under sin; and, by his grace alone,, enables him freely to will and to do that which is spiritually good; yet so, as that by reason of his remaining corruption, he does not perfectly, nor only, will that which is good, but does also will that which is evil.

Hymn No. 9 (HMR)

Alive in Christ

Sola Gratia

I once was rebellious, corrupted by sin, pursuing the devil's dark path,
Oblivious, dead to the state I was in, an object of God's dreadful wrath.

But God who is rich in compassion and love, not leaving my soul to the grave,
Has given me life; born again from above, by God's sovereign grace I've been saved.

God lifted me up to the heavenly realms where seated with Christ I am free;
In ages to come he will show me more grace—so great is his kindness to me.

Since grace is the source of the life that is mine—and faith is a gift from on high—
I'll boast in my Savior, all merit decline, and glorify God 'til I die.

Yet now I am living with work to be done for I am God's workmanship too,

Created in Christ with a race to be run, which God has ordained me to do.

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

Text Revelation 8:13-9:2

13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!"

9:1 And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the [Abyss]. 2 He opened the shaft of the [Abyss], and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft.

Sermon "More Than a Vulture" Pastor Ceselsky

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 72 *Amid the Fears That Oppress Our Day* Langhorne

Amid the fears that oppress our day, across the clouds that obscure our way,
One golden truth sheds its shining ray—our God is sovereign still.

***His holy purpose unchanging stands, the stars still turn at their Lord's commands;
He holds the world in his mighty hands—our God is sovereign still!***

Though wars may rise, and though kingdoms fall, though ills may threaten, and fears enthrall,
Our God still lives, and he hears our call—our God is sovereign still.

Though fierce the fight 'gainst the hosts of wrong, his Word is sure, and his arm is strong;
The day is his; raise his triumph song—our God is sovereign still.

When Christ shall come to receive his own, when his the kingdom, the pow'r, the throne,
Eternal King he shall reign alone—our God is sovereign still.

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

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Postlude