

The Lord's Day

June 28, 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...

There is a fiery abyss, with myriads of evil beings in it, malignant and horrible, and there is but a door between this world and that. Heaven is just as near; but heaven is above, and hell is beneath. Mortal man and his world lie between two mighty, opposite, spiritual spheres, both touching directly upon him, each operative to conform him to itself as he yields to one or the other, to be conjoined eventually to the society on high, or to companionship with devils and all evil beings beneath.

J.A. Seiss

Prelude

Mr. Frank Cimino

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

*Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1,2,6-8,10,11

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

*Hymn

A Mighty Fortress

Ein' Feste Burg

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; is rage we can endure,

For lo! His doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them abideth;
The spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

*Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading

Psalm 8

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise,
because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?
You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.
You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet:
all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the path of the seas.
O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth?

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:33-35,37-39

Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns?
Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.
Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Confession of Faith

Belgic Confession (1561) – Article 12

We believe that the Father, by the Word, that is, by His Son, created of nothing the heaven, the earth, and all creatures, as it seemed good unto Him, giving unto every creature its shape, form, and several offices to serve its Creator; that He does also still uphold and govern them by His eternal providence and infinite power for the service of mankind, to the end that man may serve His God.

He also created the angels good, to be his messengers and to serve His elect; some of whom are fallen from that excellency, in which God created them, into everlasting perdition; and the others have, by the grace of God, remained steadfast and continued in their primitive state. The devils and evil spirit are so depraved that they are enemies of God and very good thing, to the utmost of their power, as murderers watching to ruin the Church and every member thereof, and by their

wicked stratagems to destroy all; and are therefore, by their own wickedness, adjudged to eternal damnation, daily expecting their horrible torment.

*Hymn

Hallelujah!

Perseverance

What can separate my soul from the God who made me whole,
Wrote my name in heaven's scroll? Nothing. Hallelujah!

Trouble, hardship, danger, sword brought by those who hate my Lord?
Slander here? Or no reward? Nothing. Hallelujah!

Angels, demons, now or then? Wickedness dreamed up by men?
Persecutions come again? Nothing. Hallelujah!

Victors we're ordained to be by the God who set us free;
What can therefore conquer me? Nothing. Hallelujah!

We face death for God each day; what can pluck us from his way?
Let God's people ever say, "Nothing." Hallelujah!

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

We hear God Speak in Word and Sacrament

Text

Revelation 9:3-12 (ESV)

3 Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth. 4 They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. 5 They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone. 6 And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

7 In appearance the locusts were like horses prepared for battle: on their heads were what looked like crowns of gold; their faces were like human faces, 8 their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth; 9 they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the noise of their wings was like the noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle. 10 They have tails and stings like scorpions, and their power to hurt people for five months is in their tails. 11 They have as king over them the angel of [Abyss]. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek he is called Apollyon. 12 The first woe has passed; behold, two woes are still to come

Sermon

"Scorpions & Demons"

Pastor Ceselsky

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

We respond to God's Grace

*Hymn

O Church Arise

Getty

O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

*Benediction and Three-Fold Amen
Postlude

Danish

***Those who are able please stand.**

We Welcome and Thank Mr. Frank Cimino for playing the organ for us this morning.