

## *The Lord's Day*

November 15, 2020 at 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...*

*By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.* **Hebrews 11:11 (ESV)**

Prelude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

### **We praise our great God**

Call to Worship

Psalm 57:9-11 (ESV)

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth.

Hymn No. 76

*Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Lauda Anima

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;  
Praise him, still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless;  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes;  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space,  
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.

Invocation

**We embrace Christ our Savior**

Psalter Reading (**responsive**)

Psalm 28 (**ESV**)

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

**Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.**

Do not drag me off with the wicked, with the workers of evil, who speak peace with their neighbors while evil is in their hearts.

**Give to them according to their work and according to the evil of their deeds; give to them according to the work of their hands; render them their due reward.**

Because they do not regard the works of the LORD or the work of his hands, he will tear them down and build them up no more.

**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.**

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 9:6-8, 14-16 (**ESV**)

But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring . . . What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

Confession of Faith (**unison**)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 56

What do you believe concerning “the forgiveness of sins”?

**That God, for the sake of Christ’s satisfaction, will no more remember my sins, neither my corrupt nature, against which I have to struggle all my life long; but will graciously impute to me the righteousness of Christ, that I may never be condemned before the tribunal of God.**

Hymn

*Bought by the Blood*

Bryan Chapell  
Used by permission

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*

**We hear God speak**

Scripture Reading

Galatians 4:21-31 (ESV)

<sup>21</sup> Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup> For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup> But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup> Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup> Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup> But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup> For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;  
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!  
For the children of the desolate one will be more  
than those of the one who has a husband.”

<sup>28</sup> Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup> But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. <sup>30</sup> But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” <sup>31</sup> So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Sermon

“Who Is Your Mother?”

Pastor Bell

**We respond to God's grace**

Hymn No. 369

*Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns*

Truro

Shout for the blessed Jesus reigns; through distant lands his triumphs spread;  
And sinners, freed from endless pains, own him their Savior and their Head.

He calls his chosen from afar, they all at Zion's gates arrive;  
Those who were dead in sin before by sovereign grace are made alive.

Gentiles and Jews his laws obey; nations remote their offerings bring,  
And unconstrained their homage pay to their exalted God and King.

O may his holy church increase, his Word and Spirit still prevail,  
While angels celebrate his praise, and saints his growing glories hail.

Loud hallelujahs to the Lamb, from all below, and all above!  
In lofty songs exalt his name, in songs as lasting as his love.

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

Danish

Postlude

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**We Welcome and Thank** Mrs. Wendy Wickham for providing the music for us this morning.

**Our Thanksgiving offering** will go to the Mission to North America Mercy Ministries. There are brochures in the narthex that detail the various ways your special gifts will be used. Mark a pink envelope "Thanksgiving" or use the Thanksgiving envelope in your 2020 envelopes.

**The Nominating Committee** will begin its work soon. If you have any recommendations to make for the offices of Elder or Deacon, or to serve as a Deaconess, please write down the person's name and the position you are suggesting and put it in Pastor Ceselsky's mailbox on the first floor of the Education building. Pray for God to raise up the leaders of his choosing.

**You can still donate used ink cartridges.** Cartridges can be placed in the box in the kitchen or given to John or Julie Ceselsky.