

The Lord's Day

August 29, 2021 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...

*It is only when you look at this dark world through the lens of the existence, power, authority, wisdom, faithfulness, love, and grace of the King of kings and Lord of lords that you see reality with clarity. You cannot ever assess and understand what you are facing if you omit the fact of facts—the existence of God. **Paul David Tripp***

Prelude *Bless This House* Brahe
Dr. Kenneth Dean, Director of Music

Aisquith Life and Opportunities Pastor Ceselsky

We praise our great God

Call to Worship (**responsive**) 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. 172 *Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder* All Saints Old

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
He has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who brought us, pitied us when enemies,
Called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with his blood, he presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown:
He who washed us with his blood soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder, grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:
He who washed us with his blood has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;
Here they trusted him before us, now their praises fill the sky:
"You have washed us with your blood; you are worthy Lamb of God!"

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (**responsive**)

Psalms 27 (ESV)

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help.

Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in.

Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:35, 37-39 (ESV)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, 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 sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Confession of Faith (**unison**)

Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with His precious blood, hath fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto Him.

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

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

Offertory

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Miller
Jeffery Soule, Soloist

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Psalm 41 (ESV)

41 Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;
² the LORD protects him and keeps him alive;
he is called blessed in the land;
you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.
³ The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;
in his illness you restore him to full health.
⁴ As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal me, for I have sinned against you!"
⁵ My enemies say of me in malice,
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
⁶ And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,
while his heart gathers iniquity;
when he goes out, he tells it abroad.
⁷ All who hate me whisper together about me;
they imagine the worst for me.
⁸ They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;
he will not rise again from where he lies."

⁹ Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
¹⁰ But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,
and raise me up, that I may repay them!
¹¹ By this I know that you delight in me:
my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
¹² But you have upheld me because of my integrity,
and set me in your presence forever.
¹³ Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting!
Amen and Amen.

Sermon

“O Lord, Be Gracious to Me”

Pastor Bell

We respond to God’s grace

Hymn No. 5 (HMR)

Hallelujah!

Boice/Jones

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!

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

Danish

Postlude

I Love To Tell The Story

Fischer

SUNDAY SCHOOL will begin on September 12! Elder John Cicone will be teaching an adult class on the Gospel of Matthew using curriculum from the Rafiki Foundation. Gwen will be teaching the children also using curriculum from Rafiki.

Volunteers Needed to teach Sunday School for a couple of 5-year-olds and to help in the nursery. Please contact Pastor Ceselsky if you can help with either group.