

The Lord's Day

August 22, 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...

*Don't complain to someone else, cry out to God. He'll never turn a deaf ear to the cries of his people. **Paul David Tripp***

Prelude

Largo

Henri Eccles
Dr. Kenneth Dean, Director of Music

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Pastor Ceselsky

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. 4

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Mit Freuden Zart

All praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love, the God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul he fills, the God who every sorrow stills,
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r hath made his gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning dawn or evening shade his watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of his might, lo, all is just and all is right.
To God all praise and glory!

I cried to him in time of need: Lord God, O hear my calling!
For death he gave me life indeed and kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be; O thank him, thank our God with me.
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord forsaketh not his flock, his chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock, their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand he leads his own, his chosen band.

To God all praise and glory!

Ye who confess Christ's holy name, to God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim, to God give praise and glory!
All idols underfoot be trod, the Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!

Then come before his presence now and banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow and sing with joy and gladness;
Though great distress my soul befell, the Lord, my God, did all things well.
To God all praise and glory!

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (**responsive**)

Psalms 70 (ESV)

¹Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!
²**Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life!**
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt!
³**Let them turn back because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!"**
⁴May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
⁵But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

Confession of Faith (**unison**)

Westminster Confession of Faith, VIII.1

It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of His Church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom He did from all eternity give a people, to be His seed, and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Assurance of Pardon

Hebrews 9:11-14 (ESV)

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Hymn

Before the Throne

Bancroft/Cook
CCLI Lic. No. 944471

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands My name is written on His heart

I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart (2X).

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of my guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died My sinful soul is counted free
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me (2X).

Behold Him there the risen Lamb My perfect spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM The King of Glory and of Grace
One with Himself I cannot die My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God (2X)

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

Jesu, Word Of God Incarnate

W. A. Mozart

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Psalm 40 (ESV)

- ¹ I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- ² He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
- ³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.
- ⁴ Blessed is the man who makes
the LORD his trust,
who does not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after a lie!
- ⁵ You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you!
I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than can be told.
- ⁶ In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted,
but you have given me an open ear.

Burnt offering and sin offering
 you have not required.

⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I have come;
 in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸ I delight to do your will, O my God;
 your law is within my heart."

⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance
 in the great congregation;
 behold, I have not restrained my lips,
 as you know, O LORD.

¹⁰ I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;
 I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
 I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
 from the great congregation.

¹¹ As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain
 your mercy from me;
 your steadfast love and your faithfulness will
 ever preserve me!

¹² For evils have encompassed me
 beyond number;
 my iniquities have overtaken me,
 and I cannot see;
 they are more than the hairs of my head;
 my heart fails me.

¹³ Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me!
 O LORD, make haste to help me!

¹⁴ Let those be put to shame and disappointed altogether
 who seek to snatch away my life;
 let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
 who delight in my hurt!

¹⁵ Let those be appalled because of their shame
 who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"

¹⁶ But may all who seek you
 rejoice and be glad in you;
 may those who love your salvation
 say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

¹⁷ As for me, I am poor and needy,
 but the Lord takes thought for me.

Sermon

"Stuck in the Pit"

Pastor Bell

We respond to God's grace

Hymn No. 651

He Lifted Me

Gabriel

In loving-kindness Jesus came my soul in mercy to reclaim,
 and from the depths of sin and shame thro' grace he lifted me.

*From sinking sand he lifted me, with tender hand he lifted me,
from shades of night to plains of light, oh, praise his name, he lifted me!*

He called me long before I heard, before my sinful heart was stirred,
but when I took him at his word, forgiv'n he lifted me. [*Refrain*]

His brow was pierced with many a thorn, his hands by cruel nails were torn,
when from my guilt and grief, forlorn, in love he lifted me. [*Refrain*]

Now on a higher plane I dwell, and with my soul I know 'tis well;
yet how or why, I cannot tell, he should have lifted me. [*Refrain*]

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

Danish

Postlude

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

Bradbury

TODAY is the last day to make donations for school materials for the orphanage in Camichines, Mexico. Please give any donations directly to Pastor Ceselsky or Julie.

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.