

LORD'S DAY CORPORATE WORSHIP

September 13, 2020

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. —Psalm 29:2

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

▶ **CALL TO WORSHIP** **HABAKKUK 2:18-20**

What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it,
The molded image, a teacher of lies,
That the maker of its mold should trust in it,
To make mute idols?
Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!'
To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!'
Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,
Yet in it there is no breath at all.
But the Lord is in His holy temple.
Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

▶ **GLORIA PATRI** **735**

▶ **INVOCATION**

▶ **HYMN OF PRAISE** **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** **193**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of grace,

You have imputed my sin to my substitute,
and have imputed his righteousness to my soul,
clothing me with a bridegroom's robe,
decking me with jewels of holiness.

But in my Christian walk I am still in rags;
my best prayers are stained with sin;
my penitential tears are so much impurity;

I need to repent of my repentance;

I need my tears to be washed;

I have no robe to bring to cover my sins,
no loom on which to weave my own righteousness.

I am always going into the far country,
and always returning home as a prodigal,
always saying, "Father, forgive me,"
and you are always bringing forth the best robe.

Every morning let me wear it,
every evening return in it.

Grant that I would never lose sight of:
the exceeding sinfulness of sin,
the exceeding righteousness of salvation,
the exceeding glory of Christ,
the exceeding beauty of holiness,
the exceeding wonder of grace.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

EPHESIANS 1:3-6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly places in Christ,
just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,
having predestined us to adoption as sons
by Jesus Christ to Himself,
according to the good pleasure of His will,
to the praise of the glory of His grace,
by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

▶ **HYMN OF ASSURANCE** **Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me** **500**

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

The light of nature shows that there is a God,
 who hath lordship and sovereignty over all,
 is good, and doth good unto all,
 and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon,
 trusted in, and served,
 with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might.

But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God
 is instituted by Himself,
 and so limited by His own revealed will,
 that He may not be worshipped
 according to the imaginations and devices of men,
 or the suggestions of Satan,
 under any visible representation,
 or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture.

Religious worship

is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
 and to Him alone;
 not to angels, saints, or any other creature:
 and, since the fall,
 not without a Mediator;

nor in the mediation of any other but of Christ alone.

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

▶ DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
And make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no op'ning skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength and mind.
I see thy cross—there teach my heart to cling:
Oh let me seek thee, and oh let me find.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heav'n-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

SCRIPTURE

1 TIMOTHY 2:8-10

SERMON

"DESIRABLE WORSHIP"

Main Idea: We offer pleasing worship when outward signs of pure hearts are both present and sincere.

Introduction: Marriage: meaningful commitment or legal formality?

1. Worship God, Love Neighbor

2. Worship God, Humble Self

3. Worship God, Serve Neighbor

Conclusion: Acceptable worship, pleasing worship

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;
Give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
Teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
Grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ, they are thine own;
Come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
Help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
Use us to make the earth like heav'n above.

Take thou our will, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
Have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
Guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;
Guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord, mind, heart, and will;
Through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
We hear, and henceforth heed thy sov'reign call

▶ **BENEDICTION**

COVENANT REFORMED
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