

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 7, 2019

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.

Romans 8:38-39

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 23 (p. 791)

Hymn of Preparation*

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Hymn 92

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Our God and Father, we humble ourselves in your presence and acknowledge that we have sinned against you in countless ways. We come to you heavy-laden with feelings of guilt and shame, hesitant to approach your throne of grace.

All: Forgive us, we pray. Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sins.

Leader: Free us from both the penalty and power of sin, so that it will not be master over us, and strengthen us to live in holiness and righteousness to the glory of your holy name.

All: All glory, honor, and praise be to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 4:9-11

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Exodus 20:1-17; Romans 13:8-10

Congregational Response

“By Grace I Am an Heir of Heaven” Hymn 695

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 37. *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?*

A. The souls of believers are at their deaths made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves until the resurrection.

Q. 38. *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?*

A. At the resurrection, believers, being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the Day of Judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Tithes and Offerings

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Psalm 19

Congregational Response (Psalm 23) “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” Hymn 87

Pastoral Prayer (based on Psalm 39:4-6)

Sermon

“The Sun Stood Still”
Joshua 10:1-15

Pastor Ben Muresan

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

“It Is Well with My Soul” Hymn 691

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in One,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.

LORD’S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In Joshua 5:13-15, the Commander of the Lord’s army met Joshua and received worship from him. This indicates that the Person Joshua met was God, perhaps the pre-incarnate Christ. It is amazing to consider that the way God revealed himself to Joshua was as the leader of an army who would fight for his people. This is later clearly communicated in Joshua 10:14 where we read that the Lord fought against the pagan nations for his people.

While some might think that the description of God as a warrior in the Old Testament contradicts the “gentle-Jesus” of the New Testament, Jesus is in fact described as a warrior. In the book of Revelation, he appears with blazing eyes, a robe dipped in blood, and he is mounted on a white horse. He rules with a rod of iron and “treads the winepress of God’s wrath,” and his enemies are the beast, the false prophet, the kings of the earth, and their armies. We can rest in knowing that Christ is our King, who subdues us to himself, rules and defends us, and restrains and conquers all his and our enemies (Westminster Shorter Catechism Q/A 26).

1. For review, try to remember some of the application points from Joshua 9. Why did the Gibeonites deceive Israel? How did God use their sin and Israel’s failure for his glory?
2. Read Joshua 10:1-5. Why did Adoni-zedek rally the other kings against the Gibeonites? How does this connect with what Jesus says in John 15:18-27 about the opposition we face as Christians?
3. Read Joshua 10:6-11. How does Israel’s response to the Gibeonites’ appeal reveal God’s covenant faithfulness? How does understanding your covenant relationship with God give you comfort and assurance?
4. What details in Joshua 10:6-11 reveal how God fought for his people? How does this passage connect with Exodus 15:1-21 (Moses’ song after the Lord defeated Egypt)?
5. Read Joshua 10:12-15. Why do you think some people are skeptical about this miracle? B.B. Warfield (1851 - 1921), a well-known Presbyterian scholar, said that “Christianity is nothing other than unembarrassed supernaturalism.” Do you agree? Why or why not?
6. In preparation for next week, read Joshua 10:16 - 12:24. How do Genesis 15:16 and Joshua 11:20 help you understand God’s purpose in Israel’s conquering the Promised Land and devoting its inhabitants to destruction?

