

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 23, 2017

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received:
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.”

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 31:15-24 (p. 795)

Hymn of Preparation*

“God, My King, Thy Might Confessing” Hymn 5

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Almighty God and Father, we confess that we have walked in the counsel of the wicked and have sat in the seat of scoffers; our delight has not been in your perfect law.

All: We have followed the enticements of sin and deviated from the straight and narrow path because of the temptations of this world, the devil, and our flesh.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. In your mercy and grace, do not treat us as our sins deserve, but clothe us with all the treasures and benefits of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

All: All glory 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

Hebrews 7:23-25

“The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.”

* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 23

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

“One There Is...” Hymn 186

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 79. *Which is the Tenth Commandment?*

A. The Tenth Commandment is, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Q. 80. *What is required in the Tenth Commandment?*

A. The Tenth Commandment requires full contentment with our own condition, with a right and loving frame of spirit toward our neighbor, and all that is his.

Q. 81. *What is forbidden in the Tenth Commandment?*

A. The Tenth Commandment forbids all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Tithes and Offerings

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

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*** 1 Thessalonians 4
- Psalm of the Month** (based on Psalm 33:1-12) “You Righteous...” (verses 1-4) Hymn 43
- Pastoral Prayer** (based on Psalm 32)
- Sermon** “Jesus Was Crucified, Died, and Was Buried” Pastor Ben Muresan
Mark 15:40-47

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

- Hymn of Thanksgiving*** “There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood” Hymn 253
- Benediction***
- Congregational Benediction Response*** (Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])
Honor, glory, might, and merit, be to God and God alone!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One in Three and Three in One. Amen.

LORD’S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

When we recite the *Apostles’ Creed*, we confess that Jesus “was crucified, died, and was buried.” While the inclusion of the fact that he was buried might seem unimportant, it has great theological significance. Jesus’ burial is proof that he actually died and thereby suffered the final stage of the curse of sin. God warned our first parents that the wages of sin is death. Jesus was therefore buried to show that he fully bore this curse for us. As a result, for those who are in Christ, death has lost its sting (1 Corinthians 15:55). Though we grieve when beloved Christians die, we do not grieve as those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13). Charles Spurgeon wrote, “The grave—what is it? It is the bath in which the Christian puts on the clothes of his body to have them washed and cleansed. Death—what is it? It is the waiting room where we robe ourselves for immortality; it is the place where the body, like Esther, bathes itself in spices that it may be fit for the embrace of its Lord. Death is the gate of life; I will not fear to die, then.”

The reading is Romans 6.

Questions:

1. Read Mark 15:40-47. Why do you think it is significant that Mark records the names of the women who witnessed Jesus’ death and burial?
2. How is Joseph of Arimathea described in verse 43? What additional details do Matthew 27:57 and Luke 23:50-51 provide about him? Why do you think he believed only secretly “for fear of the Jews” (John 19:38)? What blessings do you think he forfeited by keeping his faith a secret?
3. Why was Jesus buried? What reasons were listed in the sermon? Were any of the reasons new to you?
4. How does the fact of Jesus’ burial console us in this life? Why should Christians not fear the grave?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 15 in preparation for next Lord’s Day. Why is the resurrection of Christ so important to our faith?