

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 30, 2017

Then Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands;
and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

John 20:27-28

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 32 (p. 795)

Hymn of Preparation*

“In Christ Alone” (printed on the last page)

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Our God and Father, we praise you for the loving kindness you have shown us in Jesus Christ. While we were still sinners, he died for us.

All: Forgive us, O Lord, for our many sins. We are guilty of pride and unbelief, of anger and lust. Our transgressions are ever before us, and they weigh heavy on our hearts.

Leader: Give us repentant hearts that understand the sinfulness of sin, but also the assurance of forgiveness. We thank you that our sins will not be counted against us, because they have all been laid upon Christ.

All: All praise to you, O God, for such wondrous grace! Grant that we, by your Spirit, will live daily unto you and will seek to glorify you in thought, word, and deed. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 8:31-34

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.”

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

“One There Is...” Hymn 186

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (p. 845)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology*

Hymn 732

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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*

Luke 24:1-35

Psalm of the Month (based on Psalm 33:1-12) “You Righteous...” (verses 1-4) Hymn 43

Pastoral Prayer (based on Romans 3:21-26)

Sermon “On the Third Day Jesus Rose Again from the Dead” Pastor Ben Muresan
Mark 16:1-18

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper “Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed” Hymn 254

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving* “Thine Be the Glory” Hymn 274

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

May the peace of God, our heav’nly Father,
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God, the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

REFRAIN

And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his communion,
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

LORD’S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

We read about many resurrection miracles in the Bible. In the Old Testament, for example, the prophet Elijah raised the widow of Zarephath’s son from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-24), and the prophet Elisha raised two people from the dead (2 Kings 4:8-17; 2 Kings 13:20-21). In the New Testament, the Lord Jesus raised many from the dead (Luke 7:11-17; Luke 8:52-56; John 11), as did the Apostles (Acts 9:36-43; Acts 20:7-12). These are all astounding miracles that reveal God’s power, but they pale in comparison to the glory of the final resurrection. The widow of Zarephath’s son died again, as did those raised by Elisha, and the Apostles. Their resurrections are merely pictures and promises for us of glorification, that moment when the order of salvation will be fully and finally completed in all of God’s people. On that day we will be raised never to die again. Like Christ, our mortal bodies will put on immortality, our perishable bodies will put on the imperishable, because death has been swallowed up in victory (1 Corinthians 15:53-54).

The reading is 1 Corinthians 15.

Questions:

1. Discuss 1 Corinthians 15. How would you summarize the chapter? What comparison does the Apostle Paul make in verse 22, and how does this comparison tie in to the Covenant of Works?
2. What do you think is the significance of the phrase “in accordance with the Scriptures” in verses 3-4?
3. Read Mark 16:1-8. Why did the women visit Jesus’ tomb? What were they expecting to find?
4. Why did the angel include the phrase “and Peter” in verse 7? What does this reveal about grace and the means Christ will use to build his church after his ascension?
5. Read and discuss *Westminster Confession of Faith* chapter 32. How does knowing that all Christians will be raised, by Christ’s Spirit, unto honor, and be made conformable to Christ’s own glorious body comfort you? How might you comfort other Christians with this doctrine?