

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 9, 2017

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Hebrews 12:1-2

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 30 (p. 794)

Hymn of Preparation*

“Mighty God, While Angels Bless You” Hymn 8

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, you are our eternal and merciful God. We acknowledge and confess before your divine majesty that we are poor, miserable sinners.

All: We have transgressed your holy commandments and deserve your righteous judgment. We know your Word and the obedience that you require; yet we have again disobeyed you.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. We are penitent and seek the grace that is found in Christ alone. Teach us to number our days properly and not to lean on our own understanding.

All: All praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 22

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

“One There Is...” Hymn 186

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 73. *Which is the Eighth Commandment?*

A. The Eighth Commandment is, “You shall not steal.”

Q. 74. *What is required in the Eighth Commandment?*

A. The Eighth Commandment requires that we utilize only lawful means in obtaining and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

Q. 75. *What is forbidden in the Eighth Commandment?*

A. The Eighth Commandment forbids whatever does, or may, unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor’s, wealth or outward estate.

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*

2 Corinthians 4

Psalm of the Month (based on Psalm 33:1-12)

“You Righteous...” (verses 1-4) Hymn 43

Pastoral Prayer (based on Ephesians 1:15-23 1:3-5)

Sermon

“Bearing Shame and Scoffing Rude,
In My Place Condemned He Stood”
Mark 15:21-32

Pastor Ben Muresan

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

“Man of Sorrows! What a Name” Hymn 246

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

The description of Jesus' crucifixion in Mark 15:21-32 is especially difficult to read as believers because of the pain that we know Jesus experienced. He is our Lord, the one whom we love above all, and yet he experienced such suffering. But as we read Mark's account, the emphasis is not just on the pain of the cross but also on the shame of it. Jesus is mocked from every direction. The Roman soldiers ridicule him (Mark 15:16-20), as do the crowds, the religious leaders, and the two thieves crucified with him (Mark 15:29-32). What we see here is that on the cross, Jesus not only bore the guilt of our sin, but also the shame of it. He endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2).

The reading is Philippians 3.

Questions:

1. Review Mark 14:32 – 15:37. What physical, emotional, and spiritual pains did Jesus experience during the final hours of his life?
2. How would you describe what shame is? Read Mark 15:21-32 and discuss the derision that Jesus received. How do these verses coincide with Psalm 22?
3. Why is it important for us to understand that Jesus bore both the guilt and shame of our sins on the cross? In what ways can shame both help and hinder us in the Christian life? How would you counsel a Christian who was struggling with the shame of their sins?
4. Read Luke 15:11-32. How does this parable illustrate that both the guilt and shame of our sins has been dealt with?
5. Read and discuss *Westminster Confession of Faith* chapter 12 (Of Adoption). In his book, *Knowing God*, J.I. Packer says adoption “is the highest privilege that the gospel offers.” Do you agree? Why or why not?