

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 20, 2017

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

**Titus 2:11-14**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

## Greeting and Blessing\*

## Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 34 (p. 796)

## Hymn of Preparation\*

“How Firm a Foundation” Hymn 94

## Congregational Confession of Sin

**Leader:** Our God and Father, we acknowledge that we have sinned against you and done what is evil in your sight.

**All:** Our sin is deeper than we know. Our thoughts, words, and deeds have brought us shame, and we are brought low because of our many sins and iniquities.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and remember our sins no more. Assure us of your steadfast covenant love that was sealed by the precious blood of our Savior and guaranteed by the sealing of your Holy Spirit in our lives.

**All:** Give us assurance of your gracious forgiveness and clothe us with the righteousness of Christ. All praise, honor, and glory be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Private Confession of Our Sins

## Assurance of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

\* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

# ADORATION AND PRAISE

## First Reading\*

Leviticus 10

## Congregational Response

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” Hymn 381

## Confession of Faith

*The Westminster Shorter Catechism*

**Q. 88.** *What are the outward means by which Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption?*

**A.** The outward and ordinary means by which Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption are his ordinances, especially the Word, sacraments, and prayer; all of which are made effectual to the elect for salvation.

**Q. 89.** *How is the Word made effectual to salvation?*

**A.** The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith to salvation.

**Q. 90.** *How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?*

**A.** That the Word may become effectual to salvation we must attend to it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love; lay it up in our hearts; and practice it in our lives.

## 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\***

Hebrews 2

**Congregational Response** (based on Psalm 97)

“Jehovah Reigns” Hymn 63

**Pastoral Prayer** (based on Romans 5:1-5)

**Sermon**

“Such a Great Salvation”  
Hebrews 2:1-4

Pastor Ben Muresan

## GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

**Hymn of Thanksgiving\***

“May the Mind of Christ My Savior” Hymn 644

**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

The instruction we receive in Hebrews 2:1 is that “we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard.” This means that we must put effort into knowing, understanding, and applying the truths of the gospel. It is through the gospel that we learn that Christ has delivered us from condemnation by bearing God’s wrath for his people. If we neglect the gospel and drift away from Christ, we are leaving the only way God has provided for salvation. To drift away from Christ is to drift toward the judgment that will come upon all those who reject the gospel.

### Questions:

1. Read Hebrews 1. How would you summarize this chapter? What does it teach about Christ?
2. Read the following “warning” passages in Hebrews: 2:1-4; 3:12 – 4:3; 4:14-16; 5:11 – 6:8; 10:32-39; 12:3-17; 25-29. What role do such passages serve for Christians?
3. Consider Hebrews 2:1. What are some ways you can “pay much closer attention” to what Scripture teaches?
4. What are some reasons that people drift away from Christ? Can you think of biblical examples?
5. Why does the author to the Hebrews describe our salvation as a “great salvation” in 2:3?
6. In what ways can you help others to not drift away from Christ?