

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 27, 2017

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8:16-17

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 36 (p. 797)

Hymn of Preparation*

“Not What My Hands Have Done” Hymn 461

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: O Lord our God, we confess that we have not obeyed your Word and have sinned against you and other people.

All: We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep, each of us going our own way rather than your way. We are truly sorry, and we repent of all our sins.

Leader: Unworthy as we are, we humble ourselves before you knowing that by the grace that is ours in Jesus Christ you will lift us up. Grant us your peace and strength to keep your Word and follow your way.

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, now and forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hebrews 4:14-16

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

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

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 8

Congregational Response

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” Hymn 381

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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*

Romans 8

Congregational Response (based on Psalm 97)

“Jehovah Reigns” Hymn 63

Pastoral Prayer (based on Isaiah 40:27-31)

Sermon

“Glory Now and Not Yet”
Hebrews 2:5-9

Pastor Ben Muresan

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” Hymn 264

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

“The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns” Hymn 298

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

As Christians we live in what some call the “already and not yet” period of redemptive history. We know that Christ is ruling and reigning over all creation. He has been crowned with glory and honor. Nothing has been left out of his control; everything is in subjection to him. This is the “already” of Christian hope. But there is also the “not yet” which involves the future final outworking of Christ’s dominion at his return. In this age we share in Christ’s risen life as we are united to him by faith, and we believe in a future resurrection that will be fully and finally realized in the age to come. Our hope in this future glory is not wishful thinking or a “fingers crossed” anticipation. It is firmly grounded in the finished work of Christ on our behalf and his now being crowned with glory and honor.

Questions:

1. Read Hebrews 2. How is Christ’s human nature described? Why do you think the author to the Hebrews emphasizes Christ’s true human nature in chapter 2 after having emphasized Christ’s divine nature in chapter 1?
2. Read Psalm 8 and Genesis 1:26-27. What role did God give man in creation? What are some of the ways man is unique among God’s creation?
3. Read Genesis 3:1-24. What happened to the glory, honor, and dominion originally given to man? How does Hebrews 2:5-9 explain the restoration of this dominion?
4. How does knowing and trusting in the “already” of our salvation strengthen and encourage us on a daily basis as we anticipate the “not yet” fullness of Christ’s Kingdom? Consider our reading from Romans 8 as you formulate your answer.