

Sunday, February 20, 2011
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM

Announcements and *Welcome!

- We welcome you to our service today! It is a blessing when God's people gather to worship Him in spirit and truth! We trust those visiting for the first time will sense our desire to follow a pattern of worship derived from God's word; the priorities of which are outlined in the major headings in this order of worship. We invite visitors to sign our Guest Book and to acquire resources regarding our church and mission.
- Each Sunday we participate in a sacrament instituted by Christ to express our communion with him, one another, and to remember Gospel truths. When coming to the Lord's Table, participants are stating that they are baptized believers and active members, in 'good standing,' with a creed confessing church acknowledging Christ alone as the savior of sinners. The sacraments teach us to "see & sense" the promises of Christ.
- We encourage "family worship." Families with young children who practice this at home are welcome to stay for the service. Above all, this time is set apart to focus attention upon God's attributes and actions! Please be sensitive to "distractions" by utilizing our "childcare room" which is staffed by volunteers each Sunday.
- May God be glorified and honored in all that we do in His name today!

Preparation for Worship with Prayer and Songs of Ascent

***Opening Hymn – Exalt The Lord, His Praise Proclaim! # 12**

Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim! All you His servants, praise His name,
Who in the Lord's house ever stand, and humbly serve at His command.
The Lord—is good—His praise—proclaim; since it is pleasant, praise His name.
His peo—ple for—His own—He takes, and His pe—culiar_ treasure makes.

I know the Lord is high in state; above all gods our Lord is great.
The Lord performs what He decrees, in heav'n & earth, in depths & seas.
He makes—the va—pors to—ascend, in clouds from earth's remotest end;
The light—nings flash—at His—command; He holds the tempest in His hand.

Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim! All you His servants, praise His name,
Who in the Lord's house ever stand, and humbly serve at His command.
Forev—er praise—and bless—His name, and in the church His praise proclaim.
In Zi—on is—His dwel—ling place; O praise the Lord, show forth His grace.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 68:34-35

Elder – Ascribe power to God, Whose majesty is over Israel, and Whose power is in the skies.

All – **Awesome is God from His sanctuary; the God of Israel—He is the one Who gives power and strength to His people. Blessed be God!**

***Confession and Cleansing**

Prayers of Adoration & Confession & Assurance of Pardon

We lift our prayers to You, O God, acknowledging the greatness of Your rule, and our desire to be numbered among Your people. We seek Your forgiveness because we have known the pains of spiritual famine and plague. We know the affliction of our own heart and so, we reach our hands to You. Do not count us as strangers to Your Kingdom; but renew our hearts by Your Word and Spirit. Restore to us the fear of Your great Name so that we might walk in Your presence all the days of our lives. Guide and protect us by Your truth, and ever be a shield about Your saints. Lord, we pray, have mercy.

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Song of Praise – Wonderful Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

See from his head, his hands, his feet; sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

**O the wonderful cross! O the wonderful cross!
Bids me come and die, and find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross! O the wonderful cross!
All who gather here, by grace draw near & bless Your name.**

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. [Refrain]

Consecration by the Word

Old Testament Law – Numbers 8:5 – 11

(The ceremony for the ordination for the Levites – priests who were to serve the Lord.)

Old Testament Prophet – 2 Kings 5:20 – 27

(After Elisha heals the Syrian, Namaan; Elisha's servant, Gehazi, steals items refused by the prophet.)

Reader – The words of the Lord. **Congregation** – Thanks be to God.

Psalm – 62:9 – 12

(Amazing Grace)

All lowborn men are but a breath, all high rank'd men a lie;
Together on the balances, they're lighter than a sigh.

Don't in extortion place your trust; for stolen goods—don't lust.
And though your riches may increase, on them, don't build your trust.

For God has spoken—twice I heard, "All pow'r is God's," you say.
And mercy, Lord, is Yours as well; men's works You will repay.

New Testament Gospel – Mark 2:1 – 11

(Jesus heals a paralytic, and by it, claims that he is able to forgive sins.)

New Testament Epistle – Romans 10:9 – 15

(The Gospel is confessed and believed unto salvation. The church is called to share this Good News!)

Reader – The words of the Lord. **Congregation** – Thanks be to God.

***Hymn – Father of Mercies, In Thy Word**

(Tallis Ordinal)

Father of mercies, in Thy Word, what endless glory shines!
Forever be Thy name adored, for lovely are these lines.

Here may the wretched sons of want, exhaustless riches find;
Riches above what earth can grant, and lasting for all time.

Here the fair tree of knowledge grows, and yields a harvest great.
And richer fruits than nature shows, invite eternal tastes.

Here the Redeemer's welcome voice, spreads heav'nly peace around
And life and everlasting joy are welcomed as a crown.

Sermon:

"Amazed!"

(Message by: Rev. Kent Moorlach; Text: Acts 8:9–25)

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Coming Together as the Church

Elder's Response & Affirmation of Faith – Heidelberg Catechism

Elder – (Q. 72) Does merely the outward washing with water itself wash away (sin)?

All – No; for only the blood of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit cleanse us from all sins.

Elder – (Q. 73) Then why does the Holy Spirit call baptism the water of rebirth and the washing away of sins?

All – God does not speak in this way except for a strong reason. Not only does He teach us by baptism that just as the dirt of the body is taken away by water, so our sins are removed by the blood and Spirit of Christ; but more important still, by the Divine pledge and sign, He wishes to assure us that we are just as truly washed from our sins spiritually, as our bodies are washed with water.

Elder – (Q. 74) Are infants also to be baptized?

All – Yes, because they, as well as their parents, are included in the covenant and belong to the people of God. Since both redemption from sin through the blood of Christ and the gift of faith from the Holy Spirit are promised to these children no less than to their parents, infants are also by baptism, as a sign of the covenant, to be included into the Christian church and distinguished from the children of unbelievers. This was done in the Old Covenant by circumcision. In the New Covenant, baptism has been instituted to take its place.

Offering

(Please pass the offering baskets through your section toward the back. If you have a special prayer request, please fill out a prayer card (available at the entry table) and place it in the offering basket. Thank you.)

Congregational Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Communion Through the Sacraments

***Song of Preparation**

(Old 100th)

We bring them, Lord, and see the sign, with cleansing water name them Thine;
Their souls with saving grace endow; baptize them with Thy Spirit now.

O Lord, Who by an infant's tongue, does hear Thy perfect glory sung,
May these, with all the heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sacrament of Baptism

(The presiding minister will give further direction for participation.)

Commissioning of the Church

***Closing Prayer, Gloia Patri, Benediction & 3-fold Amen**

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.

*Those who are able, please stand.

– CCLI #2831635

▯ Please join us after the service for refreshments followed by Sunday School classes ▯

▯ Prepare for each Sunday's Service by visiting our website "Worship Service" tab. ▯