

A LITURGY FOR WORSHIPING AT HOME

June 14, 2020

INVITATION

Psalm 126:1-3, 5

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad. Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

[*Quiet*]

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

SONG

"Reformation Song"

https://youtu.be/_jjCdKey4zq

1.

Your Word alone is solid ground,
The mighty rock on which we build
In every line the truth is found
And every page with glory filled

2.

Through faith alone we come to You
We have no merit we can claim
Sure that Your promises are true
We place our hope in Jesus' name

REFRAIN

Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone
Gloria, gloria, glory to God alone

3.

In Christ alone we're justified
His righteousness is all our plea

Your law's demands are satisfied
His perfect work has set us free

REFRAIN

4.
By grace alone we have been saved
All that we are has come from You
Hearts that were once by sin enslaved
Now by Your pow'r have been made new (x2)

REFRAIN (x2)

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles Creed and Heidelberg Catechism: Question 55*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator 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 to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to 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.

**that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places*

Q. What do you understand by “the communion of saints”?

A. First, that believers one and all, as members of this community, share in Christ and in all his treasures and gifts. Second, that each member should consider it a duty to use these gifts readily and joyfully for the service and enrichment of the other members.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Proverbs 28:13

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Written by Martin Bucer, Strasbourg, 1539

Almighty, everlasting God and Father, we confess and acknowledge to you that we were conceived in unrighteousness, and are full of sin and transgression in all our life, as those who do not perfectly believe your Word nor follow your holy commandments. We implore you, remember your goodness and for your name's sake be gracious to us and forgive us our wrongdoing, which indeed is great.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Peter 1:18-19

you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

SONG

“His Mercy Is More”

<https://youtu.be/uh1KDpg00x8>

1.

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

2

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

CHORUS

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn'
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

3

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

CHORUS (x2)

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PRAYING TOGETHER

- That the Lord will glorify Himself through the pandemic and draw many to saving faith in Christ; that His Church will be a faithful witness to the hope that is in us.
- That the Lord will end the pandemic and restore those with the virus to full health.
- That the Lord will protect those serving on the frontlines of the pandemic, particularly those in our CtK family: Val Gorman, Billy Hollingsworth, Carolyn Bush, Julie Calcote, and Carol Hollingsworth.
- For our African-American brothers and sisters, as they mourn and grieve the death of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd and for the fears and hurts the situation brings to the surface.

- That the Lord will bring peace, reconciliation, and justice to our city. That protests will be peaceful and lead to justice.
- We rejoice with the Pitts family and thank the Lord for His mercy at the good result of Eloise's scan.
- That the Lord will continue His healing and care for Sandy DeVries as she recovers from heart surgery, and that He will sustain both her and Jim during these days.
- That the Lord will watch over Karis Keating, and give Brad, Christy, and the doctors wisdom and peace as they care for her.
- That the Lord will continue to give strength to Wanda Williams as she cares for Horace, and that He will give them both rest and protection from the virus.
- That the Lord will bless Chad and Hanna Jackson (and their children), as they love and welcome Alida.
- That the Session and Restart Committee would have the Lord's wisdom and insight as they make arrangement for resuming worshiping in person.
- That the Lord will ground us in the hope of the Gospel, that we might not be fearful but rest in the love of Christ for us.

BIBLE SONG

Psalm 49

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF THE SONS OF KORAH.

Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
both low and high, rich and poor together!
My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.

Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of those who cheat me
surrounds me,
those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches?
Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life,
for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice,
that he should live on forever and never see the pit.

For he sees that even the wise die; the fool and the stupid alike must perish and leave
their wealth to others.
Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though
they called lands by their own names.
Man in his pomp will not remain; he is like the beasts that perish.

This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve
of their boasts. *Selah*
Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; death shall be their shepherd, and the
upright shall rule over them in the morning. Their form shall be consumed in Sheol,
with no place to dwell.
But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me. *Selah*

Be not afraid when a man becomes rich, when the glory of his house increases.
For when he dies he will carry nothing away; his glory will not go down after him.
For though, while he lives, he counts himself blessed —and though you get praise
when you do well for yourself—
his soul will go to the generation of his fathers, who will never again see light.
Man in his pomp yet without understanding is like the beasts that perish.

[*Quiet*]

BIBLE READING

Luke 16:1-14

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him.

THE SERMON

“The Hardest Parable”

Rev. Todd Gwennap

SONG

“Be Thou My Vision”

<https://youtu.be/clqdCXxqYvI>

1

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art

Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

2

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

3

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

4

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Verse 3 (again)

Verse 4 (again)

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BLESSING

2 Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.