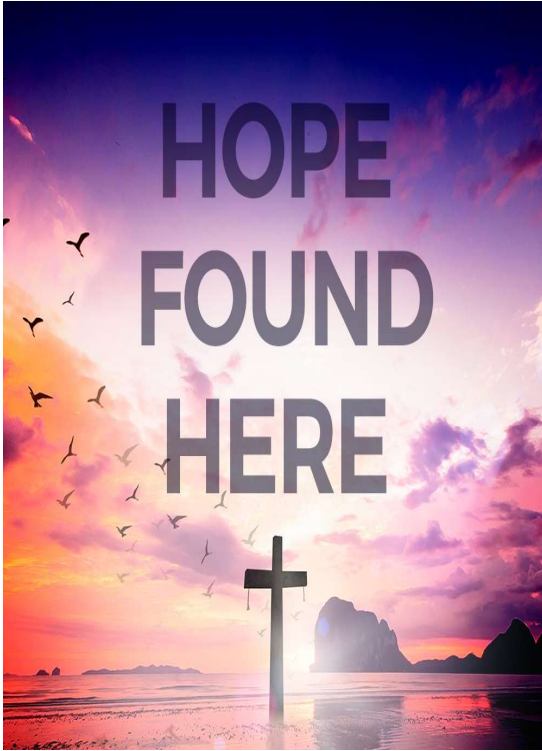


Sunday, April 26, 2020

Live in the Light of Eternity.



The covid-19 pandemic has led many people to stop and consider what is most important in life. What is it that makes one's life successful? A new car in the garage? A nice house? With a pool in the backyard? And a boat on a trailer in the drive way? Is success having free time to do whatever you want? Or an influential position? Those are things that define success in our world, and now people fear losing them. God says knowledge, power, or riches aren't worth bragging about. Success is knowing Jesus, His love, and the victory He gives you through faith in Him.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Almighty God, heavenly Father, You have called me to be your child and an heir of Your gracious promises in Christ Jesus. Give me, I pray, the guidance of Your Holy Spirit, that I may turn from loving anything before You. Grant that I seek to know Jesus, the joy of His resurrection, and the hope of heaven before all, and thereby pursue kindness, compassion, truth, justice, purity, and holiness. Amen.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

- 1 He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death's prison, the incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.**

- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.**

- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose,
And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His foes.
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.**

- 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.**

- 5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.**

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INVOCATION (Spoken Responsively)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSING OUR SINFULNESS

P As you begin this time of worship, it's important to start by removing the barrier of sin and disobedience that stands between you and your Heavenly Father. Confess your sins before God, those you feel guilt over, and those you haven't realized, and ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Confess your sins to God your Father.

C God of grace, I plead guilty to You of all my sins. I have fallen far short of Your righteous expectations of me. I have lived as if You did not matter and as if I mattered most. I have not loved other people as I love myself. I have sinned by what I have thought, said and done. I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace. I ask that You forgive me because Jesus died for my sin, and rose again in victory. I want to live for You. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

P God promises you that He *"shows His love to us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8). As you have admitted your sin and guilt before God, hear the sure and certain promise of our Lord Jesus: Yours sins are forgiven you, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"The Lamb"

LSB 547, vss. 2&5

**2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.**

**The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Risen and victorious Lord Jesus, lead us to love You and know You in our lives, that we value what You value, and love others as You have loved us. Amen.

ANTHEM *"Love Crucified, Arose"* by Michael Card

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *JEREMIAH 9:23-24*

What is a successful life in God's view?

"This is what the LORD says:

'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom
or the strong man boast of his strength
or the rich man boast of his riches,

but let him who boasts boast about this:
that he understands and knows Me”

R This is the Word of the Lord

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 CORINTHIANS 11: 21-30

Paul gave up his status for the treasure of following Jesus.

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. ²³Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. ²⁸And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? ³⁰If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness

R: This is the Word of the Lord

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 20:20-28 (NLT)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

Jesus Teaches about Serving Others

²⁰Then the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus with her sons. She knelt respectfully to ask a favor. ²¹"What is your request?" he asked.

She replied, "In your Kingdom, please let my two sons sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left."

²²But Jesus answered by saying to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink?"

"Oh yes," they replied, "we are able!"

²³Jesus told them, "You will indeed drink from my bitter cup. But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. My Father has prepared those places for the ones he has chosen."

²⁴When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. ²⁵But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. ²⁶But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. ²⁸For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

P: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord!

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kendis Bender, Director of Christian Education

SERMON *"DEFINITION OF A SUCCESSFUL LIFE"*

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG *"Knowing You"* Kendrick CCLI# 1045238
<https://www.worshiplyricvideos.com/videos-set-14>

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive

**those who trespass against us; and 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.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
And ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

LSB 525, vss. 3-5

- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.**
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,**

**Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

**5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.**

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POSTLUDE

Thanks to Joan Fortney, cellist and Bruce McGlothlin, camera & tech

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