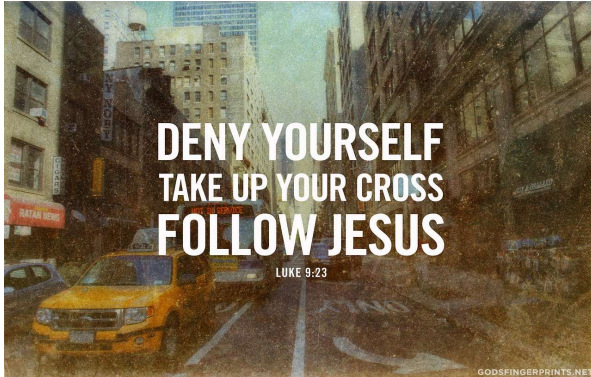


Sunday, May 17, 2020



Live in the Light of Eternity.

People are wondering whether they should wait and see what happens in our world, or do they jump back into life full steam ahead. The amount of energy and enthusiasm we give makes a huge difference in life! The problem is that you can give every bit of energy you have while living for yourself. God gave His

Son for you. Jesus asks you to follow Him by denying yourself, taking up your cross, and following Him. Are you playing the game of life giving 110% of yourself? Are you playing the game of your life with yourself as your focus, or God and the world?

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Heavenly Father, as I come to worship this day, forgive my sin of slowness to love others as myself, and my fear of sharing Your love. Renew me with stronger love for You and for the people around me. Since Your love, Lord Jesus, was not just in words, but in actions going to the cross for me, so may my love for others be shown in actions of love. Amen

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"* LSB 475, vss. 1,3,4

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Praise we in songs of victory

That love, that life which cannot die,

And sing with hearts uplifted high:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,

And sing today with one accord

The life laid down, the life restored:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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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 Trusting in our Lord's mercy, we confess our sins.

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

P Lord of heaven and earth,

C We humbly confess our sinfulness to You. O Lord, we have not lived as kingdom people. We allow hopelessness, fear, and

selfishness to rule our lives. We are governed by our schedules and our need for control. We make kings of the things we acquire and give our allegiance to our immediate desires. We deserve Your punishment now and eternally. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

P People of God, Jesus Christ has died for you, risen for you, and has ascended to His throne of glory for you. By the same almighty power with which He rules the universe, He assures you of complete and certain forgiveness. Go then, and live in joy under ✠ Christ your Savior and Almighty Gracious King.

C Amen.

PSALM OF PRAISE

PSALM 27: 1,3

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?
- ³ Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then will I be confident."

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB 465, vss. 3&4

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

**3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**4 Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord God, You make the minds of the faithful to be of one will.
Lead us to love what You command and desire what You promise, so
that, among the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where
true joys are found. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

C Amen.

✧ WORD ✧

FIRST LESSON

SCRIPTURE MOSAIC

"I Will Be With You"

Reader: Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." When the Lord saw that He had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of My people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the land of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached Me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt."

Pastor: But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt."

All: And God said, "I will be with you." And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

Reader: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above Him were the seraphs, and they were calling to one another. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe is me!" I cried. "I am ruined. For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

Pastor: "Who am I that I should go?"

All: And God said, "I will be with you."

Reader: Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Pastor: "Who am I that I should go?"

All: And God said, "I will be with you."

Reader: Then Jesus came and said to them, "All authority on heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Pastor: And still today, the cry goes up: "Who am I that I should go?"

All: And still today, God says, "I will be with you."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kendis Bender, Director of Christian Education

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 8: 34-37

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

[Jesus said] "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

R: This is the Gospel of our 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.

SONG *"Whom Shall I Fear?"* Tomlin/Cash/Cash CCLI 644028

SERMON *"CHOOSE YOUR MOVES"*

SONG *"God of this City"* CCLI 5037070

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

BLESSING

P: And still today, the cry goes up: "Who am I that I should go?"
And still today, God says, "I will be with you."

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. Amen.

HYMN

"On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"

LSB 492, vss. 1,3

- 1 On Christ's ascension I now build
The hope of my ascension;
This hope alone has always stilled
All doubt and apprehension;
For where the Head is, there as well
I know His members are to dwell
When Christ will come and call them.**
- 3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me,
Recalling Your ascension,
That I may serve You faithfully
In thanks for my redemption;
And then, when all my days will cease,
Let me depart in joy and peace
In answer to my pleading.**

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POSTLUDE