

The Order for the Worship of God
The Lord's Day
July 5, 2020
10:15 a.m.

Reflection

The gospel is so foolish according to my natural wisdom, so scandalous according to my conscience, and so incredible according to my timid heart, that it is a daily battle to believe the full scope of it as I should. There is simply no other way to compete with the forebodings of my conscience, the condemnings of my heart, and the lies of the world and the Devil than to overwhelm such things with daily rehearsings of the gospel.

Milton Vincent, *A Gospel Primer for Christians*

Spiritual change is more a consequence of what our hearts love than of what our hands do. The heart is the command center for every spiritual battle (Proverbs 4:23). Full and consistent apprehension of why we love God is the most effective piece of spiritual armor in the Christian arsenal, because the Devil always begins his attack with an alienation of our affections. Thus, our most powerful spiritual weapon is consistent praise of the mercy of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

Bryan Chapell, *Holiness by Grace*

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE WITH THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

The Welcome and Announcements — Derik Jenkins, ruling elder

The Passing of the Peace — We who once were far away from God have been brought near to him by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace. Therefore, let us welcome one another with the peace of Christ.

The Call to Worship God — from Ephesians 1 and Romans 11

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

All: **In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of God's grace. For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.**

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

John Newton, 1774

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's Name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.
He has washed us with His blood, he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord Who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
Called us by His grace, and taught us; gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with His blood, he presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation, threaten hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong Salvation, holds in view the conqueror's crown:
He Who washed us with His blood, soon will bring us home to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus, of the saints enthroned on high;
Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky:
"You have washed us with Your blood; you are worthy, Lamb of God!"

The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

WE CONFESS TOGETHER WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Heidelberg Catechism Question 60

Leader: Christian, how are you right with God?

All: Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift of God with a believing heart.

Not in Me

Words and Music by Eric Schumacher and David L. Ward

No list of sins I have not done
No list of virtues I pursue
No list of those I am not like
Can earn myself a place with you
O God! Be merciful to me
I am a sinner through and through —
My only hope of righteousness
Is not in me, but only you.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer
No lifted hands, no tearful song
No recitation of the truth
Can justify a single wrong.
My righteousness is Jesus' life.
My debt was paid by Jesus' death.
My weary load was borne by Him,
And He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world,
No work I do, no gift I give
Can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands
I cannot cause my soul to live.
But, Jesus died and rose again.
The pow'r of death is overthrown!
My God is merciful to me
And merciful in Christ alone.

My righteousness is Jesus' life
My debt was paid by Jesus' death
My weary load was borne by him,
And He alone can give me rest
And He alone can give me rest.

WE REPENT OF OUR SINS AND RECEIVE GOD'S MERCY

The Call to Confession — Jonah 2:7-9

“When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the LORD!”

Leader: Like Jonah, let us come boldly to the God of all grace to confess our sins and receive his mercy.

The Public Confession of Sin — from Psalm 25

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies triumph over me. Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my rebellious ways; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Who is the one who fears the LORD? You will instruct him in the way that he should choose. His soul will abide in well-being, and his offspring will inherit the land. The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant. Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

Silent Prayers of Confession

The Promise of Forgiveness in Jesus Christ — Romans 5:6-9

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Leader: Hear and believe and rejoice in the good news of the gospel: Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

Robert Lowry, 1876

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

O precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone —
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done —
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace —
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness —
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK IN HIS WORD

The Sermon
“The Downcast Soul’s Catechism”
Psalm 42:1-11
Rev. Peter Stonecipher

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? ³My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?” ⁴These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival.

⁵Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation ⁶and my God. ⁷Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me. ⁸By day the LORD commands his steadfast love and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. ⁹I say to God, my rock: “Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?” ¹⁰As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?”

¹¹Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Sermon Notes

I. Introduction (Psalm 42:1-11)

II. When Our Souls are Far from Worshiping God (Psalm 42:1-2, 4, 6-8)

III. When Our Souls are Questioned by God's Enemies (Psalm 42:3, 9-10)

IV. The Downcast Soul's Catechism (Psalm 42:5, 11)

Questions for personal reflection and family discussion

1. In your own life, how have you experienced the truth that distance from God's people leads to feelings of distance from God himself?
2. What Scripture passages most remind you that God has drawn near to his people in Christ?
3. While many enemies of God won't blatantly ask, "Where is your God?", what questions have you heard from others which amount to the same thing?
4. How does God's Word instruct you to respond to the question, "Where is your God?"
5. How can you prepare yourself to encourage your own soul in the midst of distance from God or oppression from enemies? How can you encourage the souls of others?

The Prayers of God's People

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL OF GRACE WITH SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

Worshiping God through Our Financial Giving — Because God has lavished us with his generosity in the giving of His Son, Jesus Christ, we give our money joyfully, generously, and sacrificially for the extension of his kingdom in our city and around the world.

You may give online at our website (www.stpetepca.org) or by mailing your check to the church office, 600 83rd Ave NE St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

Cornerstone

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My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name!

(Chorus)

Christ alone; Cornerstone!
Weak made strong; in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord!
Lord of all!

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil!
My anchor holds within the veil! (Chorus)

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. (Chorus)

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

The Benediction — Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Dismissal — Having been renewed and strengthened by the glorious hope we have in Jesus Christ, let us live in this hope and share it with others.

All: Thanks be to God

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Missionary of the Month

Our missionary prayer focus for the month for July is The Next STEPP Center in Midtown, which provides life-affirming solutions to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies. Pray for Carole Alexander, CEO, her staff and The Next STEPP board as they promote a culture of life in our community.

In-Person Worship Resuming Next Sunday, July 12

By God’s grace, we will gather again in the sanctuary for corporate worship next Sunday, July 12 at 10:15 a.m. An email with more information about this will be sent this week. For those not able to gather in person, we will continue to livestream the worship service on our church’s Facebook page.

Year-to-Date Financial Information through June 30 , 2020			
<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>Faith Promise Missions</u> (from April 1, 2020)
\$176,154	\$132,689	\$257,498	\$20,495

One Year Community Bible Reading Calendar

Monday, July 6	2 Chronicles 33-35	Romans 11
Tuesday, July 7	2 Chronicles 36; Ezra 1-2	Romans 12
Wednesday, July 8	Ezra 3-5	Romans 13
Thursday, July 9	Ezra 6-8	Romans 14
Friday, July 10	Ezra 9-10; Nehemiah 1	Romans 15
Saturday, July 11	Psalms 82-84	

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Elders (The Session)	David Harding Derik Jenkins Chad Martin	727-434-9048 727-452-8715 727-744-8704
Deacons (The Diaconate)	Bob Berry Mike Eldridge Dave Shadle	407-920-7412 727-515-9560 610-217-8718
Administrative Assistant	Michele Hurm	727-329-6346
Children and Youth	Derik Jenkins	727-452-8715
Community Groups	David Massey	727-644-8679
Facilities	Mike Eldridge	727-515-9560
Homeless Outreach	Kyle Krueger	727-364-7355
Hospitality	Barbara Burkham	727-579-4220
Men's Ministry	David Harding	727-434-9048
Mercy Ministry	Dave Shadle	610-217-8718
Missions	Bob Berry	407-920-7412
Music	Donna Grabill	727-415-3735
Safety	Mike Eldridge	727-515-9560
Ushers/Greeters	Mike Eldridge	727-515-9560
Women's Ministry	Mary Vellenga	727-482-6435

SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES & AGENCIES

Esaie and Natacha Etienne	Mission to the World	Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Susan Newkirk	Mission to the World	Cape Town, S. Africa
David and Erin Pervis	Mission to the World	Athens, Greece
Bill and Pam Schweitzer	Mission to the World	Gateshead, England
Marcelo and Claudia Carvalho	WEC Brazil	Amazon, Brazil
Ravi and Renuka Chary	Presbyterian Church India (PCI)	Telangana, India
Christina Schrader	Wycliffe Bible Translators	Benin/Togo, Africa
Andrew and Meghan Newman	Reformed University Fellowship	USF, Tampa
New Hearts Outreach		Tampa
New Life Solutions Pregnancy Center		St. Petersburg
Next STEPP Center		St. Petersburg

