

Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday, August 8, 2021

10:30am

***Bold text** indicates where the congregation joins in unison.*

** indicates where the congregation may stand as they are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

Let us hear what the Lord will speak.

God will speak peace to the faithful.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Happy are those who trust in God.

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,

The conviction of things not seen.

***Opening Prayer** (unison)

Grant us, O Lord, the grace always to do and think what accords with your purpose; that we, who cannot exist without you, may be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn #470**

O Day of Radiant Gladness

Invitation to Confession

Let us confess our sins to the One who hears our voice and is deeply moved by our distress.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of peace, we have rejected your redemption and forged our own way. We hang between heaven and earth, caught up in our own folly. We have held fast to falsehood, deceiving others and ourselves. We have sinned against you and done violence to others. Bitterness and wrath, anger and wrangling, slander and malice consume us. Evil runs rampant in our hearts. If you, O Lord, should mark our iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you so that you may be revered. Our soul waits in hope for your word to redeem us so that we may begin anew, a new day with you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

People of God, hope in the Lord! God in Christ has forgiven us! God has redeemed us from all our iniquities through Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us as living bread for the life of the world. Hear this good news: in Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

#579

***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.***

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and reconciliation with one another.

Prayer of Illumination (unison)

God of daybreak, our souls wait for your light more than those who watch for the morning. Let your Holy Spirit illumine our hearts with the light of your redemption, a new day, a new life in Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Philemon 1

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

One thing more—prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Sermon

“Koinonia”

Pastor Christina

Final in a series, “Philemon: Reconciliation in Christ”

***Hymn #316**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Prayers of Intercession

We wait for you Lord, **in your word we hope.**

The 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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory forever. Amen.

Morning Offering

***Doxology**

#592

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world, Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

***Hymn #343**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

***Benediction and Sending**

Prayers for at Home This Week

Morning Household Prayer

God of the morning watches, my soul waits for you, and I hope in your word. Bread of life, nourish, strengthen, and accompany me throughout this day, that I may labor honestly, share with the needy, and imitate your love. Amen.

Evening Household Prayer

God of peace, I have struggled through the battle of life this day. If you should mark my iniquities, how can I stand? But there is forgiveness with you. Let your steadfast love cleanse, comfort, and keep me throughout this night. Amen.