

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 116:12-13* – What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits toward me? I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 23 (page 20)

Q. What good does it do you, however, to believe all this?

A. In Christ I am right with God and heir to life everlasting.

Q. How are you right with God?

A. 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.

Q. Why do you say that by faith alone you are right with God?

A. It is not because of any value my faith has that God is pleased with me. Only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness make me right with God. And I can receive this righteousness and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 318 *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

***Collect of the Day (unison):** Almighty God, You have revealed to us the mystery of the Trinity and given us faith to confess our faith in Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that through Christ we have been forgiven and reconciled to You and restored to fellowship with You and that we now partake of Your love. May Your Spirit so fill us that Your love would spread through each of us within the

Church. Gain great glory to Yourself through our submission to Your plans for us. We pray through our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*

⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.

¹⁰ For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.

***Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 3:1-10* (page 1049)

***Gospel Lesson:** *John 13:35* – By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

Children's Sermon

Sermon: 1 Thessalonians 3:6-10

***Hymn of Preparation:** *"He Will Keep You"* (back of bulletin)

Reading of the Law: *Exodus 20:1-17* (page 68)

Call to Confession: *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* – Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Prayer of Confession: Father we are a sinful people. In our pride we try to justify ourselves. In our weakness we stumble in our faith and fail to believe that Jesus alone is our hope of salvation. Our rebellious nature shows in that we fail to live each day clinging to Jesus for grace to carry out our duty and to grow in our love for You and each other. Instead we imagine our religion will accommodate us just the way we are so we have not been careful to imitate Jesus or to make war on sin. We have lost sight of Your holiness. Have mercy on us and cleanse us. Teach us true dependence on Jesus and forgive us our many sins. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Agnus Dei:

Women & Children: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Men: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

All: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us your peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 103:10-13 – He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri: 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.

Holy Communion

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (unison): Our Father, which 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 the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Offertory Response:** Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn of Response:** 466 *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

***Benediction**