

## *Christ Church*

### **Prelude**

### **Moments of Concern**

**Call to Worship:** *Psalm 13:1, 5, 6* – How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

**Heidelberg Catechism:** Lord's Day 34 (pages 27-29)

*Q. What does the Lord say in His law?*

A. God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.

Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

*Q. How are these commandments divided?*

A. Into two tables. The first has four commandments, teaching us what our relation to God should be. The second has six commandments, teaching us what we owe our neighbor.

*Q. What does the Lord require in the first commandment?*

A. That I, not wanting to endanger my very salvation, avoid and shun all idolatry, magic, superstitious rites, and prayer to saints or to other creatures. That I sincerely acknowledge the only true God, trust Him alone, look to Him for every good thing humbly and patiently, love Him, fear Him, and honor Him with all my heart. In short, that I give up anything rather than go against His will in any way.

*Q. What is idolatry?*

A. Idolatry is having or inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed Himself in His Word.

**\*Hymn of Adoration:** 21 *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

**Call to Confession:** *Psalm 143:7-8* – Answer me speedily, O LORD; my spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.

**Prayer of Confession:** Almighty and most merciful Father, we confess that we have loved idols in that we have trusted in things other than You for salvation or satisfaction in life. We have not loved, feared or honored You with our whole heart. When our faith in You as the only true God has been tested, we have failed and our loyalties have been divided. In fact, we have broken all ten of your commandments through our thoughts and words and actions. Forgive us and renew us in the image of our Savior Jesus. We pray in His Name. Amen.

**Have Mercy:**

Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

Oh, help my unbelief. Oh, help my unbelief.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

**Assurance of Pardon:** God sent a reply to Josiah, the repenting king of Judah which said, "because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words . . . and you tore your clothes and wept before Me, I also have heard you." (excerpted from 2 Chronicles 34:26-27)

**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.

**Collect of the Day (unison):** Almighty and merciful God, there are many dangers in which we can become entangled in this life which would keep us from Your mercy or even invite Your judgment. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit so that we might live holy lives and neither join in committing evil nor allow evil committed against us to keep us from serving, loving and enjoying You. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Old Testament Lesson:** *Deuteronomy 22:22-24* (page 179)

**\*Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 4:1-8* (pages 1049-1050)

**\*Gospel Lesson:** *John 8:1-12* (page 947)

**Missions Moment****Children's Sermon**

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** *"Better Is One Day"* (back of bulletin)

**Sermon:** *1 Thessalonians 4:3b-8*

**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:** *"How Deep the Father's Love for Us"* (PB #33)

**\*Benediction****\*Threefold Amen****\*Postlude**