

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 32:10-11* – Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; But he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 42 (page 32)

Q. What does God forbid in the eighth commandment?

A. He forbids not only outright theft and robbery, punishable by law. But in God's sight theft also includes cheating and swindling our neighbor by schemes made to appear legitimate, such as: inaccurate measurements of weight, size, or volume; fraudulent merchandising; counterfeit money; excessive interest; or any other means forbidden by God. In addition He forbids all greed and pointless squandering of His gifts.

Q. What does God require of you in this commandment?

A. That I do whatever I can for my neighbor's good, that I treat him as I would like others to treat me, and that I work faithfully so that I may share with those in need.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 352 *"Blessed Be the Name"*

Call to Confession: *James 4:8-10* – Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, we confess to You that we have not kept the eighth commandment properly. We have taken goods, money, time or recognition that does not belong to us. We have failed to truly love our neighbor as Jesus has loved us, diligently giving freely and cheerfully of ourselves to share with those in need. We have foolishly squandered gifts You have given. Our hearts are not free of greed. Yet we know and trust the generosity of Jesus, who though He

was rich, yet for our sakes became poor that we might share in His glorious riches. For His sake then, take away our guilt and grant us grace to walk in the same righteous ways as our Savior. We pray in Jesus' 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: *Isaiah 55:6-7* – Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

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): Lord, thank You for our church family.

Teach us to so cherish each other that we would work hard to preserve unity and to encourage each other toward maturity. May the peace Jesus purchased for us be evident in our lives together. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Proverbs 19:11; 25:21* – The discretion of a man makes him slow to anger, and his glory is to overlook a transgression...If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.

***Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 5:12-15*

¹² And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

¹³ and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

¹⁵ See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

***Gospel Lesson:** *Matthew 5:38-42; 18:21-22*

L: “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’

C: But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

L: If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have *your* cloak also.

C: And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

L: Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

C: Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

L: Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Missions Moment

Children’s Sermon

***Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalms 46* (back of bulletin)

Sermon: *1 Thessalonians 5:14-15*

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 Fathers Love for Us*” (PB #33)

***Benediction**

***Threefold Amen**

***Postlude**