

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 55:17* – Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 44 (page 33)

Q. What is God's will for us in the tenth commandment?

A. That not even the slightest thought or desire contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in my heart. Rather, with all my heart I should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.

Q. But can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly?

A. No. In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience. Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose, they do begin to live according to all, not only some, of God's commandments.

Q. No one in this life can obey the Ten Commandments perfectly: why then does God want them preached so pointedly?

A. First, so that the longer we live the more we may come to know our sinfulness and the more eagerly look to Christ for forgiveness of sins and righteousness. Second, so that, while praying to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit, we may never stop striving to be renewed more and more after God's image, until after this life we reach our goal: perfection.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 370 *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

Call to Confession: *Psalm 79:8-9* – Oh, do not remember former iniquities against us! Let Your tender mercies come speedily to meet us, for we have been brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; and deliver us, and provide atonement for our sins, for Your name's sake!

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, we confess that according to the nature we received at birth, we are prone to resist Your will, and our desires run contrary to Your commands. Instead of hating sin we

have loved it. Instead of shunning sin we have welcomed it. We have not been striving as we should with all seriousness to be holy and to be renewed after God's image. Forgive us and show us mercy for the sake of Christ whose blood was shed to make us partakers of His nature. Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us so that we might imitate Jesus with greater accuracy and passion daily. Purify our desires. We also confess we have not been faithful to worship You by yielding to You in prayer as we should. We pray in the Name of our Holy Savior. 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, give us grace to keep in communion and fellowship constantly with You. As our enemy, the devil, is constantly looking to destroy Your church, may we be given over to regular, routine, persistent prayer that we might be protected and blessed as we find shelter in You. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Isaiah 43:22* – "But you have not called upon Me, O Jacob; and you have been weary of Me, O Israel."

***Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 5:12-17*

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.

¹⁶ Rejoice always,

¹⁷ pray without ceasing.

***Gospel Lesson:** *Luke 21:34-36*

³⁴ “But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly.

³⁵ For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

³⁶ Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Children’s Sermon

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

Sermon: *1 Thessalonians 5:17*

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:** 458 *“Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated”*

***Benediction**

***Threefold Amen**

***Postlude**