

**Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church**  
**Order Of Worship**  
**May 17, 2020**  
**Liturgist and Sermon: Dennis Louis | Lead Musician: Scott Finch**

**Meditation: Hebrews 11:13**

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”

**Call to Worship: Psalm 26:1-3**

“Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering. Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind. For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.”

**Opening Hymn & Doxology: 168 | *Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art***

1. I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art, My only Trust and Savior of my heart,  
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake; I pray Thee, from our hearts all cares to take.
2. Thou art the King of mercy and of grace, Reigning omnipotent in every place;  
So come, O King, and our whole being sway; Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.
3. Thou art the life by which alone we live And all our substance and our strength receive;  
O comfort us in death's approaching hour, stronghearted then to face it by thy pow'r.
4. Thou has the true and perfect gentleness, no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:  
Make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee and ever stay in thy sweet unity.
5. Our hope is in no other save in Thee; Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;  
Lord, give us peace and make us calm and sure, That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

**Pastoral Prayer Followed by 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 the glory, for ever. Amen.

**Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon**

L: Our Father, we have forsaken our first love and have acted as those who are afraid to suffer for your sake, or simply to endure loss for your glory. This is because we have not held to the teachings we have heard from your Word from the beginning.

ALL: We have tolerated sin in our hearts, in our families, and in our culture without lasting repentance. We have been asleep in the light and have felt lukewarm. Eclipse our dim wits by your shining grace and enliven us by your holiness.

L: Confront us once again with your love as revealed in Christ and testified by You, Holy Spirit. We need your forgiveness and mercy—the grace that flows from the throne of God like a gushing river.

ALL: Cause us to respond in a manner similar to the four living creatures, the martyrs, and the great congregation of angels and saints gathered in heaven. Make us to serve you with gladness, faithful until we reach the glory that awaits us.

L: We pray in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (time for silent confession)

L: Hear the assurance of pardon as recorded in Psalm 103: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

ALL: We praise our Triune God for this indescribable gift!

**Song Preparation: *Come to Jesus***

1. Weak and wounded sinner, lost and left to die, O, raise your head, for love is passing by  
Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus and live! (repeat)

2. Now your burden's lifted and carried far away. And precious blood has washed away the stain, so  
Sing to Jesus, Sing to Jesus, Sing to Jesus and live! (repeat)

3. And like a newborn baby who's afraid to crawl, remember when you walk you often fall  
Fall on Jesus, Fall on Jesus, Fall on Jesus and live! (repeat)

4. And when the way is lonely, steep and filled with pain, and when your sky is dark and pours the rain  
Cry to Jesus, Cry to Jesus, Cry to Jesus and live! (repeat)

5. And when His love spills over, and music fills the night, and when you can't contain your joy inside  
Dance for Jesus, Dance for Jesus, Dance for Jesus and live! (repeat)

6. And with your final heartbeat, kiss this world goodbye, then go in peace, and laugh on Glory's side,  
and Fly to Jesus Fly to Jesus, Fly to Jesus and live! (3x)

**Word: 1 John 3:11-24**

“For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder

him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us."

**Homily: "Love as a Means of Assurance"**

**The Sending Hymn: 693 | *Blessed Assurance***

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story; this is my song: praising my Saviour all the day long;  
this is my story; this is my song: praising my Saviour all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Refrain)

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Saviour am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (Refrain)

**Benediction: Colossians 2:2-3**

[Let your] hearts be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge... so that all the peoples will say...

ALL: Amen. Our LORD is faithful. Praise the LORD!