

Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church
Order Of Worship
October 18, 2020

Liturgist: Rob Chaplin | Sermon: Rev. Dennis Louis | Lead Musician: Scott Finch

Meditation: Psalm 68:1-10

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him! As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God! But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the Lord; exult before him! Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land. O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel. Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Call to Worship: Psalm 68:19-20, 24

L: Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.

ALL: Our God is a God of salvation, and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

L: Your procession is seen, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary—the singers in front, the musicians last, between them virgins playing tambourines:

ALL: “Bless God in the great congregation, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain!”

L: This is the Word of the LORD

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing | 457

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love:
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon Based on Belgic Confessions, 24.1

L: Holy Father, we have resisted your Spirit's leading in our lives and have not flourished as new creatures in Christ Jesus.

ALL: Though you have given us the gift of faith and have justified us by your Son's life, death, and resurrection, we have spent the wealth of your heavenly riches on self-love, self-gratification, and self-delusion.

L: We have been motivated often by the fear of condemnation rather than the joy of fellowship with you.

ALL: We have grown callous as we hear your Word. So much so that good fruit like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control is frequently choked out in our lives.

L: Rescue us from vanity and give us passion to pursue holiness by faith. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

(time of silent confession)

L: Hear the Word of the LORD from Isaiah 53:5...."But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed." Sinner, you are a child of the King and have an intercessor in heaven who identifies with your weakness.

Song of Preparation: Before the Throne of God Above

1. Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest, whose name is love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there, who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the just, is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

3. Behold him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM, the king of glory and of grace!
One with himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Sermon: "The Work of the Holy Spirit in Prayer"

Word: John 17:1-26

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, **2** since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. **3** And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. **4** I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. **5** And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

6 I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. **7** Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. **8** For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. **9** I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. **10** All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. **11** And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. **12** While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. **13** But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. **14** I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. **15** I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. **17** Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. **18** As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. **19** And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

20 I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **21** that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **22** The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, **23** I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. **24** Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. **25** O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. **26** I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Questions for Further Discussion and Prayer

1. Read the following Psalms of Intercession: Psalm 20, 71, and Psalm 116. In what ways are these Psalms of Intercession similar to Jesus' prayer of intercession in John 17?
2. Jesus speaks a great deal about glorification in John 17:1-5. How will the Father glorify the Son and the Son glorify the Father in the final hour? How did the Son glorify the Father on earth?
3. Jesus said that he manifested the father's name to the people (vs. 6, cf. vs. 26), he asked the Father to keep his disciples by his name (vs. 11), and he (Jesus) kept the disciples in the Father's name (vs. 12). How did Jesus manifest the Father's name, how does the Father keep us by his name, and how did Jesus keep the disciples by the father's name?
4. In John 17:9, Jesus says that he is only praying for believers not those in the world (unbelievers). Why is Jesus only praying for believers in this prayer? Does this mean that we should not be praying for unbelievers? Are there examples in the Bible of Jesus or his disciples praying for unbelievers.
5. Jesus requested that the Father not take his disciples out of the world (John 17:16). Why would Jesus leave his disciples in a world where they are hated (vs. 14)? Read 1 Cor. 5:9-10 and Matt. 28:18-20 for further thoughts.
6. Jesus prays for unity (vs. 11) and truth (vs. 17) among his disciples. In light of current societal events, why are these two themes so important?
7. If we assume that the Father will answer all of Jesus' prayer requests, what parts of Jesus' prayer have been answered already and what parts are still left to be answered?
8. We live in a world that is sometimes hostile to the Christian practice of intercessory prayer. How would you respond to someone who says, "thoughts and prayers are useless?"

Intercessory 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.

Song of Approach: Spirit of the Living God | 726

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. *Repeat*

Communion

Sending Hymn: Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting | 188

1. Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon thee, as thy beauty fills my soul,
for by thy transforming power, thou hast made me whole.

Refrain: Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of thy loving heart.

2. O how great thy loving kindness, vaster, broader than the sea!
O how marvelous thy goodness lavished all on me!
Yes, I rest in thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is thine,
know thy certainty of promise and have made it mine. (Refrain)

3. Simply trusting thee, Lord Jesus, I behold thee as thou art,
and thy love, so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart;
satisfies its deepest longings, meets, supplies its every need,
compasseth me round with blessings: thine is love indeed. (Refrain)

4. Ever lift thy face upon me as I work and wait for thee;
resting 'neath thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth's dark shadows flee.
Brightness of my Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face,
keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with thy grace. (Refrain)

Benediction: Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.....so that all the peoples will say...

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

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