

Sunday Covenant Renewal Worship

March 22, 2020

Prayer for Silent Meditation

We encourage you to use the moments preceding the commencement of holy worship in quiet meditation and preparation. Toward that end we offer the prayer below as food for thought.

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

St. Richard of Chichester, AD 1198-1253

* Fourth Sunday in Lent

Scripture Reading: John 5:27-40

Prayer:

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, 1976

* Apostolic Salutation

** Congregation Standing*

Minister: *The Lord be with your spirit.*

People: *And grace be with you.*

* Call to Worship

Psalm 73, #811-12

* Hymn

A Mighty Fortress is Our God, #92

* The Law of God

Deuteronomy 4:1-8

Prayer of Confession

Kneel (as able)

Almighty and merciful God, the fountain of all goodness, who knows the thoughts of our hearts: We confess that we have sinned against you and done evil in your sight. Wash us, we ask you, from the stains of our past sins and give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things that, being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth fruits worthy of repentance and at last enter into your promised joy.

Through the mercy of your blessed Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. *Alcuin, AD 732-804*

* Assurance of Pardon

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

Micah 7:18

Minister: *Herein is the pardon of the Savior.*

People: *Thanks be to You, O Lord.*

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

* Hymn

Am I a Soldier of the Cross? #573

* Hymn

God, the Lord, a King Remaineth, #64

* The Word of God

Old Testament Lesson *1 Chronicles 11:4-9*

New Testament Lesson *Revelation 22:1-5*

Minister: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

People: *Thanks be to You, O God.*

* Gloria Patri

#735

Prayer for the Sermon

O most merciful God, incline your ear to our prayers and illumine us called by you with the grace of the Holy Spirit that we may be enabled worthily to minister to Your Scriptures and to love you with an everlasting love and to attain everlasting joys. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Gallican Collect, AD 9th C*

Sermon

Poise from Perspective *Psalm 46*

Response to the Word of God

The Lord's Supper

Instruction on the Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, heavenly Father, we praise and extol you, for you have again fully given us the blessed benefits of your sacraments. You satisfy us with the food and drink of eternal life. You have appointed us the signs and seals of your mercy. Having been fulfilled with the benefits of your altar we offer ourselves – bodies and souls – that all of us who unite with Jesus Christ and through Christ with one another – may grow daily in faith, may rejoice in hope, and may enrich ourselves in familial love. Praise, glory, honor, and thanksgiving descend upon your holy name now and forever! Amen.

Hungarian Reformed Liturgy, circa 16th C

Giving of the Body and Blood of Christ

Minister: *He is risen!*

People: *He is risen, indeed!*

* Hymn

Psalm 46A

Prayer for Alms and Offerings

* We Give Thee But Thine Own #432

* Our Mutual Confession of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 1.

Q: What is your only comfort in life and death?

A: That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who with his precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, whereof by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

* Doxology #731

* Benediction

* Threefold Amen #740

Poise from Perspective

Psalm 46

I. Poise from Perspective: When Our Habitation is in the Presence of Yahweh, The Dissolution of the Earthly Elements Presents No Ultimate Threat. *v1-3*

II. Poise from Perspective: When Our Habitation is in the Presence of Yahweh, The Distress and Tumult of the Nations Presents No Ultimate Threat. *v4-7*

III. Poise from Perspective: When Our Habitation is in the Presence of Yahweh, We Find This Realm's Distress and Desolations Brings Him Glory. *v8-11*