

# THE LORD'S DAY

May 25, 2025

10 O'clock A.M.

***We gather as God's people to worship the Triune God:***

***Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.***

***We do so through our Lord Jesus' sin-substitutionary death,  
and by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.***

## PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96

**Oh sing to Yahweh a new song!  
Sing to the LORD, all the earth!**

*Sing to the LORD, bless His name;  
Tell of His salvation from day to day.*

**Declare His glory among the nations,  
His marvelous works among all the peoples!**

*For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
All the gods of the peoples are worthless idols.*

**But Yahweh made the heavens!**

*Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness  
Tremble before Him, all the earth!*

### \*HYMN OF ADORATION

*Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

#310

### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

**That Christ should not only die for sinners, but die as a sinner!** “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (Cor 5: 21). He who was among the glorious persons of the Trinity, “was numbered with the transgressors.” (Isa 53:12) Not that he had sin, but he was like a sinner, having our sins imputed to him. Sin did not live in him, but it was laid upon him. Here was a hyperbole of love enough to strike us with astonishment.

**That Christ should redeem us, when he could not expect to gain anything, or to be advantaged at all by us!** What benefit could Christ expect in purchasing and redeeming us? We were in such a condition that we could neither deserve nor purchase Christ's love. We had no spiritual beauty to tempt him. We were in arms against him. “When we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son” (Rom 5: 10) When he was shedding his blood, we were spitting out poison.

**That Christ should die so willingly!** “I lay down my life.” (John 10: 17) The Jews could not have taken it away if he had not laid it down. He could have called to his Father for legions of angels to be his lifeguard; but what need for even that, when his own Godhead could have defended himself from all assaults?

**That Christ should make redemption effectual to some, and not to others!** Here is surprising love. Though there is sufficiency in his merits to save all, yet some only partake of their saving virtue. “There are some of you that do not believe.” (John 6:64)

**That Christ should love us with such a transcendent love!** The apostle calls it “the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.” (Eph 3:19) That he should love us more than the angels. He loves them as his friends, but believers as his spouse.

**That Christ's love in our redemption should be everlasting!** “Having loved his own, he loved them unto the end.” (John 13:1) As Christ's love is matchless, so it is endless. The flower of his love is sweet; and that which makes it sweeter is that it never dies. His love is eternal.

## Preparing to Celebrate the Lord's Supper

*The First Sunday of each month we celebrate the Lord's Supper during our morning worship service. Paul explains the meaning of the Lord's Supper in I Corinthians 11. "You [all] proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." (vs. 26). In other words, as a body of believers we are proclaiming through this act of worship that Jesus has died on the cross for our sins!*

*So how do we prepare to do that? In a similar way to preparing for every Lord's Day worship service. We remember our Savior and His sin-substitutionary sacrifice, and then give Him all glory and honor and praise.*

*Below is an excerpt from Thomas Watson's book on the Ten Commandments. Watson was a wonderful preacher and teacher and writer of the 17 Century. This excerpt comes from his section on preparing for Lord's Day worship.*

Pastor Chris  
Fairfield Presbyterian Church

**Meditate on Christ's love in redeeming us.** Redemption exceeds creation; the one is a monument of God's power, the other of his love. Oh, the infinite stupendous love of Christ in raising poor lapsed creatures from a state of guilt and damnation!

**That Christ, who was God, should die!** that this glorious Sun of Righteousness should be in an eclipse! We can never admire enough this love, no, never. That Christ should die for sinners! not sinful angels, but sinful men. That such clods of earth and sin should be made bright stars of glory! Oh, the amazing love of Christ!

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

## A Westminster Creed

### **I believe in the one true and living God.**

I believe there are three persons in the one true and living God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

### **I believe in God the Father who has foreordained all things.**

I believe the Father made all things of nothing, by His powerful Word, in the space of six days, and all very good. The Father, by His providence, preserves and governs all His creatures and all their actions.

### **I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Redeemer of God's elect.**

I believe that our Lord Jesus endured the miseries of this life, the wrath of God for us, the cursed death of the cross, and burial. He rose again from the dead on the third day, and ascended into heaven. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father and will come to judge the world on the last day.

### **I believe in the Holy Spirit who effectually applies the redemption of Christ to His elect.**

I believe by the Holy Spirit's sovereign grace we are effectually called, justified, and sanctified, and gathered into the visible church, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

## based on Daniel 9

Heavenly Father, You are the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant love with those who obey You. We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from Your commandments. To You, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame, because we have sinned against You. All of us have transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey Your Voice. Listen to our pleas for mercy, and forgive us. Incline Your ear and hear. For we do not present our pleas before You because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive us through the sin-substitutionary death of Your Son Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Psalm 103:11-3

Scripture Reading  
Ephesians 3:1-13

He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his  
steadfast love toward those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he  
remove our transgressions from us.

As a father shows compassion to his children, so, the LORD  
shows compassion to those who fear him.

PASTORAL PRAYER

\*HYMN OF DEVOTION

Arise, My Soul, Arise  
Ushers come forward at this time.

#305

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Doxology

#731

\*READING OF GOD'S WORD

Ephesians 3:1-13  
Pew Bible Pg, 1160

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“The Mystery”

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord (vs.1-4)

#16

\*BENEDICTION

\*GLORIA PATRI

#735

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\*Stand if you are able

3 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of  
you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship  
of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 **how the mystery  
was made known to me by revelation,** as I have written  
briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into **the  
mystery of Christ,** 5 **which was not made known** to the sons of  
men in other generations as **it has now been revealed** to his  
holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 **This mystery is that  
the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body,  
and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the  
gospel.**

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift  
of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his  
power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this  
grace was given, **to preach to the Gentiles**  
**the unsearchable riches of Christ,** 9 and to **bring to light for  
everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages**  
**in<sup>[b]</sup> God, who created all things,** 10 **so that through the church**  
**the manifold wisdom of God** might **now be made known**  
to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 **This**  
**was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in**  
**Christ Jesus our Lord,** 12 in whom we have boldness and access  
with confidence through our faith in him. 13 So I ask you not to  
lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.