

The Lord's Day

July 21, 2024 at 10:30 AM

We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.

As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.

Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

Faith is the foundation and content of God's message; hope is the attitude and focus; love is the action. Faith informs action; hope influences action; love is action. When faith and hope are in line, you are free to love completely because you understand how God loves.

Life Application Commentary

Prelude

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Neander

Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.; Director of Music Ministries

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 147:11-12

¹¹ The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

¹² Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!

Invocation

Hymn No. 523

My Hope is in the Lord

Wakefield

My hope is in the Lord who gave himself for me,
And paid the price of all my sin at Calvary.

***For me he died, for me he lives,
And everlasting life and light he freely gives.***

No merit of my own his anger to suppress,
My only hope is found in Jesus' righteousness.

And now for me he stands, before the Father's throne.
He shows his wounded hands, and names me as his own.

His grace has planned it all, 'tis mine but to believe,
And recognize his work of love and Christ receive.

We embrace Christ's Word

We Live by Faith

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 32

How is the grace of God manifested in the second covenant?

The grace of God is manifested in the second covenant, in that he freely provides and offers to sinners a Mediator, and life and salvation by him; and requiring faith as the condition to interest them in him, promises and gives his Holy Spirit to all his elect, to work in them that faith, with all other saving graces; and to enable them unto all holy obedience, as the evidence of the truth of their faith and thankfulness to God, and as the way which he has appointed them to salvation.

Our Call to Faith (Responsive)

Romans 3:21-30

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

²² **the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.**

For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ **and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,**

²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ **Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded.**

By what kind of law? By a law of works?

No, but by the law of faith.

²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

²⁹ **Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also?**

Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—

who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

³¹ Do we then overthrow the law by this faith?

By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Hymn #9 (HMR)

Alive in Christ

Sola Gratia

I once was rebellious, corrupted by sin, pursuing the devil's dark path,
Oblivious, dead to the state I was in, an object of God's dreadful wrath.

But God who is rich in compassion and love, not leaving my soul to the grave,
Has given me life; born again from above, by God's sovereign grace I've been saved.

God lifted me up to the heavenly realms where seated with Christ I am free;
In ages to come he will show me more grace—so great is his kindness to me.

Since grace is the source of the life that is mine—and faith is a gift from on high—
I'll boast in my Savior, all merit decline, and glorify God 'til I die.

Yet now I am living with work to be done for I am God's workmanship too,

Created in Christ with a race to be run, which God has ordained me to do.

We Walk in Hope

Our Confession of Hope

Westminster Confession of Faith XVIII.1

Although hypocrites, and other unregenerate men, may vainly deceive themselves with false hopes and carnal presumptions: of being in the favor of God and estate of salvation; which hope of theirs shall perish: yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love Him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before Him, may in this life be certainly assured that they are in a state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God: which hope shall never make them ashamed.

Our Call to Hope (Responsive)

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,

kept in heaven for [us], ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

⁷ **so that the tested genuineness of [our] faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him.

Though [we] do not now see him, [we] believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hymn No. 521

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

We Love In Christ

Our Confessional Obligation to Love

Westminster Confession of Faith XXVI.1

All saints that are united to Jesus Christ their head, by His Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as to conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.

Our Call to Love (Responsive)

1 John 4:7-12

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God,
and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

⁹ **In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.**

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God
but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹² **No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.**

Hymn No. 252

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Hamburg

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count by loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

We acknowledge God's blessings

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (**in unison**)

RE Jeff Soule

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Let There Be Peace On Earth

Jill Jackson
Soloist: RE Jeff Soule, Bass

Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on Earth the peace that was meant to be. With God as our father we are family. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment with peace eternally. Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731) and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We are nourished by God's Word

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:13

Pew Bible pg. 960

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Sermon

“Faith, Hope & Love”

Pastor Ceselsky

Sermon Outline can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

We respond to God's grace

Hymn

In Christ Alone

Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground, His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day,
Up from the grave He rose again.

And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost it's grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (**Hymnal, pg. 740**)

Danish

Postlude

Chorale - God's Time Is The Best Time

J.S. Bach

Please be seated and quietly reflect upon the Lord's grace during the Postlude.

Announcements

We thank RE Jeff Soule for singing for us during the offertory this morning.

The Maryland State Boy Choir is hosting a Summer Sing on Sunday, August 11 beginning at 5 PM. Stephen Holmes and Joey Shortall will be conducting the singing of *Lux Aeterna*, by Morten Lauridsen. Music will be provided.

The Center for Pregnancy Concerns is holding their annual fundraising Gala on Thursday, September 12 at 7 PM at the Sheraton in Towson. Melissa Ohden, the founder of the Abortion Survivors Network will be the keynote speaker. If you are interested in attending, please rsvp to John or Julie Ceselsky no later than Sunday, August 18. Tickets are free, but this is a fundraiser, and a donation is greatly appreciated.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Pastor Ceselsky as he will have surgery tomorrow to repair a ruptured Achilles tendon in his right foot. Please pray as well for Julie as she cares for John during this time.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Lori Werner's brother, Brad, as he recovers from surgeries to repair an aneurysm in his brain, and from a separate surgery to treat a bowel blockage. Both surgeries went well, but Brad remains sedated to allow his body time to heal.
3. Please be in prayer for Aisquith members, family members and friends of the Aisquith Community who are currently struggling with various illnesses and other physical and emotional issues.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY: 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service
NEXT Sunday 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

Deacons: Andrew Bell, Gus DeFord, Ken Schumann (President), and Rick Willis

Deaconesses: Christine Clark, Debbie DeFord, Fran Oswinkle, & Jeanne Williams (Moderator)

Sermon Notes

Date: July 21, 2024

Text: 1 Corinthians 13:13

Sermon Title: "Faith, Hope & Love"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The Christian must pursue Christ-like love above all else.

Main Point 1: The Triad of Faith, Hope, and Love.

Point 1: The Worldly triad.

Point 2: The Corinthian triad.

Point 3: The Biblical triad.

Main Point 2: The Eternal Nature of Faith, Hope, and Love.

Point 1: That which ceases/passes away.

Point 2: That which abides.

Main Point 3: The Superiority of Love over Faith and Hope.