

Sunday, September 12, 2021

9:30 am Service



Our Vision:
Disciples Making Disciples

Our Mission:
Making Disciples Who Make Disciples

Theme of the Year
Come Follow Me *and* Come Learn From Me

WORSHIP VERSE

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!... For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.

~ Psalm 149:1,4

WORSHIP QUOTE

For worship is, essentially, the reverse of sin. Sin began (and begins) when we succumb to the temptation, “you shall be as gods.” We make ourselves the center of the universe and dethrone God. By contrast, worship is giving God his true worth; it is acknowledging him to be the Lord of all things, and the Lord of everything in our lives. He is, indeed, the most high God! ~ Sinclair B. Ferguson

PRESERVICE THOUGHTS Disciples Take Sin Seriously Whether it’s in Thought, Word, or Deed

If your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

~ Jesus, Matthew 18:9

We acknowledged last week that the USA embraces a highly sexualized culture. Nonetheless we are still responsible for what our eyes take in. While there are certainly external enticements, we need to face our internal temptations too. We have a choice over what our eyes look at or don’t look at. Evangelist Dwight L. Moody aptly described the greater source of sinful trouble: *I have more trouble with D. L. Moody than with any man I know.* Moody’s eyes may have dwelt on sinful pleasures at one time, but he never gouged his eyes out over it. Nor have I. Jesus isn’t seriously calling for us to gouge out our eyes; what He is calling for is a serious approach regarding sinfulness. Don’t minimize it or downplay it. That’s our focus this week from Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount.

PRESERVICE PRAYER

Holy Spirit, convict me of any area of my life where I've minimized my sin. I don't want to allow what You find unacceptable. This may not be easy for me. Encourage me even as You draw my attention to sins I've been allowing to go unchallenged or unchecked.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"In His Time"

Ball

In His time, in His time,
He makes all things beautiful in His time.
Lord, please show me ev'ry day,
As You're teaching me Your way,
that You do just what You say, in Your time.

In Your time, in Your time,
You make all things beautiful in Your time.
Lord, my life to You I bring,
May each song I have to sing
be to You a lovely thing, in Your time.

"Trust In You"

Daigle/Farren/Mabury

Letting go of ev'ry single dream,
I lay each one down at Your feet.
Ev'ry moment of my wandering,
never changes what You see.
I've tried to win this war I confess,
My hands are weary I need Your rest.
Mighty Warrior, King of the fight,
no matter what I face You're by my side.

Chorus

*When You don't move the mountains,
I'm needing You to move,
when You don't part the waters,
I wish I could walk through.
When You don't give the answers
as I cry out to You.
I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in You.*

Truth is, You know what tomorrow brings,
There's not a day ahead,
You have not seen.
So, in all things be my life and breath,
I want what You want Lord and nothing less. *Chorus*

Bridge

I will trust in You!
You are my strength and comfort,
You are my steady hand.
You are my firm foundation;
the rock on which I stand,
Your ways are always higher,
Your plans are always good.
There's not a place where I'll go,
You've not already stood. *Chorus*

I will trust in You! I will trust in You! I will trust in You!

"How Can It Be"

Mabury/Ingram/Johnson

I am guilty, ashamed of what I've done
what I've become, these hands are dirty.
I dare not lift them up to the Holy One.

Chorus

*You plead my cause, You right my wrongs
You break my chains, You overcome.
You gave Your life, to give me mine
You say that I am free, how can it be,
yeah, how can it be.*

I've been hiding, afraid I've let You down,
inside I doubt that You still love me,
but in Your eyes there's only grace now. *Chorus*

Though I fall You can make me new,
from this death I will rise with You.
Oh the grace reaching out for me,
yeah how can it be, how can it be. *Chorus*

PSALM OF THE WEEK

Psalm 119:161-168

Rulers persecute me without cause,
but my heart trembles at your word.
I rejoice in your promise
like one who finds great spoil.
I hate and detest falsehood
but I love your law.
Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous laws.
Great peace have those who love your law,
and nothing can make them stumble.
I wait for your salvation, LORD,
and I follow your commands.
I obey your statutes,
for I love them greatly.
I obey your precepts and your statutes,
for all my ways are known to you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

[God] I love to see, My child,
that when persecuted without cause,
your heart still reveres My word.
I see you rejoicing in My promise
like one who has found great treasure.
Like one after My own heart,
you detest falsehood and regard My law with love.

***[us] I do praise You for Your righteous laws, Father God,
Though the psalmist's 'seven times a day' is quite
lofty.***

***Grant peace to those who love Your law,
so that nothing can make us stumble.
I join those who wait for Your salvation, LORD,
and I follow Your commands until then.***

[God] I love your desire to show obedience,
and your love for the testimony of My Word.
I know the place My precepts have in your heart
and your will to adhere to My statutes.

"The Heart of Worship"

When the music fades, all is stripped away,
and I simply come, longing just to bring
something that's of worth that will bless Your heart.
I'll bring You more than a song,
for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within
through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.

Chorus

*I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
and it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
when it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus.*

King of endless worth, no one could express
how much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor,
all I have is Yours, ev'ry single breath.
I'll bring You more than a song,
for a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within
through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart. *Chorus 2X*

WELCOME and SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118:24)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

INVOCATION

Pastor: We come in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. May we worship in spirit and in truth as the Father seeks.

OPENING SONG *"When I Think About the Lord"* Huey

When I think about the Lord,
how He saved me, how He raised me,
how He filled me with the Holy Ghost,
how He healed me to the uttermost.
When I think about the Lord,
how He picked me up and turned me around,
how He set my feet on solid ground.

Chorus

And it makes me want to shout.

Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus!

*Lord, You're worthy of all the glory
and all the honor and all the praise.*

It makes me want to shout.

Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus!

*Lord, You're worthy of all the glory
and all the honor and all the praise.*

Verse, Chorus

Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus!

Lord, You're worthy of all the glory
and all the honor and all the praise.

Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus!

Lord, You're worthy of all the glory
and all the honor and all the praise.

And all the praise, and all the praise.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful
and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by
nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned
against You in thought, word, and deed, by
what we have done and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved You with our
whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors
as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present
and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your
Son, Jesus Christ, Have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we
may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways
to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die
for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins.
As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by
His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in
the name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *“I Will Rise Up”*

Ash

Verse

You're calling me to a deeper place.
You're calling me to come away.
This is the day that You have made,
to walk in Your love and Your grace.
And I will sing to You, my King,
forever and ever.

Chorus

*I will rise up and worship Your holiness.
I will sing a song of Your faithfulness.
On the mountains and through the valleys,
Your love will be my peace.
And I will sing of Your love for me. Verse, Chorus 2X*

I will rise up and worship You, worship You.
I will rise up and worship You, worship You.
I will rise up and worship You, worship You.

MOMENT OF JOY

Pastor: My friends, rejoice that in Christ
you are Father God's beloved children,

People: rescued, redeemed, and renewed.

Pastor: And precious in His sight.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ,

People: Thank You for giving up Your rights so that I might experience grace, forgiveness, and reconciliation with my Heavenly Father. As I follow You, living out my discipleship in faith and action, let me echo that willingness to waive my rights for to benefit others. In Your name we pray, Amen.

CHILDREN RELEASE TO JAM SESSION

CALL TO LISTEN

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

655, v 1

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 8:9-13

Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge.

When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

Reader: This is God's story, the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20:17-20

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”
When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die.”

Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

DISCIPLESHIP POINT

Reader: You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. *What does this mean?* Per Luther’s Catechism, we should fear and love God so that we do not force or entice away our neighbor’s spouse, workers, or animals, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Our discipleship point comes from the last commandment. It’s not just actions that are wrong, but ways of the heart too.

Titled *God’s Gift of Contentment* in the Small Catechism’s explanation, coveting betrays a lack of contentment – an unhealthy battle inside of us. The want to entice away our neighbor’s wife or workers shows a problem with our heart. Coveting seems to be one of those sins that have fallen off the map of evils to confess. Don’t let this be so for you.

DISCIPLESHIP PRAYER

Reader: Join me in praying:

People: Father God, lead my spirit to the place of contentment in You. You are my real portion, my real treasure. Let me view all earthly joys and treasures as gifts from You, never to take Your place or to be coveted. And help me celebrate others’ gifts with them without covetous eyes. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:1-9

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE STORY

Matthew 18:10-14

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

“What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?

And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

Reader: This is God's story, the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE FROM JESUS' SERMON Matthew 5:29-30

Pastor: God's Word from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

People: Holy Spirit, remind us of what Jesus taught.

If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: May we hear it and do it.

MESSAGE Rev. Paul vonWerder

PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST and OFFERING

OFFERING SONG "I Give My All" McCallum

Verse

I give my heart to You, Lord.

I give my soul to You, Lord.

I give my mind and I give my all to You, oh Lord.

I give my hands to You, Lord.

I give my strength to You, Lord.

I give my life and I give my all to You, oh Lord.

Chorus

*For You alone are worthy of all I am,
for You have given me it all,
and the least I can do is give it back to You.*

Verse, Chorus

Ending

I give my heart to You, Lord.

I give my soul to You, Lord.

I give my mind and I give my all to You, oh Lord.

APOSTLES' CREED

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**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

The third day He rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: (after each petition) Lord, in Your mercy...

People: Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us
Lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever, Amen.**

HOPE PRAYER BOX(ES)

OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST (taken from Scripture)

Pastor: Let's remind ourselves who we are in Christ Jesus:

- **In Christ, I am an ambassador to whom He has committed the message of reconciliation. As God does not count people's sins against them in Christ, I too will forgive in Jesus' name.**
- **In Christ, I am a dearly loved child of God. As such I will walk in the way of love, including a sexual lifestyle that honors God.**
- **In Christ, I am a disciple who is willing to waive my personal rights if I'm a stumbling block to others.**

BENEDICTION FOR THE WEEK

Numbers 6:24-26

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"Never Gonna Stop"

Walker

Verse

For Your beauty that's been shown,
for Your mysteries unknown,
for the miracles we've seen, we praise You, Lord;
For the story of Your love, for the wonder of Your blood,
how it makes the sinner clean, someone like me.

Chorus

*So, I'm never gonna stop, never gonna stop,
lifting up my hands to You, lifting up my heart;
When the last day comes and goes,
and time will be no more,
I'll be praising You; No, I'll never let it end,
I'll just begin it all again;
Shouts of thankfulness and love
I'm always gonna give; a thousand years from now,
before Your throne of grace and pow'r,
I'll be praising You, praising You.*

Verse, Chorus, Instrumental

Bridge

Though pressed on ev'ry side,
with troubles and fears so near me;
And should the whole wide world deny You,
I'll just make it louder, shout Your name on high. *Chorus*

Ending

I'll be praising, I'll be praising You;
I'll be praising, I'll be praising You.
I'll be praising, I'll be praising You;
I'll be praising, I'll be praising You.
I'll be praising, I'll be praising You;
I'll be praising, I'll be praising You.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Blood Drive 9/26 – 8 am to 1 pm
- Preschool Anniversary Celebration – Potluck items and server help needed on 9/18
- Lutheran Counseling Services 5K on 10/30 – signing up members for groups of 5 team members - see Pastor or Brenda Dorman for information
- Family Life Group – 1st meeting at 5:30 pm on 9/28 with food, chapel – all families invited with preschool/elementary-aged kid(s), siblings welcome

EXIT INVOCATION

Pastor: We are a discipleship-oriented church.
As disciples of Jesus, let's follow in His path of loving and serving.

People: **In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; Amen!**

Rev. Paul vonWerder, Pastor
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