

**Memory Verse for May 23, 2010
Romans 8:1-26**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. **3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, **4** in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **5** For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. **6** For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7** For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. **8** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10** But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" **16** The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. **19** For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. **20** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. **22** For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. **23** And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. **24** For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? **25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. **26** Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

**Ascension Sunday
May 16, 2010
Morning Worship, 8:30 a.m.**



The prelude signals the congregation to prepare quietly for worship. Please disable electronic devices to prevent disruption. Assisted listening devices are available from the sound booth attendant.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

†Silent Prayer

O God, the King of glory, who has exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven, we beg you, do not leave us comfortless; but send to us your Holy Spirit to comfort us, and exalt us to the same place where our Savior Christ has gone, who lives and reigns with you and the same Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

**Congregation standing †Congregation invited to kneel*

*Hymn of Praise

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

#295

†Confession of Sin

Almighty God, We acknowledge from our hearts that we are unworthy of your grace and salvation. So little have we truly believed our Savior’s conquest of sin and death on our behalf. How often we forget that the Lord Jesus now sits at the Right Hand where he rules over all things for the church, that there he intercedes for us, and that some day he will return from there to bring salvation to all who are waiting for him. How often we are weak or discouraged because we have forgotten that because Christ is in heaven we who belong to him are as much as seated with him there. How wrong of us that so great a Savior and salvation should not produce in us greater love and firmer hope. Forgive us for such little faith, restore to us the joy of our great salvation and help us to walk worthy of such through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

*Hymn of Faith in Christ

“Before the Throne of God Above”

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 Heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

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.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
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.

—Charitie Lees Bancroft/Vikki Cook

Confession of Faith

Question: How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us?

Answer: First, he pleads our cause in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven—a guarantee that Christ our head will take us, his members, to himself in heaven. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a further guarantee. By the Spirit’s power we make the goal of our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand.

—Heidelberg Catechism #49

Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below; (Alleluia).
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Alleluia). Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

“The Willingness of Jesus”

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

We invite you to participate in the Lord’s Supper if you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a member or regular attender of this or some other congregation. If this does not describe you, we are glad you are here and encourage you to reflect on these prayers during the time of the Lord’s Supper.

Prayer for those Searching

O God, I am discovering that the more I have, the more I need to have; the more I am loved, the more I need to be loved; the more I achieve, the more I need to achieve. Nothing seems to bring deep satisfaction. “Nothing tastes.” Could it be, as someone once said, that, “Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you”? God, if this is true, please reveal yourself to me, and open my heart to you to find that ultimate rest. Help me to believe your Word and your Son’s love for me. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord God, I now see that I am weaker and more flawed than I ever before believed, but in Christ, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Even as I have not loved you or my neighbor with all of my heart, you have shown your love for me in that while I am still sinning, Christ died for me and took upon himself the condemnation that I deserve. I now know that You owe me nothing for my efforts, but you offer acceptance, love and blessing into all eternity because of Christ’s efforts on my behalf. I therefore ask that you would enable me to turn away from trusting in my own efforts to gain your acceptance and forgiveness, and trust in the perfectly righteous efforts of Christ on my behalf in order to be accepted by you and entered into your holy family. And just as you raised Christ from the dead, so too I ask that you would give me new a life in Christ, one that will lead eventually to heaven itself. Thank you for Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit to believe in him alone for my salvation. Amen.

Supper Hymn

“Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended” #248

Reading of Scripture

Psalm 91:1-16

***Closing Hymn**

“Rejoice, the Lord is King” #309

Benediction

†Silent Prayer

Grant, we beg you, Almighty God, that just as we believe that your only Son our Lord Jesus Christ has ascended into the heavens; so may we also in heart and mind ascend there, and dwell with him continually, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Postlude

Sermon Notes

Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** Psalm 24
The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

*Hymns of Praise

"See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph" #291
"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" #345

Congregational Prayer

- Unreached People Group: Rongba Ambo (China)
- Persecuted Church: China
- Churches: Cross Point (PCA) – Green Lake & Lynnwood

- Life Issues/ Adoption Awareness: YWAM Adoption Ministry
- Health/Family: Beth Jensen's family; Penny Heins; Joe Gronewold; Mark Arndt
- Children/Youth: Emma Teixeira, Abigail Vander Pol, Julia Vander Pol, Malachi Vander Pol, Simeon Vander Pol, Josiah Vander Pol

Scripture Reading

Psalm 48

Sermon

"The Beauty and Strength of Zion"

*Closing Hymn

Psalm 48:1, 8-14

Great is Jehovah, and His praise should be proclaimed abroad,
Within His hill of holiness, the city of our God.

In our God's city we have seen what we before were told,
That God Who is the LORD of hosts will ever it uphold.

Within Thy courts, O God, we thot upon Thy gracious ways;
O God, according to Thy name thru all the earth's Thy praise.

Thy hand is full of righteousness; let Zion's joy be great;
Let Judah's daughters joyfully Thy judgments celebrate.

Encompass Zion, count her towers and mark her bulwarks well;
Consider ye her palaces; to sons her story tell.

Because this God will be our God to all eternity;
Yes, even on through death itself, our constant guide is He.

Tune: Tallis Ordinal, C. M.

Benediction

Postlude