

Memory Verse for June 13, 2010
Romans 8:1-27

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. **27** And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The Lord's Day
June 6, 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
Sarabande

G. F. Handel (1685 – 1759)

Welcome & Announcements

***Silent Prayer**

Almighty God, may today be a day of power for all who love Jesus with sincerity; may we see his glory and taste his love in the sanctuary! When it is thus, the Sabbath is a blessed day indeed, a glimpse of heaven. There they cease not night or day admiring the riches of redeeming love, and adoring Him who washed his people from their sins in his own blood. O Lord, for this I sigh and long, and cry to You to rend the veil of unbelief, scatter the clouds of ignorance, and break down the walls which sin is daily building up to hide him from my eyes. Come this day in grace and power, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Adapted from a 1773 letter by John Newton (1725 – 1807)

***Call to Worship**

Revelation 5:11-14
Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

**Congregation standing *Congregation invited to kneel*

***Hymn of Praise**

“Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim” #165

†Confession of Sin

O Lord, eternity is yours, so you cannot be ignorant of what we tell you. Therefore, we acknowledge our sin before You. In how many ways have we failed You, Our Lord? O Lord, the depths of our conscience lie bare before your eyes. Could anything of ours remain hidden from You, even if we refused to confess it? We should only be shielding our eyes from seeing You, not hiding ourselves from You. For You have called us to be poor in spirit, meek, hungering and thirsting for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, and peacemakers. Forgive us for every failure to be what You have called us to be, what the Lord Christ saved us to be, and what we ourselves, in our hearts desire to be for your sake. Forgive us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

—Adapted from Augustine’s *Confessions*

***Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 53:5-6

He was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

***Hymn of Faith in Christ**

“The Power of the Cross”

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

CHORUS:

This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us;
Took the blame, bore the wrath—
we stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow. (Chorus)

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life;
"Finished!" the vict'ry cry. (Chorus)

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

FINAL CHORUS:

This, the pow'r of the cross: Son of God—slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Tithes and Offerings

Arioso

G. F. Handel

***Hymn of Thanksgiving**

Take my life, and let it be,
Consecrated, Lord to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-10

Sermon

“Sharing Heaven’s Joy”

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

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”

#473

Reading of Scripture

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 35-31
Psalm 23

*Closing Hymn

“Amazing Grace”

#460

Benediction

†Silent Prayer

O God, who made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Gather in the elect; bring the nations into the fold; pour out Your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Postlude

Bouree

G. F. Handel

