

MIDWEEK LENTEN VESPERS: MARCH 9, 2022

THE LORD'S PRAYER: HALLOWED BE THY NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER..... The word respect literally means “taking a second look.” The word disrespect means “not taking a second look.” God is certainly worthy of our respect and certainly worthy of a deeper look by us. Tonight we are reminded of just how important it is to respect God’s name as we consider the first petition of the Lord’s Prayer: Hallowed Be Thy Name.

WELCOME

OPENING VERSICLES

Leader: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: let my cry come to You

Psalm 102:1

Leader: In the day of my trouble I call upon You

People: for You answer me.

Psalm 86:7

Leader: Hide Your face from my sins,

People: and blot out all my iniquities.

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Leader: Cast me now away from Your presence,

People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Leader: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Psalm 51:9-12

Leader: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

People: my lips will praise You.

Leader: For You have been my help,

People: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

Psalm 63:3, 7

Leader: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

People: Unite my heart to fear Your name.

Leader: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

People: and I will glorify Your name forever.

Psalm 86:11-12

INTRODUCTION OF HYMN

Leader: There are certain hymns that specifically convey the central meaning of one special passage of Scripture. In some English translations the word used by Paul to young Timothy in which he calls himself the “chief of sinners” has been retranslated as “the worst of” and “the foremost.” Whatever word is chosen, the meaning is inescapable: each of us is the most sinful when viewed through the lens of God’s Law. But God does not remember repented sin and in Christ sees us as chief of the forgiven.

Leader: The text of this hymn was written by an Irish bookseller, William McComb, and was included in a book of his poetry published in 1864. We sing it to the melody GETHSEMANE composed by Richard Redhead, a noted choirmaster who directed vocal groups in churches in Oxford and London, England.

HYMN “Chief of Sinners though I Be”

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am his and he is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus’ love! Higher than the heav’ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity.
Love that found me wondrous thought - Found me when I sought him not.

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Only Jesus can impart, Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is All-in-All to me,
All my wants to him are known, All my sorrows are his own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with him from earthly strife.

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O my Savior, help afford By your Spirit and your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 3:1-6

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Leader: O Lord, have mercy on us.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

Pray with a Deep Sense of Respect

EXODUS 3:1-6

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

ALL I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

PRAYERS

Leader: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

People: and grant us Your salvation.

Leader: Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;

People: and let Your saints shout for joy.

Leader: Lord, keep this nation under Your care,

People: and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

People: for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.

Leader: Let the peoples praise You, O God;

People: let all the peoples praise You!

Leader: For the needy shall not always be forgotten,

People: and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: And renew a right spirit within me.

Leader: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: Let my cry come to You.

LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: 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;
and 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.

BENEDICAMUS

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Leader: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Children of the heav'nly Father

Safely in his bosom gather,

Nestling bird or star in heaven

Such a refuge ne'er was given.

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God his own doth tend and nourish,

In his holy courts they flourish,

From all evil things he spares them,

In his mighty arms he bears them.

.

Neither life nor death shall ever

From the Lord his children sever;

From all evil things he spares them,

In his mighty arms he bears them.

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Though he giveth or he taketh,

God his children ne'er forsaketh;

His the loving purpose solely

To preserve them pure and holy.

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POST-SERVICE MUSIC