

RIVEROAKS REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, May 8, 2022

10:45am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: ""Prelude in Classic Style", Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFLECTION

O my dear son, though I am taken from you here, strive from your youth to fear God, and you shall have your mother again up yonder in the New Jerusalem, where parting will be no more. My dear son, I hope now to go before you; follow me thus as much as you value your soul, for besides this there shall be found no other way to salvation. Thus, I will now commend you to the Lord; may He keep you. I trust the Lord that He will do it, if you seek Him. Love one another all the days of your life; take Hansken on your arm now and then for me. And if your father should be taken from you, care for one another. The Lord keep you one and all. My dear children, kiss one another once for me, for remembrance. Adieu, my dear children, all of you. My dear son, be not afraid of this suffering; it is nothing compared to that which shall endure forever. The Lord takes away all fear; I did not know what to do for joy, when I was sentenced. Hence cease not, to fear God, because of this temporal death; I cannot fully thank my God for the great grace which He has shown me. Adieu once more, my dear son Adriaen; ever be kind, I pray you, to your afflicted father all the days of your life, and do not grieve him; this I pray all of you, for what I write to the oldest, I also mean to say to the youngest. Herewith I will commend you to the Lord once more. I have written this, after I was sentenced, to die for the testimony of Jesus Christ, on the fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ, 1573.

Maeyken Wens,

five months after being arrested for meeting with four other Christians to study the Bible in Antwerp, Belgium, writing to her 15 year old son, on the day she and the other Christians were burnt at the stake

THE LORD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 118:24; 24:9,10

Minister: This is the day that the Lord has made;

Congregation: let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in!

Congregation: Who is this King of glory?

ALL: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 389: "This Is the Day the Lord Has Made"

This is the day the Lord has made; he calls the hours his own;
Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad, and praise surround the throne.

Today he rose and left the dead, and Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints his triumphs spread, and all his wonders tell.

Hosanna to th'annointed King, to David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring salvation from the throne.

Blest be the Lord, who comes to men with messages of grace;
Who comes in G
od his Father's name to save our sinful race.

Hosanna in the highest strains the church on earth can raise!
The highest heav'ns in which he reigns shall give him nobler praise.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

THE LORD CLEANSSES US IN CHRIST

READING OF THE WORD: Psalm 80:1-19

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

² Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴ O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶ You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

¹² Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴ Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine,

¹⁵ the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

¹⁶ They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

¹⁷ But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!

¹⁸ Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name!

¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Almighty God, heavenly Father, I have sinned against you and against my neighbor, in thought, word and deed, in the evil I have done and in the good I have not done, through ignorance, through weakness, and through my own deliberate fault. I am truly sorry and repent of all my sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for me, forgive me all that is past, and grant that I may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name ...*Silent and Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Isaiah 53:4, 5

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

HYMN OF FAITH, NO. 92: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing.
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabbaoth his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him,
his rage we can endure, for lo! His doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they many kill; God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH: Psalm 46:1-5,10-11

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble!

Congregation: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Minister: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns!

Congregation: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

ALL: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress!

HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

ANTHEM: "Sing to the Lord", Medema; The Riveroaks Children's Choir

Sing to the Lord, clap your hands and shout out loud.
Sing to the Lord, for he is good. Sing to the Lord,
clap your hands and shout out loud.
Sing to the Lord and praise His name.

O magnify the Lord with me, the Lord with me.
Let us exalt his name together,

O taste and see that the Lord, he is good to ev'ryone
who calls upon his name, his name.

O bless the Lord my soul, all that is in me, bless his holy name.
O bless the Lord my soul, never forget what he's done for you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

SERMON TEXT: John 15:1-8

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD: Pastor Tommy Lee
Sermon Series: Take Heart; I Have Overcome The World
XII. "The Father, The Son, and The Believer"

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "Come People of the Risen King"

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

[Refrain] Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land –
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands –
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing –
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age:
“Our God is all in all

BENEDICTION: from Romans 8:38-39

Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
is able to separate the child of God from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

CLOSING: ““God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
'neath his wings protecting hide you, daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Jaden Lee, cello