

RIVEROAKS REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, May 1, 2022

10:45am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: "Let Us Break Bread Together", arr. Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT: Honoring High School Seniors

REFLECTION

"Christian joy is not the temporal kind which comes and goes with one's circumstances, but rather is predicated altogether on one's relationship with the Lord and is thus an abiding, deeply spiritual quality of life."

Tim Keller

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

THE LORD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 9:9-12

Minister: The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Congregation: And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Minister: Sing praises to the Lord, who sits enthroned in Zion! Tell among the peoples his deeds!

Congregation: For he who avenges blood is mindful of them; he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 286: "Worship Christ, the Risen King"

Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell.
Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell.

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares:
"Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares."

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!

Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with pow'r;
All hell's minions may assemble but cannot withstand his hour.

He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!

Doubt may lift its head to murmur, scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
But the truth proclaims a wonder, thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!

We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory.
Sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free.
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

THE LORD CLEANSSES US IN CHRIST

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Samuel 12:20-24

²⁰ And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. ²¹ And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. ²² For the LORD will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself. ²³ Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. ²⁴ Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you.

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 12:1-4

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Forgive us, O Lord, for following after empty things instead of drinking deeply from the inexhaustible fountain of your nature. Help us remember that it is for your namesake that you preserve, uphold, and deliver us. Give us the strength to cast aside anything that would prevent us from running towards you in repentance and faith. Grant us, we pray, a holy reverence for you that leads to humble obedience to you ...*Silent and Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Jeremiah 29:12-14

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

HYMN OF FAITH: “The Lord Is My Salvation”

**The grace of God has reached for me, and pulled me from the raging sea.
And I am safe on this solid ground: the Lord is my salvation.**

**I will not fear when darkness falls, his strength will help me scale these walls.
I’ll see the dawn of the rising sun: the Lord is my salvation.**

**[Chorus] Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love,
my debt is paid and the vict’ry won: the Lord is my salvation.**

**My hope is hidden in the Lord, he flow’rs each promise of his Word.
When winter fades, I know spring will come: the Lord is my salvation.**

**In times of waiting, times of need, when I know loss, when I am weak.
I know his grace will renew these days: the Lord is my salvation. [Chorus]**

And when I reach the final day, he will not leave me in the grave.

But I will rise, he will call me home: the Lord is my salvation. [Chorus]

**Glory be to God, the Father, glory be to God, the Son,
glory be to God, the Spirit; the Lord is my salvation.**

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH: Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

HIS TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

ANTHEM: "Have You Not Known"; Scott; The Adult Choir

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you that the everlasting God dwells on high in starry splendor?
His glory is unspeakable; his power shall never fail.

They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up as eagles; they shall run and not grow weary;
they shall walk and never faint.

To whom will God, the Lord, compare?
Who can stand his equal? By his word he formed the heavens, by his power he e'er sustains them.
Vain rulers perish hopelessly; strong nations come to naught. But...

Then why complain, O Israel?
Why downcast, O Jacob? Do you think he does not see? Is your way now disregarded?
His knowledge is unsearchable, his wisdom strong and sure.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you that the everlasting God neither tires nor grows weary?
E'en youth shall stumble helplessly, the young grow weak and faint. But...

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

SERMON TEXT: John 14:28-31

²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD: Pastor Tommy Lee
Sermon Series: Take Heart; I Have Overcome The World
XIII. "Three Weighty Words in The School of Christ"

HYMN OF RESPONSE, NO. 182: "My Song Is Love Unknown"

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;
But men cared not, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
But oh, my Friend, my Friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lam to run, he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet all his deeds their hatred feeds; they 'gainst him rise.

They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet willing he to suff'ring goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.
What my I say? Heav'n was his home, but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine.
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

HYMN OF JOY, NO. 283: "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits of the holy harvest field,
Which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield'
Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave,
Ripened by his glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
alleluia to the Savior, who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.

BENEDICTION: Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

DOXOLOGY: Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

POSTLUDE: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven", arr. Hustad