

Worship Outline

March 29, 2020

Meditation

“God does not ordinarily save sinners in numbers without first bending his Church to its knees in prayer.”
– Sinclair Ferguson

Call to Worship

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me. – Psalm 63

“Who Is on the Lord’s Side?”

Who is on the Lord’s side, Who will serve the King;
Who will be his helpers, other lives to bring?
Who will leave the world’s side, who will face the foe;
Who is on the Lord’s side, Who for him will go?
By Your call of mercy, by Your grace divine,
We are on the Lord’s side. Savior, we are Thine.

Not for weight of glory, Not for crown and palm
Enter we the army, raise the warrior psalm;
But for love that claimeth lives for whom he died,
He whom Jesus nameth must be on his side;
By Your love constrained, by Your grace divine,
We are on the Lord’s side. Savior, we are Thine.

Jesus, You have bought us, not with gold or gem
But with Your own lifeblood for Your diadem;
With thy blessing filling each who comes to Thee,
You have made us willing, You have made us free.
By Your grand redemption, by Your grace divine;
We are on the Lord’s side. Savior, we are Thine.

Fierce may be the conflict, Strong may be the foe
But the King’s own army, none can overthrow;
Round his standard ranging, victory is secure
For his truth unchanging makes the triumph sure.
Joyfully enlisting, by Your grace divine
We are on the Lord’s side. Savior, we are Thine.

Who will stand for justice in a time of need?
Who will hear the poor man and his children plead?
Who will heal the rich man of his poverty?
Who will tell the homeless of eternity?
By Your love and mercy, and Your grace divine;
We are on the Lord’s side. Savior, we are Thine.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Profession of Faith

It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” – Deuteronomy 31:8

“Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature
O thou of God and man the Son
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor
My soul's glory, joy, and crown

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of spring
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all nations!
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be thine

Confession of Sin

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. 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. – Romans 8:26-27

Prayers of Confession (*Pray silently or aloud with those with whom you are gathered.*)

Assurance of Pardon

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
– 1 John 1:9

“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

May the mind of Christ my Savior
Live in me from day to day
By His love and pow'r controlling
All I do and say.

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea –
Him exalting, self abasing,
This is victory.

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His pow'r.

Chorus (4x)

May His beauty rest upon me
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.

Chorus: Oh Beauty, rest upon me! (2x)

May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in every thing,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

Chorus (4x)

Announcements and Offertory

Some online reminders:

- *Get Help/Give Help: southwood.org/covidhelp*
- *Electronic Giving: southwood.org/give OR on the Southwood App*
- *All events and services “online only” through Sunday, April 5, at this time*

Preaching of the Word

Acts 4:23-31

“Bold Mission”

23 When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, 25 who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

‘Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?

26 The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’—

27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. 29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

“He Is No Fool”

He is no fool, he is no fool,
Who gives up what he cannot keep
To gain what he can’t lose.
He is no fool, he is no fool,
Who takes time to count the cost,
Lays down his life, takes up the cross.

He is no fool, he is no fool,
Who trades a broken cistern
For a well that won’t run dry.
He is no fool, he is no fool,
Who gives up earthly pleasures
For the One who satisfies.

You have purchased men from every tribe and race,
Through the blood of Christ you’ve magnified your grace.
Lord, we ask you to send workers to your field,
To reap the harvest through the power of your Word.

Benediction

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. – Numbers 6:24-26

Sermon Outline

Bottom Line: The Mission of the Church demands a boldness for the Gospel in the face of opposition or persecution.

1. The Mission of the Church demands that we boldly depend on the King.

- Prayer (4:23-24a)
- Praise that applies right where we are (4:24b-26)
- Trust that He remains on the throne (4:27-28)

* Theological Sidebar: God's sovereignty, man's responsibility, prayer, and the cross

2. The Mission of Church demands that we boldly prioritize his kingdom.

- Loving God more than my comfort (4:29-30)
- Loving neighbor more than my safety (4:29-30)

Conclusion: Where do we get such boldness?

Father (4:24) –

Son (4:27) –

Spirit (4:31) –

Questions for Discussion/Reflection

1. Does prayer feel like a retreat or an advance? Defensive or offensive? Why do you think that is, and what does the Bible say about it?
2. In what ways do you feel or have you experienced external opposition to the bold sharing of the gospel?
3. Do you pray for unbelieving friends as passionately as your kids do or as you pray for other things? How could considering this prayer of the early Church change the way you pray on mission?
4. How does God's complete sovereignty encourage you in prayer and evangelism? How clear is the Bible that these things must go together?
5. Pick one member of the Trinity (Father, Son, or Holy Spirit) and share how He particularly gives you boldness to speak of his name?
6. What gospel opportunities do you see developing in this painful season? Are there people your family is praying for together? How are you praying for boldness to speak the good news to those longing for hope?

Prayer Guide 3/29/20

Core Commitment

We recognize our deep dependence and need for prayer.

Pray that current events would increase our desperation for divine aid.

Ask that Holy Spirit would remind us daily of the goodness and strength of our Heavenly Father.

Pray for revival in our community that would feature increased faith in God as faith in ourselves is shaken.

Mission Partner

Rob and Tunde Futo

The Futos, along with their daughters Hajni and Csenge, are church planters in Budapest, Hungary. Please join them in praying for the following requests.

Pray for our youth group summer camp, which will be held the last week of July. A group of students from US is planning to come and help us with the camp. Pray we will reach many young people with the Gospel.

We will also have camp for our whole church the first week of August. Please pray for our preparation, especially that God would send teachers for the children who attend. Pray that the camp will be an opportunity for outreach and spiritual growth for our families.

Continue to pray for God's protection and healing during this pandemic.

Specific Needs

Praise God for John Henson's safe return from India through challenging circumstances as travel restrictions hit in both countries and for a rich time with our partners there.

Pray for Reagan Turney, 9, as she recovers from kidney surgery and battles further complications.

Pray for Pete Meenen in the death of his father and as he cares for his mother who has COVID-19.

Pray for the physical, emotional, and spiritual battles in our community and around the world as we deal with the ongoing pandemic.

Pray for students and families most impacted by the extended school closing and pray for local efforts to provide food and emotional support to hurting kids.

Pray for plans for Easter Week and for wisdom to celebrate joyfully and appropriately this year.

Senior Member

Sue Urban

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Expectant Mothers

Molly Athey - April 2020

Ann Ever Ainsworth - May 2020

Kristen Stevens - June 2020

Grace Crawford - July 2020

Kelly Lewis - July 2020

Nina Cash - August 2020