

Welcome...

*...to all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. Worship consists of a dialogue between God and His people. God speaks and we respond by grace. The pastor and a ruling elder lead us. ***Please stand, if able.***

Order of Morning Worship

March 7, 2021

Prelude *We prepare silently to meet God in worship.*

***Call to Worship** Psalm 29:1-2

***Song of Approach** "We Will Glorify"

We will glorify the King of kings,
We will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords,
Who is the great "I Am."

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty,
We will bow before His throne;
We will worship Him in righteousness,
We will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth,
He is Lord of all who live;
He is Lord above the universe,
All praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of kings,
Hallelujah to the Lamb;
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords,
Who is the great "I Am."

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***Invocation and Profession of Faith**

We all believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that there is a single and simple spiritual being, whom we call God -- eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty; completely wise, just, and good, and the overflowing source of all good.

We know Him by two means:

First, by the creation, preservation, and government of the universe, since that universe is before our eyes like a beautiful book in which all creatures, great and small, are as letters to make us ponder the invisible things of God: His eternal power and His divinity, as the apostle Paul says in Romans 1:20. All these things are enough to convict men and to leave them without excuse.

Second, He makes himself known to us more openly by His holy and divine Word, as much as we need in this life, for His glory and for the salvation of His own.

(The Belgic Confession, Articles 1 and 2; 1985 version)

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 19

Congregational Prayer

Dear Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Fill me with Your Spirit that I may be occupied with His presence. I am blind – send Him to make me see; I am dark – let Him say, “Let there be light!”

May He give me faith to see my name engraved in Jesus’ hand, my soul and body redeemed by His blood, my sinfulness covered by the life of pure obedience.

Replenish me by His revealing grace, that I may realize my everlasting union with Christ; that I may know God the Father has adopted me forever in righteousness and faithfulness.

May His comforts cheer me in my sorrows, His strength sustain me in my trials, His blessings revive me in my weariness, His presence make me a fruitful tree of holiness, His might establish me in peace and joy, His encouragements make me ceaseless in prayer, and His life kindle in me undying devotion.

Send Him as the searcher of my heart, to show me more of my sin and helplessness that I may flee to You, cling to You, rest on You, as the beginning and end of my salvation.

May I never anger Him by my indifference and waywardness, grieve Him by my cold welcome, or resist Him by my hard rebellion.

Answer my prayers, O Lord, for Your great name’s sake.
Amen.

*Hymn 119

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

I sing th'almighty pow'r of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command
And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His word,
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed
Where'er I turn mine eye,
If I survey the ground I tread
Or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below
But makes your glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow,
By order from your throne;
While all that borrows life from you
Is ever in your care,
And everywhere that man can be,
You, God, are present there.

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 2:1-3

Message

“GOD’S TWO BOOKS”

*Hymn

“Creation Sings”

Creation sings the Father's song.
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day
'Til evening falls in crimson rays.
His fingerprints in flakes of snow,
His breath upon this spinning globe;
He charts the eagle's flight;
Commands the newborn baby's cry.

Chorus:

Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,
"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship,
Tell the wonders of creation's King.

Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace
Unveiled the Father's plan
Of reconciling God to man.
A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally.

Chorus

Creation longs for His return,
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage
Are birth pains of a coming age.
When He renews the land and sky,
All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme:
The glory of our God and King!

Chorus

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***God Blesses His People**

2 Corinthians 13:14

***Hymn 731**

"Doxology"

"GOD'S TWO BOOKS"

Psalm 19; 1 Peter 2:1-3

The main point of Psalm 19 is *the vast superiority of special revelation over general revelation*. "Show me a Christian with a Bible that's falling apart and I'll show you a Christian that isn't!" An unknown writer: "It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's character. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end...Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure....it will lead you to Calvary, to the empty tomb, to a resurrected life in Christ; yes, to glory itself, for eternity."

I. GOD'S FIRST BOOK IS THE WORLD OF NATURE

This lyrical poem in verses 1-6 sets forth general revelation as it goes out to all humanity.

A. God's Presence is Known Mediatly Through His Creation

B. God's Glory in Power, Beauty and Goodness

Alexander MacLaren: "glory in this Psalm has no moral element." No. Ask the bridegroom and the sun.

C. God is Also Known Immediately Apart from Creation

sensus divinitatis (Calvin), the sense of deity. See Romans 2.

D. Three Implications of Book #1

1. *There are no honest atheists.* Rom 10:16-18.

2. *Here is the firm foundation for empirical science.*

3. *We should daily praise God our Creator.* Rev 4:10-11

II. GOD'S SECOND BOOK IS THE BOOK OF THE LAW

Verses 7 through 14 an exposition of Psalm 1:1-3.

A. The Word is Described as Light and Life-Giving

B. The Word Makes All the Difference!

What are we without this word? The law of the LORD is pre-eminently found in the LORD Jesus Christ Himself – the living, breathing, dying and rising Son of God.

C. What is the Reward for Keeping the Law?

Heb 4:12-13

Conclusion