

Reflection

- John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John Piper

We are kidding ourselves when we romanticize death as the climax of a life well lived. It is an enemy. The longing of the human heart is to live and to be happy. God made us that way. "He has put eternity into man's heart" (Eccl. 3:11). We were made to live forever. And we will. The opposite of eternal life is not annihilation. It is hell. Jesus spoke of it more than anybody, and he made plain that rejecting the eternal life he offered would result not in obliteration, but in the misery of God's wrath. And it remains forever. Jesus said, "These go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life (Mt. 25:46). This is an unspeakable reality that shows the infinite evil of treating God with indifference or contempt. But as hell is the worst outcome of this life, so "eternal life" is the best. It is the supreme and ever-increasing happiness where all sin and all sadness will be gone. All that is evil and harmful in this fallen creation will be removed. All that is good—all that will bring true and lasting happiness—will be preserved and purified and intensified. We will be changed so that we are capable of dimensions of happiness that were inconceivable to us in this life. "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined... God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Cor. 2:9). For those who trust Christ the best is yet to come. We will see the all-satisfying glory of God.

INGATHERING

Song of Preparation: *My Hope Rests Firm*

My hope rests firm on Jesus Christ, He is my only plea.
Though all the world should point and scorn, His ransom leaves me free;
His ransom leaves me free.

My hope sustains me as I strive and strain towards the goal;
Though still I stumble into sin, His death paid for it all;
His death paid for it all.

My hope provides me with a spur to help me run this race:
I know my tears will turn to joy the day I see his face;
The day I see his face.

My hope is to be with my Lord, to know as I am known;
To serve Him gladly all my days in praise before His throne;
In praise before His throne.

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Silent Prayer of Preparation

PRAISE

Responsive Call to Worship

- Psalm 150:1-2

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!

***Hymns of Praise**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

#55: To God Be the Glory

Now Thank We All Our God

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

***Prayer of Adoration**

RENEWAL

Call to Confession

- Galatians 5:13-14

You were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Pastoral Confession of Sin**Assurance of Pardon**

- Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

*Response of Praise

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his
blood.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

*Affirmation of Faith

- Heidelberg Cat. #1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**My only comfort in life and in death is
that I am not my own,
but belong—**

**body and soul,
in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven:**

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

**Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.**

Welcome and Announcements

Please fill out and pass the friendship registration pad.

Offertory Words

- 2 Corinthians 8:9

*You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich,
yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might
become rich.*

Offertory Music: *In the Garden*

Sylvia Wischaupt

COMMITMENT

Scripture Reading

- Romans 11:11-24 (*sanctuary Bible p. 1204*)

Sermon: *Saving Jealousy?*

Rev. Bill Massey

***Hymn of Approach #308:** *Jesus Paid It All*

Words of Introduction

- Ephesians 2:1-10

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing in the Bread and the Cup

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Petition, and the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

***Hymn #646:** *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

Benediction

***Those who are able, please stand**