

Reflection

- Romans 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died--more than that, who was raised--who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

- Sinclair Ferguson

This truth, much neglected in the church, is one which lies at the heart of the biblical doctrine of perseverance. Several times in Scripture the power of Christ's death is closely related to his continuing ministry as the High Priest of his people in prayer. Christ not only died, writes Paul, he was raised from the dead and is at God's right hand making intercession. Indeed, writes the author of Hebrews, he lives forever to intercede for us (Heb. 7:25). He is our heavenly advocate, says John, and in the great prayer of John 17 we find a true reflection of the intercessory ministry of our King and Lord. There our Lord's burden is, at least in part, for the preservation of his disciples so that they may persevere to the end and their witness may be preserved.

INGATHERING

Words of Preparation

Song of Preparation

- Greg Hackenberger

A Wonderful Savior is Jesus My Lord

PRAISE

*Call to Worship

- Hebrews 7:25

Our Savior is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Let us worship the Lord in his name!

*Hymns of Praise

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise; shake off thy guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears:
Before the throne my surety stands,
Before the throne my surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

My God is reconciled; his pard'ning voice I hear;
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

#3: Give to Our God Immortal Praise

*Prayer of Adoration

- Rev. Bill Massey

*Affirmation of Faith

- Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord!

*Doxology

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.

RENEWAL

Responsive Reading p. 790: Psalm 20

Pastoral Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

- Psalm 33:20-22

Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

*Hymns of Confidence

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain

Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
And clothed me with His light
And wrote His law of righteousness
With pow'r upon my heart

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly
Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace
Whose every thought is love
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King
So I will give my life my all
To love and follow Him

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#32: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Welcome and Announcements

Please fill out and pass the friendship registration pad.

Prayers of the People

COMMITMENT

Reading of God's Word - *Acts 13:1-12 (Sanctuary Bible, p.1172)*

Sermon: *The Church Militant* - Rev. Bill Massey

Offertory Words - *2 Corinthians 8:9*

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

Offertory: *How Great Thou Art* - Ruth Sneller and Jon Sneller

***Hymn #577:** *Stand Up, My Soul; Shake Off Your Fears*

***Benediction**

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