Lord's Day Worship

January 30, 2022

*(Asterisk) indicates *Please stand as you are able.*

<u>PRAISE</u>

* Call to Worship

* Opening Hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

RENEWAL

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

God our Father, we are often confused by the sin that remains in us, even though your Spirit dwells in us. We do not love you or others well, and we cannot come close to loving as we have been loved by you in Jesus. We are relentlessly selfish people who use others for our benefit and cannot love unconditionally. We are quick to anger, envy, and pride – even toward those we love the most. We long to hear the words "You are good", but your Spirit whispers to us instead that Christ is good, and he will make us into his likeness. We thank you, Holy Father, for giving us your precious Son to die for our sins, and for crediting us with his glorious perfection. (silent prayer)

* Song "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Pastoral Prayer & 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.

COMMITMENT

Offering

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 1:4-10

* Hymn "Open Our Eyes, Lord"

New Testament Reading Luke 4:21-30

Sermon "God So Loved the World"

Prayer

* Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed (c. 3rd century)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy universal Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

* Closing Song

"O Church, Arise"

- * Benediction
- * Dismissal

Church, where are you going?

We go forth to serve God's world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Glory to God!

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away. – Luke 4:28-30 (ESV)

It is said that the purpose of Christian preaching is to "comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable." Jesus most certainly did the later in his first sermon at Nazareth, his home town. In fact, Jesus made them so angry that they tried to kill him.

He reminded them that the prophet Elijah, in the midst of famine, was sent by God not to anyone is Israel, but to miraculously feed a poor widow and her son in Sidon. And then Jesus added that the prophet Elisha was sent by God not to heal a Jewish leper, but only to heal Naaman the Syrian. Syrians and Sidonians were regarded as pagans and despised enemies of Israel. Jesus' message is clear. God does not only love His chosen people, the Jews. In fact, God's purpose in choosing Israel was that they would be "a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." – Isaiah 49:6

The message for the contemporary Church is crystal clear. God does not only love Christian insiders, but outsiders as well. The purpose of the Church is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with a lost world. In fact, God may very well send us to love people we fear and despise. But we can take courage in the truth that God will supply us with a love infinitely greater than our own.

Pastor Phil Moran



"...so that Jesus Christ might come to have first place in everything." Colossians 1:18 (b) NRSV

January 30, 2022 | Pastor Phil Moran "God So Loved the World" Luke 4:21-30

Pastor - Phil Moran | Music Director - Jeff Davis

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