



The Lord's Day | September 13, 2020

Preparation

Gathering Hymn

How Firm A Foundation

Hymn 94

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
for I am your God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.”

Call to Worship

Psalm 7:17

Leader: I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness,

All: and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn of Adoration

Come, Christians, Join To Sing

Hymn 302

Come, Christians, join to sing; Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
he is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
on heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism 126

Leader: In the Lord's Prayer, what is the fifth petition?

All: *Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. That is: For the sake of Christ's blood, do not impute to us, wretched sinners, any of our transgressions, nor the evil which still clings to us, as we also find this evidence of your grace in us that we are fully determined wholeheartedly to forgive our neighbor.*

Call to Confession of Sin

Acts 24:14-15 (adapted)

But this I confess to you, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, having a hope in God.

Confession of Sin

Romans 3:10-20

Leader: As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God.

All: **All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.** "Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive."

Leader: "The venom of asps is under their lips." "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness."

All: "Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known." "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Leader: Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

All: For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 3:21-25

Leader: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

All: the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

Leader: This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

Hymn of Assurance

The Love Of God

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
it goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell;
the guilty pair bowed down with care, God gave his Son to win;
his erring child he reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

Chorus O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure the saints and angels song!

When years of time shall pass away and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
when men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
redeeming grace to Adam's race— the saints and angels' song. *Chorus*

Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made,
were every stalk on earth a quill and every man a scribe by trade,
to write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky. *Chorus*

Church Life Announcements

Prayer for Offering

Doxology (with Alleluias)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Hymn 733

Scripture Reading

Acts 24:1-27

¹ And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus. They laid before the governor their case against Paul. ² And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying:

“Since through you we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, ³ in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude. ⁴ But, to detain you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. ⁵ For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the Jews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶ He even tried to profane the temple, but we seized him. ⁸ By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him.”

⁹ The Jews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so.

¹⁰ And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied:

“Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. ¹¹ You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, ¹² and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city. ¹³ Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. ¹⁴ But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, ¹⁵ having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. ¹⁶ So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. ¹⁷ Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. ¹⁸ While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— ¹⁹ they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, ²¹ other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: ‘It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.’”

²² But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.” ²³ Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

²⁴ After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you.” ²⁶ At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. ²⁷ When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

Hymn of Rejoicing

Hymn 585

Take My Life, And Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my king.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose,
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Benediction

Postlude

All Bible quotations are ESV, unless otherwise noted. Hymn numbers are from the Trinity Hymnal 1990.
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