

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 13:6* – I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 4 (pages 9-10)

Q. But doesn't God do man an injustice by requiring in His law what man is unable to do?

A. No, God created man with the ability to keep the law. Man, however, tempted by the devil, in reckless disobedience, robbed himself and all his descendants of these gifts.

Q. Will God permit such disobedience and rebellion to go unpunished?

A. Certainly not. He is terribly angry about the sin we are born with as well as the sins we personally commit. As a just judge He punishes them now and in eternity. He has declared: "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, and do them."

Q. But isn't God also merciful?

A. God is certainly merciful, but He is also just. His justice demands that sin, committed against His supreme majesty, be punished with the supreme penalty – eternal punishment of body and soul.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 349 *"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

Call to Confession: *Psalm 145:8, 18* – The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, we confess that we were born in sin and are helpless to keep Your law perfectly. To the sin with which we were born we have added immeasurable guilt by our own evil thoughts, words and deeds. We have acted thoughtlessly, selfishly, irreverently and foolishly. Every week and every day we challenge Your kindness by heaping up new sins. Acknowledging our helplessness to save ourselves, we ask for the pardon promised by

our Savior Jesus. Wash us and cleanse us from all uncleanness. We pray in the Name of our Savior, Jesus, who died so we might live. Amen.

Have Mercy:

Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

Oh, help my unbelief. Oh, help my unbelief.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon: *Zephaniah 3:16-17* – In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak. The Lord your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

C: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Collect of the Day (unison): O God, the fountain of all truth and grace, grant us humility to practice our faith in the way that You would lead us and not according to our ways which we would attempt to impose on You. By means of our union with Christ, please produce fruit in our lives that is a delight to you. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Psalm 1*

¹ Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.

³ He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.

⁴ The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

***Gospel Lesson:** *Romans 1:18-24*

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²² Professing to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves.

Children's Sermon

***Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalm 72:9-15* (back of bulletin)

Sermon: *"Bad News Guilty – Good News Pardoned"*

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (unison): Our Father, which 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Offertory Response:** Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn of Response:** 547 *"The Church's One Foundation"*

***Benediction**

***Threefold Amen**

***Postlude**