



Faith

Community Church

October 31, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GOD'S GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

O Lord God, how great you are! On the first day of the week we commemorate your creation of the world and all that is in it.

Lord, send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. O Lord God, how great you are!

On the first day of the week we commemorate the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, from the dead.

Lord, create in us a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit within us. O Lord God, how great you are!

On the first day of the week we celebrate in song the presence of your Holy Spirit in the church and throughout the whole world.

Amen!

*OPENING SONGS - "Reformation Hymn"

We will trust God's Word alone,
Where His perfect will is known;
Our traditions shift like sand
While his Truth forever stands.
We will live by faith alone,
Clothed in merit not our own;
All we claim is Jesus Christ
And his finished sacrifice.
Glory be, glory be to God alone,
Through the church He redeemed and made His own.
He has freed us, He will keep us till we're safely home
Glory be, glory be to God alone!

We are saved by grace alone
Undeserved, yet freely shown;
No accomplishment on earth
Can achieve the second birth.
We will stand on Christ alone,
The unyielding Cornerstone;
Nations rage and devils roar,
Still He reigns forevermore!
Glory be, glory be to God alone,
Through the church He redeemed and made His own.
He has freed us, He will keep us till we're safely home
Glory be, glory be to God alone!

"Build My Life"

Worthy of every song we could ever sing.
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for You,
We live for You.

Jesus, the name above every other name.
Jesus, the only one who could ever save.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for You,
We live for You.
Holy, there is no one like You,
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder
Show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me.

I will build my life upon Your love;
It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.
I will build my life upon Your love;
It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.
Holy, there is no one like You,
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder
Show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Lord Jesus Christ, you came to serve.

As you came to a blind man and gave him sight, come to us in our darkness and show us the things we cannot see.

As you came to a man tormented in his mind and gave him peace and healing, come to us in our tensions and make us whole.

As you came to Lazarus, who was dead, and brought him from the grave, come to us in our deadness and bring us to real life now with our living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you came not to be served but to serve.

But we see life the other way round: to get where we do not give, to exploit whom we have not helped, to use what we have not earned. As you came to a dying thief and promised him paradise, come to us now in forgiveness and give us hope.

(Moment of Silent Confession)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

In your name, Lord, we pray.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*DECLARATION OF FAITH- Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 44

113.Q. What is the aim of the tenth commandment?

A. That not even the slightest desire or thought contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in our hearts. Rather, with all our hearts we should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.

114. Q. But can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly?

A. No. In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience. Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose, they do begin to live according to all, not only some, of God's commandments.

115. Q. Since no one in this life can obey the Ten Commandments perfectly, why does God want them preached so pointedly?

A. First, so that the longer we live the more we may come to know our sinfulness and the more eagerly look to Christ for forgiveness of sins and righteousness. Second, so that we may never stop striving, and never stop praying to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit, to be renewed more and more after God's image, until after this life we reach our goal: perfection.

***SONG OF PREPARATION- "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"**

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!
Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

His Word shall not fail you, He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!
Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

SCRIPTURE- Hebrews 11

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for. ³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. ⁴By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith. ⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹²And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore. ¹³All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. ¹⁷By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, ¹⁸even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." ¹⁹Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death. ²⁰By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. ²¹By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff. ²²By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about

the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones. ²³ By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. ²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. ³¹ By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient. ³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

SERMON – “The Family Tree”

SONG OF RESPONSE- “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

I know not why God's wondrous grace
To me He hath made known,
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love
Redeemed me for His own.
But “I know Whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day.”

I know not how this saving faith
To me He did impart,
Nor how believing in His Word
Wrought peace within my heart.
But “I know Whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day.”

I know not when my Lord may come,
At night or noontide fair,
Nor if I'll walk the vale with Him,
Or meet Him in the air.
But “I know Whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day.”

***BENEDICTION**

***DOXOLOGY- “To God Be The Glory”**

To God be the glory, to God be the glory,
To God be the glory, for the things he has done:
With his blood he has saved me;
With his power he has raised me.
To God be the glory for the things he has done.