

THE LORD'S DAY

May 24, 2020

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Psalms 30:10-12

“Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help.” You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

CALL TO WORSHIP

1 Peter 1:3-7

Pastor: *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.*

People: **In this we greatly rejoice, though now for a little while we may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that our faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Prone to Wonder

MINISTRY OF GOD’S WORD

Romans 8:18-39

PREACHING OF GOD’S WORD

Pastor Mike Schuelke

Light and Momentary Suffering Vs. Glory

HYMN OF PROMISE

Be Still My Soul

BENEDICTION

1 Kings 8:57

*May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers;
may he never leave us nor forsake us.*

GLORIA PATRI

PRONE TO WONDER by Barbara R. Duguid & Wayne Duguid Houk

Suffering

All-seeing God,

We confess our sinful response to the trials and discomforts of our lives. While in the depths of woe, we have resented our need for you and rarely lifted our eyes to you, the only one who can bring us true help. Instead we have consistently directed our gaze to earthly things that falsely promise escape and comfort. We have been charmed by vain things: the approval of others; the possessions that we have or want; the allure of misused sexuality; and the enormous drive to worship our bodies, our abilities, and our desires above all things. In our willful blindness to the love and comfort you offer us, we are found completely guilty in your holy sight.

Yet as we continually stray from your love and your law, you look upon our helpless state and lead us to the cross. We ask you to do this now, Father. Thank you Jesus looked perfectly to you in every single situation of his life, trusting you completely in all things. We are deeply grateful that Jesus never stopped trusting you, even when you did not allow the cup of condemnation that we deserve to pass from him. Jesus had to be lifted up on the cross because of our unwillingness to lift up our eyes to you. Yet Christ’s life and death on our behalf is the very comfort to which we are habitually so unwilling to look. Forgive us, Father, for our rejection of this beautiful gospel story into which you have invited us.

Loving God, soften our hearts to delight in your love for us. Change us into sons and daughters who are so enraptured with the story of the gospel that we run to our beautiful Savior as we experience suffering in our lives. Help us to trust you as you call us into journeys that we do not want to take, knowing that you will never leave us or forsake us. Give us strength to believe that from your own fullness you will repay all that you take from us. Lift our eyes afresh to the cross, from whence our help comes, the place where our lives were saved by Jesus’ death. In his name we come, amen.