

WELCOME!



9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Morning Worship

March 15, 2020

Reflections

In the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, we see God's decisive victory not only over death but over all God's other enemies as well. In that one climactic event, we see the certainty that someday, in the kingdom of God, there will be no more violence, war, jealousy, or death... These forces are still alive and at work in the world, but because of the victory that God won at Easter, their doom is certain.

~ Stephen T. Davis

"If now we have a look forward, by and by we shall have a look backward, upon all the way by which we have been led. Even now, when we look back upon what we would call long periods, how short they seem, although they are comparatively recent! How much shorter will they appear when they are looked back upon from the standpoint of eternity!"

~ A Book of Comfort for Those in Sickness

*Infinite joy or endless woe
Depend on every breath
And yet how unconcerned we go
Upon the brink of Death*

~ Isaac Watts, "Frail Life and Succeeding Eternity"

Approach to God

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship — Psalm 46:1-3 (in unison)

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling

Hymn of Praise — His Eye is on the Sparrow

Unison r

1. Why should I feel dis - cour - aged, why should the shad - ows
 2. "Let not your heart be trou - bled," his ten - der word I
 3. When - ev - er I am tempt - ed, when - ev - er clouds a -

7

come, why should my heart be lone - ly and long for
 hear, and rest - ing on his good - ness, I lose my
 rise, when songs give place to sigh - ing, when hope with -

heav'n and home, when Je - sus is my por - tion?
 doubt and fear; tho' by the path he lead - eth,
 in me dies, I draw the clos - er to him,

My con - stant friend is he: his eye is on the spar - row,
 but one step I may see: his eye is on the spar - row,
 from care he sets me free; his eye is on the spar - row,

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and I know he watch - es me; his eye is on the
 and I know he watch - es me; his eye is on the
 and I know he cares for me; his eye is on the

7

spar - row, and I know he watch - es me.
 spar - row, and I know he watch - es me.
 spar - row, and I know he cares for me.

Prayer of Adoration

Songs of Praise

Ancient Of Days

Though the nations rage
Kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King
Reigning over all
So I will not fear for this
truth remains:
That my God is the Ancient of Days

Chorus

*None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and
ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days*

Though the dread of night
Overwhelms my soul
He is here with me
I am not alone
O His love is sure and He knows
my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see
What the future brings
I will watch and wait
For the Saviour King
Then my joy complete standing
face to face
In the presence of the
Ancient of Days

I Will Rejoice In The Lord (Habakkuk 3)

Lord, I have heard of your fame
I stand in awe of your deeds,
O Lord.
Renew them in our day,
In our time make them known
In wrath remember mercy.

Chorus

*And I will rejoice in the Lord!
I will be joyful in God my Savior.
I will rejoice in the Lord!
Again I say rejoice!
I will rejoice in the Lord!
I will rejoice in the Lord! (repeat
last time)*

And though the fig tree
does not bud
And there're no grapes
on the vines,
Though the olive crop fails,
and the fields produce no food,
Though there're no sheep
in the pen,
And no cattle in the stalls.

Yet I will rejoice... to chorus

Lord, in your presence
who can stand?
My deeds before you
are as filthy rags.
There's nothing I can bring
but a heart full of sin.
Yet through the mercy
of Your Son, I can enter in!

So I will rejoice... (to chorus)

Confession of Sin — Romans 8:18-23

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 8:31-37

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

*“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Response in Song — Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Verse 1:

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2:

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed!

Chorus:

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, My Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

Verse 3:

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures

Verse 4:

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who call'd me here below,
Will be forever mine

Congregational Prayer

Offering*

**You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org
and click on the green "give" button in the corner.*

Sermon Text — 2 Samuel 3

There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. And David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker.

²And sons were born to David at Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam of Jezreel; ³and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; ⁴and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; ⁵and the sixth, Ithream, of Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

⁶While there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul. ⁷Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. And Ish-bosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?" ⁸Then Abner was very angry over the words of Ish-bosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head of Judah? To this day I keep showing steadfast love to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not given you into the hand of David. And yet you charge me today with a fault concerning a woman. ⁹God do so to Abner and more also, if I do not accomplish for David what the LORD has sworn to him, ¹⁰to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba." ¹¹And Ish-bosheth could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him.

¹²And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, "To whom does the land belong? Make your covenant with me, and behold, my hand shall be with you to bring over all Israel to you." ¹³And he said, "Good; I will make a covenant with you. But one thing I require of you; that is, you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face." ¹⁴Then David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give me my wife Michal, for whom I paid the bridal price of a hundred foreskins of the Philistines." ¹⁵And Ish-bosheth sent and took her from her husband Paltiel the son of Laish. ¹⁶But her husband went with her, weeping after her all the way to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "Go, return." And he returned.

¹⁷And Abner conferred with the elders of Israel, saying, "For some time past you have been seeking David as king over you. ¹⁸Now then bring it about, for the LORD has promised David, saying, 'By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines, and from the hand of all their enemies.'" ¹⁹Abner also spoke to Benjamin. And then Abner went to tell David at Hebron all that Israel and the whole house of Benjamin thought good to do.

²⁰When Abner came with twenty men to David at Hebron, David made a feast for Abner and the men who were with him. ²¹And Abner said to David, "I will arise and go and will gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your heart desires." So David sent Abner away, and he went in peace.

²²Just then the servants of David arrived with Joab from a raid, bringing much spoil with them. But Abner was not with David at Hebron, for he had sent him away, and he had gone in peace. ²³When Joab and all the army that was with him came, it was told Joab, "Abner the son of Ner came to the

king, and he has let him go, and he has gone in peace.”²⁴ Then Joab went to the king and said, “What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you. Why is it that you have sent him away, so that he is gone?”²⁵ You know that Abner the son of Ner came to deceive you and to know your going out and your coming in, and to know all that you are doing.”

²⁶ When Joab came out from David's presence, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the cistern of Sirah. But David did not know about it. ²⁷ And when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him privately, and there he struck him in the stomach, so that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

²⁸ Afterward, when David heard of it, he said, “I and my kingdom are forever guiltless before the LORD for the blood of Abner the son of Ner. ²⁹ May it fall upon the head of Joab and upon all his father's house, and may the house of Joab never be without one who has a discharge or who is leprous or who holds a spindle or who falls by the sword or who lacks bread!”³⁰ So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had put their brother Asahel to death in the battle at Gibeon.

³¹ Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, “Tear your clothes and put on sackcloth and mourn before Abner.” And King David followed the bier. ³² They buried Abner at Hebron. And the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept. ³³ And the king lamented for Abner, saying,

“Should Abner die as a fool dies?

³⁴ Your hands were not bound;
your feet were not fettered;
as one falls before the wicked
you have fallen.”

And all the people wept again over him. ³⁵ Then all the people came to persuade David to eat bread while it was yet day. But David swore, saying, “God do so to me and more also, if I taste bread or anything else till the sun goes down!”³⁶ And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them, as everything that the king did pleased all the people. ³⁷ So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it had not been the king's will to put to death Abner the son of Ner. ³⁸ And the king said to his servants, “Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?”³⁹ And I was gentle today, though anointed king. These men, the sons of Zeruah, are more severe than I. The LORD repay the evildoer according to his wickedness!”

Sermon — But David's Kingdom Grew Stronger...

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Hymn — It Is Well With My Soul (page 10)

Benediction

Postlude

But David's Kingdom Grew Stronger...

2 Samuel 3

Closing Hymn — It Is Well With My Soul

VERSE 1:

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

CHORUS:

It is well (It is well),
With my soul (With my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul (mod to v4)

VERSE 2:

Though Satan would buffet, tho' trials should come
Let this blessed assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

VERSE 3:

My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul

VERSE 4:

And Lord, haste the day, when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul

CHORUS:

It is well (It is well),
With my soul (With my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for John and Muriel Hadidian's daughter, Cindy, who is being treated for lung cancer. Pray for healing and strength through this difficult process.
- Pray for the Church (both here in Frederick and worldwide) as they minister to their communities in these days of quarantine, sickness, and uncertainty. Pray that through this stressful time that the Church would provide hope, care, and love as they serve in Jesus' name.
- Pray for God's provision, care, and protection for our church family during this time. Pray particularly for the health of our elderly and immune compromised.
- Pray for those who are expecting: Lauren Mendez, Colleen Forsee, Megan Quist and Jessica Bendy. Pray for the health and well-being of both moms and babies. Pray that these little ones will grow to love and serve the Lord all their days.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: Lance Duvall's father, Karyn Lynerd's father, the Wright family, the Beeman family as they are missing Russell, Bill Wright, Scott Innes, Steve Doe, Ron Oakes, John Bishoff, Ed Rodatus and those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones. Pray for strength to bear their difficult trials.

Frederick Area

- Pray for the Frederick Rescue Mission as they continue to serve and feed those in need in these uncertain times. Pray for protection for their workers, for provisions to be met, and for order and joy in the midst of difficulty
- Pray for the churches in Frederick that they will continue to bring hope through the gospel to the people in the community.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our missionary of the month: Kristen Lalley who is preparing to go to East London soon.
- Give thanks and praise to God as Jim & Jenny Knox's son, Sachairi, was discharged from the hospital and now home with them! Give thanks for God's wonderful provision for the Knox family during the 87 days that Sachairi was hospitalized. Pray that as they go forward that the Lord would continue to provide for all of their needs (particularly as they head to the US Embassy in Uganda for a birth certificate and passport for the baby) and continue to strengthen and grow Sachairi.
- Pray for Claire Hall as she prepare to go to Scotland with 20Schemes missions. Pray that although the recent virus outbreak has been affecting various aspects of 20schemes' ministry because of the inability for groups of people to gather together the Lord will continue to cause Gospel ministry to flourish despite these obstacles.
- Pray for Brad & Lucy Myers at UNC in Wilmington as they continue to reach out to students who have now transitioned to online classes for the foreseeable future.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text — Psalm 46:1-3

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Heidelberg Catechism 27 What dost thou mean by the providence of God? *The almighty and everywhere present power of God; whereby, as it were by his hand, he upholds and governs heaven, earth, and all creatures; so that herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, and all things come, not by chance, but by his fatherly hand.*

Monday: How does 2 Sam 3:1 tell you how to read this chapter? What is God doing through this crazy story (3:9, 18, 1 Sam 15:28)? What does this say about God's word, and his promises? Viruses may spread, people may fail, we may lose control, but to what kind of kingdom do you belong (Heb 12:28-29, 22-24). What King is over you?!

Tuesday: 2 Sam 3:1-5. David's been promised the kingdom, but he's stalemated in Hebron, with ongoing opposition. What temptations do you think he'd face? How do vv 2-5 display v 1? How is David disobediently grasping here (Deut 17:17)? How do some of these names cast an ominous shadow over his many children? How do you try grasp after your own security, kingdom? Is this Jesus' way (Phil 2:6)?

Wednesday: 2 Sam 3:8-21. Judge Abner's support of Ish-Bosheth in light of vv 9, 18. Do you ever use Scripture when it suits your own purposes? How does v 6 explain what Abner (Saul's brother) is after? Why does he get so angry? How does he wield his power (esp to his king)? Consider your own motives and actions -and bring them to our gracious King (Ps 51:1-3, 10).

Thursday: 2 Sam 3:22-27. V 27 tells us Joab killed Abner for revenge. Ponder where you seek revenge -even in subtle ways. How is this contrary to the gospel? Can you think of any other motivations Joab may have had to get rid of Abner (e.g. fear, place, power)? Contrast this with Mt 20:23-28. How does Jesus free you to this other kind of living?

Friday: Note the repeated word "peace" in vv 21, 22, 23. What would be especially attractive to David about Abner's offer? How did Joab's actions destroy this possibility? How does David try to preserve unity and peace in 2 Sam 3:28-39? How does belonging to Christ's kingdom of peace free you to make peace with others? How does it final fulfillment free you to lament now, even while peace is not perfect?

Saturday: Read 2 Sam 4 -can injustice establish God's kingdom?