

Today we're going to see that Paul is considering his own story. He makes it clear his whole life is tied to Jesus. If he lives, he lives for Christ. If he dies, he will be with Christ and it will be glorious. How can we live the same way? How can we have the same passion and vision?

Call to Worship

Revelation 4:11

Songs of Praise

Call Upon The Lord One Thing Remains

Announcements and Offering

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Please prayerfully consider an online offering

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, (Isaiah 44:6; 45:5) creator of heaven and earth.

(Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-3; Acts 14:15)

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, (Luke 2:11; John 20:28; John 3:16; John 20:28)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

(Luke 1:35)

and born of the virgin Mary.

(Luke 1:27)

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

(Luke 23:23-25)

was crucified, died, and was buried;

(John 19:20; Acts 4:10; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Corinthians 15:4)

he descended to hell.

(1 Peter 3:18; Luke 23:43)

The third day he rose again from the dead.

(1 Corinthians 15:4, Matthew 28:1, 5-10)

He ascended to heaven

(Mark 16:19; Luke 24:51, Acts 1:11)

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

. (Mark 16:19; Hebrews 1:3)

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

(2 Timothy 4:1; John 5:22)

I believe in the Holy Spirit, (John 15:26; 16:7-8, 13-14; Acts 13:2)

the holy catholic* church,

(Galatians 3:26-29)

the communion of saints,

(Revelation 19:14; Hebrews 10:25)

the forgiveness of sins,

(Luke 7:48)

the resurrection of the body,

(1 Thessalonians 4:16; John 6:39)

and the life everlasting.

(John 10:28; 17:2-3)

Amen.

Song of Declaration

How Great Thou Art

Sermon - United to Christ

Sermon Scripture - Philippians 1:21:30

To Live Is Christ

- What is Paul's current situation?
- How does our union with Christ help us understand Paul's statements in this passage?
 - Galatians 2:20
 - The expression union with Christ refers the believer's solidarity or association with Christ, by the Holy Spirit and through faith, by virtue of which believers partake of his saving benefits.
 - " Richard Gaffin, Union with Christ (Essay)
 - John 15:4-5

• What are the benefits of our union with Christ?

To Die Is Gain

- How should we view this world?
- What are the two possibilities that Paul sees for himself?
 - Philippians 11:23
 - "Even though Paul throws himself with abandon into life in the present, the entire orientation of his life is toward the absolutely certain future." - Gordon Fee
- What does John 14:2-3 say about Jesus' current ministry on our behalf?
 - o 1 Peter 2:11

Submission To Christ

- Why does Paul say he will remain?
 - Philippians 1:24
- What is sanctification?
 - Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness. - Westminster Shorter Catechism #35
- How does Galatians 2:20 help us understand Paul's mindset?

Song of Response

No Longer Slaves

Benediction

- 1. What is the greatest story you've ever heard/read? What makes it the best in your mind?
- 2. What is the more difficult statement for you to grasp out of "to live is Christ" and "to die is gain?" Why?
- 3. Read John 15:4-5. What is the point Jesus is making in this passage?
- 4. Read 1 Peter 2:11. What does Peter mean? How should we live in light of this passage?
- 5. Is there any part of your life that you have not surrendered completely to Jesus? Why?
- 6. What is God calling you to do at this time?