

Order of Worship

APRIL 2, 2023

Meditation: 1 John 3:17-18

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Songs of Adoration – 2

Call to Worship – Psalm 25:1-10 (*Responsive Reading*)

L - To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust;

C - let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

L - Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

C - they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

L - Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

C - Lead me in your truth and teach me,

L - for you are the God of my salvation;

C - for you I wait all the day long.

L - Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,

C - for they have been from of old.

L - Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C - according to your steadfast love remember me,

L - for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

C - Good and upright is the LORD;

L - therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

C - He leads the humble in what is right,

L - and teaches the humble his way.

ALL - All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin

Lord God, You require us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before You. We confess that we have not loved You or our neighbor in this way. We repent of this. Grant that Your Holy Spirit drives us to seek these things through Christ. Amen.

(based on Micah 6:8)

Assurance of Pardon

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

(Colossians 1:13-14)

Songs of Worship – 2

Offering and Doxology

Old Testament Reading – Leviticus 19:9-18

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God. You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD. You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord"

Congregation: "Thanks Be to God"

Welcome / Announcements

Dismissal of Children to Children's Church / Greeting Time

Song of Preparation – 1

Sermon Text – Matthew 5:43-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Sermon - "Imitating God's Love"

Song of Response – 1

Benediction