

Service for Sunday 18th October 2020
Liturgy – Shine, Jesus, Shine
Pianist – Ms Kristin Sternhagen

Worship Theme: The servant-leader

Leadership comes with power and authority, and unfortunately our sinful nature loves to grab hold of that power and authority and misuse it, abuse those who are being led, and turn it for selfish gain. Jesus makes some serious warnings today for those who would abuse their leadership. He is warning the Pharisees and teachers of the law. His warning though was recorded for you and me that we might examine ourselves and learn.

 **OPENING HYMN Amazing Grace – My Chains are Gone**

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see!*

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

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.***

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise, Than when we'd first begun.*

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.***

INVOCATION

Pastor: We worship this morning in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

P: God, our Father, each day is a gift of Your grace.

C: Your mercies are new every morning.

P: Guide our steps by the light of Your Word.

C: Shield us from harm and keep us from evil.

P: Better than life is Your love.

C: Put joy in our hearts and praise on our lips. Alleluia!

P: We pray together:

C: Heavenly Father, we have come to worship You. Draw near to us in your gracious word and assure us of Your loving kindness. Curb our wandering thoughts that we may hear Your voice and sing Your praises. Open our hearts by Your Spirit, that we may believe in Jesus and grow day by day in Your grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

P: We have come into the presence of God who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children, but we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.



*Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone. Thou must save and Thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hands I bring, Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress, helpless look to Thee for grace.
Foul, I to the fountain fly – Wash me, Saviour, or I die!*

P: Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of Your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe.

P: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I pronounce to you that your sins are forgiven. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER: O Lord, my God, I thank You for the love You have shown me in Jesus Christ, my Saviour. Let me live in the peace of forgiveness, help me fight against temptation, correct whatever wrongs I can, and serve You and those around me with love and good works. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

 *Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.*

**Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine! Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit blaze! Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow! Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord, And let there be light!**

*As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. **Chorus***

ISAIAH 5:1-7

I will sing for the one I love
a song about his vineyard:
My loved one had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones

and planted it with the choicest vines.
He built a watchtower in it
and cut out a winepress as well.
Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,
but it yielded only bad fruit.

3 “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

4 What more could have been done for my vineyard
than I have done for it?

When I looked for good grapes,
why did it yield only bad?

5 Now I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge,
and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall,
and it will be trampled.

6 I will make it a wasteland,
neither pruned nor cultivated,
and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds
not to rain on it.”

7 The vineyard of the Lord Almighty
is the nation of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are the vines he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;
for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

PHILIPPIANS 3:12-21

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



HYMN Have Thine Own Way

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way.
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay;
Mould me and make me, after Thy will
While I am waiting, yielded and still.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way.
Search me and try me, Master today.
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way.
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only always, living in me.*

SERMON

(a sermon based on Matthew 21:33-43)

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
the Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

 **HYMN Ready, Lord** (p. 152 in the blue)

*Ready, Lord, I’m ready Lord, to follow where You lead;
Show me, Lord, just show me, Lord, the service You will need.
Ready, Lord, I’m ready, Lord, I’m ready, come what may,
So call me, Lord, just call me, Lord, and I’ll be on Your way.*

*Feed Your lambs, I’ll feed Your lambs, and first of all with food;
Give them drink and comfort them and build their fortitude.
Then I’ll feed them with the Word You fed me with until
They’re ready, Lord, so ready, Lord, to go and do Your will.*

*More than words, yes, more than words I know You want from me;
Moving, Lord, I’m moving, Lord, I’m moving eagerly.
Take my heart and take my hands, my feet, my life, my all;
I’m ready, Lord, so ready, Lord, to follow till I fall.*

THANK OFFERING

During the Offering -- Pans of Hope – Amazing Grace

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

*(Our prayer team is always ready to go to the throne of the Father for you.
For prayer chain requests, email prayer@livinghopereunion.church.
For confidential prayers, call or text Maria Hasten 720-243-0228.)*

INVITATION & EXPLANATION

P: Christ has died!

C: Christ is risen!

P: Christ shall come again!

C: Rejoice in the Lord always.

P: I will say it again: Rejoice.

C: God gave His Son as an atonement for all of our sins

P: Not only for our sins but the sins of the whole world

C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise.

P: Tell everyone what He has done.

P: Let us pray.

P: Lord, our sin separates us from You. We need Your forgiveness. We need Your love. Through this supper, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us. Make us one in Christ – united with Him and united with one another. Forgive our sins, lift up our hearts, inspire us to love as You have loved us. Bless us through this supper.

C: In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



*I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.*

Chorus: *I need Thee, oh, I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Saviour; I come to Thee.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night He was betrayed took bread, gave thanks and gave it to His disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given into death for your sins."

In the same way, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it all of you. This is My blood of the new covenant poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it in remembrance of Me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



*I need Thee ev'ry hour; Stay Thou nearby.
Temptations lose their pow'r when Thou art nigh.*

Chorus: *I need Thee, oh, I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee!
Oh, bless me now, my Saviour; I come to Thee.*

(The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common faith. We ask then that only those who have made that confession of faith through instruction or a visit with our pastor come for Communion. Guests, our pastor would love to visit with you about the blessings of this Supper. Please speak with the pastor after the service.)

Distribution of the Lord's Supper.



HYMN I Lay My Sins on Jesus (#372 in the red hymnal)

*I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us, From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus, To wash my crimson stains
White in His blood most precious, Till not a spot remains.*

*I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in Him.
He heals all my diseases; My soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.*

*I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine.
His right hand me embraces; I in His arms recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on breezes, His name abroad is poured.*

*I long to be like Jesus: Meek, loving, lowly mild;
I long to be like Jesus, The Father's holy child.
I long to be with Jesus, Amid the heavenly throng,
To sing with saints His praises, To learn the angels' song.*



*This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends
And with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:
Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!*

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



Amen. Amen. Amen.

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



CLOSING SONG Nothing But the Blood

*What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Chorus *Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know - Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

*For my pardon this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing, this my plea - Nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Chorus***

*Nothing can for sin atone - Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done - Nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Chorus***

*This is all my hope and peace - Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness - Nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Chorus***

POSTSERVICE - Pans of Hope - Nothing But the Blood of Jesus