

The Lord's Service

March 18, 2018

*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude

*Song of Praise with Greeting

Now Unto the King Eternal

Now unto the King eternal, unto the King immortal,
Unto the King invisible, the only wise God, the only wise God.
(repeat)

Oh, unto the King be glory and honor, unto the King forever.
Unto the King be glory and honor forever and ever!
Amen. Amen.
(1993 Far Lane Music)

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, prepare to meet the *infinite* God in worship.

*Call to Worship

LEADER: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous!

PEOPLE: **Give thanks to the Lord, for His Word is upright and all His work is done by faithfulness**

LEADER: The eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love.

PEOPLE: **Our soul waits for the Lord, He is our help and our shield.**

LEADER: For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.

ALL: **Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

*Salutation

Pastor Mullinax

*Hymn

No. 660

O God beyond All Praising

*Invocation

Elder Tony DeMarco

God Cleanses Us

Reading of the Law of God

LEADER: Hear now the Covenant of your God, which He has commanded you to keep saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

You shall have no other gods before Me.

PEOPLE: You shall not make for yourself an idol.

LEADER: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

PEOPLE: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

LEADER: Honor your father and your mother.

PEOPLE: You shall not murder.

LEADER: You shall not commit adultery.

PEOPLE: You shall not steal.

LEADER: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

PEOPLE: You shall not covet."

LEADER: Have you fully obeyed the Lord in all that He has commanded? Have you loved the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself?

PEOPLE: No, but we have sinned in thought, in word, and in deed.

LEADER: Then confess your sins to the Lord for with Him there is mercy and abundant redemption.

Choral Song of Meditation

Psalm 119.174-175

I have longed for Thy saving health, O Lord;
Thy law is my delight, O Lord.
O let my soul live and it shall praise Thee,
And Thy judgements, shall help me.

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

Holy and merciful Father,
we confess to You that we have sinned against You
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart
and mind and strength;
we have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves;
we have not always had in us the mind of Christ.
You alone know how often we have grieved You
by wasting Your gifts,
by wandering from Your ways, by forgetting Your love.
Forgive us, we pray, most merciful Father
and free us from our sin.
Renew in us the grace and strength of Your Holy Spirit,
for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the good news...
...The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

God Consecrates Us

Old Testament Reading

Elder John Wykoff

Isaiah 40.18-26 (p. 600)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Choir

Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed

Alas and did my Savior bleed? And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I have done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut His glories in,
When Christ the mighty Maker died for man, the creature's sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give myself away, tis all that I can do.
(arr Forrest 2006 Hal Leonard Corporation)

*Doxology

No. 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Mullinax

*Hymn

No. 247

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 22.23-33 (p. 828)

Sermon

Dr. Bill Higgins

THE WRONG QUESTION

*Hymn

No. 689 (vs. 1-2)

Be Still, My Soul

*Confession of Faith (in unison)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried;

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty.

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

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic[†] church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

No. 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Dr. Higgins

Postlude

[†] "catholic" -- universal

The Wrong Question

Mt. 22:23-33

I. Setting the Context

A. The Time

- i. Leading up to the Crucifixion
- ii. The Timeliness of the Question

B. The Players

- i. The Christ, Who is about to deal the death-blow to death itself
- ii. The Sadducees
 1. Priestly Class, in charge of the Temple sacrifices
 2. Theological Liberals; Naturalists
 - a. Denying the Resurrection
 - b. Denying the immortality of the soul
 - c. Denying the existence of spirits

II. The Question in Question – (“It’s A Trap!”)

A. The Mosaic Command

B. The Most Unusual Woman – Outlived 7 Husbands

C. The Jaws of the Trap – Whose Will She Be?

- i. “IF there is a resurrection...”

III. The Two-Pronged Answer

A. The Wrong Question!

- i. You’ve confused this world and the next
 1. They are different

B. The Real Answer to the Real Question

- i. The Root of Their Question
 1. Their Materialism
- ii. The Real Answer
 1. The Biblical Basis
 2. The God of Life

IV. Applications

- A. The categories of this world are not the end of the story
- B. Know the Scriptures and the Power of God
- C. “I am the Resurrection and the Life”
- D. Live now in light of eternity

SERMON NOTES