

A Life Well-Lived

Welcome to worship. We are delighted that you are here.

Let us learn from the Apostle Paul in our sermon text this morning from 2 Timothy 4:6-8 that “the only life that bears being looked back upon is a life of Christian devotion and effort.” - Joseph Exell

In our sermon text, the Apostle Paul “faces his imminent death with honesty about the present (4:6), peace of mind about his past (v. 7), and confidence about his future, which holds an eternal reward (v.8)” The same can be true for us as well. - Gordon Fee

Entrust your past to God's mercy, your present to God's love and your future to God's providence. - Augustine

PRAYER OF PREPARATION * 11:00 AM Service * Gathered Worship

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order
the unruly wills and affections of sinners:
Grant us grace to love what you command
and desire what you promise;
that, among the swift and varied changes of the world,
our hearts may surely be fixed where true joys are found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDEO God Beyond All Praising

CALL TO WORSHIP Jeremiah 31:3, 13

I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

**I will turn your mourning into joy;
I will comfort you and give you gladness for sorrow.**

HYMN OF ADORATIONHail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blessed;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever—
that name to us is Love.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF PRAISE For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light: Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold: Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on His way: Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION.

Merciful God,
enable us to lay down the burden of our sins
and the regret instigated by them.
Forgive us for the things we have done that we regret,
for the things we have failed to do that we regret,
for the times we have believed the devil's lies,
for the times we have acted without love,
for the times we have reacted without thought,
for the times we have failed to forgive,
and for hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid.
We come beseeching Your pardoning grace,
since Jesus bore all of our sins in His body on the tree. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS.Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

HYMN OF PEACE.Be Still My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then shall you better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

ANTHEMMy Jesus! I Love Thee

GREETINGS/MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE. 2 Peter 3:18

But grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To him be the glory both now
and to the day of eternity. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON.2 Timothy 4:6-8

THE SERMONA Life Well Lived

#9 in our series on 2 Timothy: Finish Well

1. The Courageous Look Downward (4:6)
2. The Peaceful Look Backward (4:7)
3. The Triumphant Look Forward (4:8)

HYMN OF CONSECRATION. Rejoice! All Ye Believers

Rejoice, all ye believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near:
the Bridegroom is arising,
and soon he draweth nigh;
up, pray, and watch, and wrestle:
at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning;
replenish them with oil;
and wait for your salvation,
the end of earthly toil.
The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the Bridegroom near;
go meet him as he cometh,
with alleluias clear.

Ye saints, who here in patience
your cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever,
when sorrow is no more:
around the throne of glory
the Lamb ye shall behold,
in triumph cast before him
your diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord to see
the day of earth's redemption
that brings us unto thee.

BENEDICTION.2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God
and to the steadfastness of Christ. AMEN.