

Liturgy for September 13

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship: From Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

Come, let us worship our God!

Song: Heal Us, Emmanuel

(Chorus) Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel Thy touch
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly
O Savior hear our cry

Our faith is feeble, we confess
We faintly trust Thy word
But will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief
“Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried
“O help my unbelief!”

She, too, who touched you in the press
And healing virtue stole
Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace
Thy faith has made thee whole.”

Like her, with hopes and fears we come
To touch You if we may
O send us not despairing home
Send none unhealed away

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1

Christian, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul,
in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing
and ready from now on to live for him. Amen.**

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Christ, Eternal King, we rejoice in you and in the hope and certainty of your kingdom. Already by the work of the Spirit in our hearts we taste of its joys: assurance of our Father's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, and your gracious keeping and protecting of us. Continue to lead and guide us that our lives would be shaped by a greater longing for your kingdom to come in all its fullness. As we live in this very broken, hostile, angry, sad, and dark world would we live as children of light.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, you have gathered us. You have called us to yourself and have brought us into the one body of Christ. Help us to live out the unity we have in Christ with each other and with all believers throughout our world. By the good news of the gospel, the truth of your word, and the work of your Spirit, grant us humility and unity that displays before our world your work, your grace, and your power. Make us and your Church beautiful and fruitful as we follow you.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, when you walked the earth you healed the sick, fed the hungry, welcomed and restored the outcast, and pronounced your healing mercies of our greatest need, the forgiveness of sin. Your heart has not grown dim. Though you are resurrected and ascended and reign from heaven your heart has not changed toward your people and the hurt and brokenness of this world. Give to us such hearts for the hurting, for the poor, for the oppressed, for all who live in this sin cursed world. Grow us in learning from you and following you to be your agents of good and mercy.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Guided by your Son, we pray the words he taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen**

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:12-25

12 Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. 13 And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
16 the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

23 And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. 25 And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Sermon: "A King, A Community, A Cause"

Good News of the Gospel (Matthew 20:28)

Jesus said, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Christ has given his life to pay for your sins. In him your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Song: I Will Follow

V.1 When the sea is calm and all is right, when I feel Your favor flood my life,
Even in the good I'll follow You. Even in the good I'll follow You.

V.2 When the boat is tossed upon the waves, when I wonder if You'll keep me safe,
Even in the storms I'll follow You. Even in the storms I'll follow You.

Chorus

I believe ev'rything that You say You are,
I believe and I have seen Your unchanging heart;
In the good things and in the hardest part,
I believe and I will follow You.
I believe and I will follow You.

V.3 When I see the wicked prospering, when I feel I have no voice to sing,
Even in the want I'll follow You. Even in the want I'll follow You.

V.4 When I find myself in deep distress, and You lead me to my final breath,
Even in my death I'll follow You. Even in my death I'll follow You.

V.5 When I come to end this race I've run and receive the prize that Christ has won,
I will be with You in Paradise. I will be with You in Paradise.

Communion

Come Ye Souls, By Sin Afflicted

Come ye souls by sin afflicted,
Bowed with fruitless sorrow down;
By the broken law convicted,
Through the cross behold the crown;
Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus;
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary,
Light to newly opened eyes,
Like full springs in deserts dreary,
Is the rest the cross supplies;
All who taste it, All who taste it, All who taste it
Shall to rest immortal rise.

Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus;
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Doxology

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.

Benediction