

Liturgy for October 25

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship: From John 6

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you!**
Come, let us worship our God!

Song: All I Have Is Christ

I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own a rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first, I would refuse You still

But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed, you suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me; now all I know is grace

CHORUS

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life

Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone and live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands could never come from me
O Father, use my ransomed life in any way You choose
And let my song forever be, “My only boast is You.”

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

Father, we pray for our hurting world:

- We pray for the leaders and medical workers throughout the world, seeking to protect people from Covid and working to end this pandemic, that you would give them wisdom and endurance.
- We pray for those facing deep financial uncertainty, that you would provide for them.
- We pray for our elections, that they would lead to a good and just outcome for our country.

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

Father, we also pray for the particular needs of our congregation:

- We pray for those who face ongoing illness, for Melissa Baartman as she continue to undergo treatment for her cancer—we ask for healing and strength.
- We pray for those who are currently unemployed or underemployed, that you would grant them work.

- We pray for parents of young children whose lives are especially challenging due to the Covid-related restrictions, that you would give them patience and energy.

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

And Father, we pray for the mission you have given us:

- We pray for our church, that you would change us, that you would develop in us a culture that is passionate about outreach to our world.
- We pray for ourselves, that you would give us opportunities to show and speak of Christ to others and that you would give us boldness to do so.
- We pray for our neighbors and coworkers who do not know you—in our minds we pray for them by name, that you would save them.

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 8:18-34](#)

¹⁸ Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side.

¹⁹ And a scribe came up and said to him, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” ²⁰ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ²¹ Another of the disciples said to him, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” ²² And Jesus said to him, “Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead.”

²³ And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴ And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. ²⁵ And they went and woke him, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.” ²⁶ And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea,

and there was a great calm. ²⁷ And the men marveled, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?”

²⁸ And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. ²⁹ And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” ³⁰ Now a herd of many pigs was feeding at some distance from them. ³¹ And the demons begged him, saying, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of pigs.” ³² And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the pigs, and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the waters. ³³ The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, especially what had happened to the demon-possessed men. ³⁴ And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus, and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their region.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: “The Call to Adventure”

Confession

Good News of the Gospel (From John 3)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

You who have confessed your sin and placed your faith in Christ, know this. Jesus came to save you. In him you have life.

Thanks be to God!

Communion

Song: I Will Follow

Words & Music: Jacob Sooter & Jon Guerra © 2013 Harvest Worship Songs

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Benediction