



A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN FREEDOM

*Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Aurora, CO*

July 5, 2009 – Guest Pastor Doug Bode

Hymn CW243

“Oh, Worship the King”

Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain

**Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above; Oh gratefully sing his pow'r and his love,
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**Oh, tell of his might; oh, sing of his grace, Whose robe is the light, whose canopy, space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree, And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, In you do we trust nor find you to fail.
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!**

Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence, to hear your Word, and to worship you.

P: But who may appear in your presence, heavenly Father, and who may call on you for help?

C: He who has clean hands and a pure heart: he shall receive blessings from the Lord.

P: O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and are unworthy of any of your blessings. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. At your command and promise, therefore, we come to you and confess our sins.

C: O holy and most merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious Word, I come to you, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ, I plead: God, have mercy on me, a sinner!

P: On this your confession, I as a called servant of Christ and by his authority alone, assure you that our gracious Father in heaven has heard your prayer, and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve you faithfully in our generation to the honor of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 6:10-17

When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you--a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant--then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. Fear the LORD your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land. Do not test the LORD your God as you did at Massah. Be sure to keep the commands of the LORD your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 46 (CW, p. 84)

Second Lesson

Galatians 5:1, 13-15

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery....You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

Musical Selection – Men’s Quartet

“God Bless Our Native Land”
Text: Siegfried A. Mahlmann, Music: America

Gospel

John 8:28-36

So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am [the one I claim to be] and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me. The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him." Even as he spoke, many put their faith in him. To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Hymn CW618

“Before The Lord We Bow”
Text, Tune, Setting: public domain

**Before the Lord we bow, the God who reigns above
And rules the world below in boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring; in joy and praise
Our hearts we raise to heav'n's high King.**

**The nation you have blessed may well your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, protected by your care.
For this fair land, for this bright day Our thanks we pay -- gifts of your hand.**

**May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
Shine in your Word's pure light and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue be tuned to praise And join to raise a grateful song!**

**Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own.
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride! Your sin deplore And bow before the Crucified!**

**And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, and, joyful, sing To heav'n's high King salvation's song!**

Sermon

***GOD SHED HIS GRACE ON THEE!* Deuteronomy 8:10-20**

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something your fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

¹⁹If you ever forget the LORD your God and follow other gods and worship and bow down to them, I testify against you today that you will surely be destroyed. ²⁰Like the nations the LORD destroyed before you, so you will be destroyed for not obeying the LORD your God.

Confession of Faith (Sung)

Tune CW517 Public Domain

**In God the Father we believe, who made all things, by whom we live,
Who for our daily needs provides, from harm and danger safely hides.
For this, obedient praise is due, for this most certainly is true!**

**True God, true man, Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God was sacrificed.
Upon the cross his life he gave and rose triumphant from the grave.
Because he lives, we shall live too. Oh, this most certainly is true.**

**The Holy Spirit now is sent, active in Word and Sacrament,
To bind the church below, above, in cords of sin-forgiving love
As those who have been born anew. Oh this most certainly is true.**

The Offering

Prayer for the Nation (spoken responsively)

Page 130 in Christian Worship

Lord's Prayer

THE SACRAMENT

(Personal Preparation for Holy Communion on Page 156 in Christian Worship)

God's word requires proper preparation and understanding for receiving the Lord's Supper. We practice membership communion, and ask that those who partake first become members or belong to a congregation of our church body, the Wisconsin Synod. Please ask for an informational sheet from one of the ushers for a fuller explanation from the scriptures. Thank you!

Invitation and Words of Institution

Agnus Dei (Sing)

CW397 v 1 & 5 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Distribution and Meditation

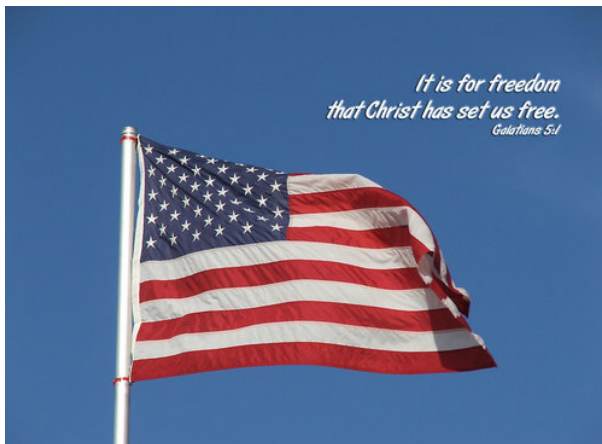
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction

P: You are the light of the world.

*C: A city on a hill cannot be hidden.
Neither do people light a lamp and put it
under a bowl. Instead they put it on its
stand, and it gives light to everyone in the
house.*

*P: In the same way, let your light shine
before men, that they may see your good
deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*



Closing Hymn

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

8a Men's Quartet

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10:30a Congregation

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home,**

**Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!**