WALKER'S CHAPEL

Joy Through Humility

May 12, 2024 • Seventh Sunday of Easter

Service of Worship

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Prelude, Announcements, and Preparation

Words of Greeting

- **Leader:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)
- **People:** And also with you.

God Calls His People and Reveals Himself

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Call to Worship • Psalm 95:1-7

"Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand."

Hymn of Praise • *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Hymnal, page 457)*

God Calls His People to Confession, Repentance, and Reconciliation

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Prayer of Confession • Micah 6:8; James 4:6-7; Psalm 51:17; Phil 2:3-11; 1 Pet 5:5

Leader: Father, you have called us to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.

People: But we often behave unjustly, refuse mercy to others, and act in prideful ways.

Leader: The Scriptures teach us that you oppose the proud but give grace to the humble.

People: Yet we sometimes refuse to submit to you, and we become prey for the evil one.

Leader: Give us the sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart before you.

People: Help us to humble ourselves so that you may exalt us as you see fit.

- Leader: Give us the same mind as Christ Jesus, who made himself nothing and took on the form of a servant.
- All: Give us the grace to clothe ourselves with humility toward one another. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon • Micah 7:18-19

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea." Amen.

Hymn of Prayer • Rock of Ages (Hymnal, page 499)

God Teaches Us Through His Word

Scripture Reading • John 3:22-36

"After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized (for John had not yet been put in prison).

Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. And they came to John and said to him, 'Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness – look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him.' John answered, 'A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, "I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him." The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease.'

He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him."

Sermon

Joy Through Humilty – Jason Cashell

Hymn of Adoration • My Jesus, I Love Thee (Hymnal, page 648)

God's People Respond in Grateful Praise

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

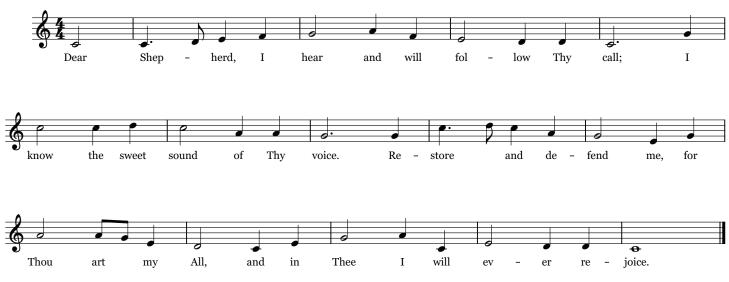
God Sends His People Out to Be Light in Darkness

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, and instructing them in His Word, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

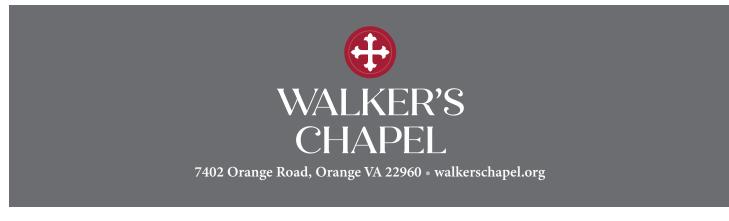
Hymn of Praise • To God Be the Glory (Hymnal, page 55)

Benediction • Matthew 20:25-28

"But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles Lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Amen.



O Thou in Whose Presence



Scripture quotes are from the ESV. Cover image: *Saint John the Baptist Bearing Witness*, Annibale Carracci, circa 1600, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.