

MCLEAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Divine Worship

January 24, 2010

9:15AM and 11:00AM

Leading in worship this morning:

The Reverend Dr. Marlin C. Hardman, Associate Pastor

The only ground of God's love is His love. The ground of God's love is only and wholly in Himself. There is neither portion nor proportion in us to draw His love. There is no love nor loveliness in us that should cause a beam of His love to shine upon us.
—Thomas Brooks

The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of Christians is a God of love and comfort, a God who fills the soul and heart of those whom he possesses, a God who makes them conscious of their inward wretchedness, and his infinite mercy; who unites himself to their inmost soul, who fills it with humility and joy, with confidence and love, who renders them incapable of any other end than himself.
—Blaise Pascal

There is nothing we can do to make God love us more, there is nothing we can do to make God love us less.
—Philip Yancey

The Prelude***

The Welcome and Mission of MPC***

The Ordination and Installation of Deacons (9:15) and Elders (11:00)

The Preparation for Worship

The Call to Worship

1 Peter 2:4-5; 9-10

Leader: As you come to Jesus Christ, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

People: **We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that we may proclaim the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

Leader: Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Invocation

We call upon God to meet with us.

- We ask **ALL** attending to complete the **Keeping Connected** card—members, regular attenders and newcomers.
- **Nursery**—Parents are encouraged to use childcare, which is provided during each service for infants through 24 months. Children age 4 through 2nd grade may attend **Children's Church** during the sermon.
- As a courtesy to all worshipping this morning, please set **cellular phones** and **paggers** to "**silent**" mode.
- **Large-print bulletins** are available from an usher or at the table located in the narthex.

The Song of Praise***

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Hymnal No. 353, v. 1,2,5,6

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,
The church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God: her walls before thee stand,
Dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

Jesus, thou Friend divine, our Savior and our King.
Thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe shall great deliv'rance bring.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heav'n.

Words by Timothy Dwight, 1800; Music by Aaron Williams, 1763

The Confession of Sin

*Believers acknowledge their need for renewal
and unbelievers their need for the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.*

Almighty God, we confess we have shunned our calling as a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God.

You have called us to be your people, the church, to declare your praises and your mercies to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, more isolated than involved, more callous than compassionate, more obstinate than obedient, more legalistic than loving.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins through the cross of Jesus, our Redeemer. Remove the idols which prevent us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. AMEN.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

We are reminded of the promises of God in Christ.

1 Peter 1:18-21

Leader: For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

People: He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for our sake.

Leader: Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

The Song of Rejoicing

Nothing but the Blood

Hymnal No. 307, v. 1,2,3,4

What can wash away my sin? nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**Refrain: O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

For my cleansing, this I see—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my pardon this my plea—nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Refrain**

Nothing can for sin atone—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done—nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Refrain**

This is all my hope and peace—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness—nothing but the blood of Jesus. **Refrain**

Words and Music by Robert Lowry

The Giving of the Peace***

“The peace of Christ be with you...”

Leader: Through the blood of Jesus, we are forgiven. As God's children, let's welcome one another now with a spirit of love and thankfulness. May the peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

The Pastoral Prayer

*A time to give thanksgiving to God, to bring our needs to him,
and to ask for his blessing on our tithes and offerings.*

Ruling Elder, Mike Haas

The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

*We give back to God a portion of what is already his.
Those not from our church family should feel no obligation to give.*

The Offertory

If My People

Chancel Choir

J. Martin

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, humble themselves and pray,
If my people will seek my face and turn from their wicked ways;
Then will I hear from heaven and forgive their sins.
I will heal their land. I will forgive their sins and heal their land.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, humble themselves and pray,
If my people pray, I will heal their land.

The Scripture Reading

We hear the very words of God.

Ephesians 1:3-14

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

(Pew Bible, p.976)

People: Thanks be to God!

*During the following song, children are dismissed for Children's Church
which meets in "My Father's Place" (Room 12).*

The Song of Preparation

Father Long before Creation

Father, long before creation thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above,
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion, yet our God is ever the same;
His compassion and his covenant through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children must forever praise his name.

God's compassion is my story, is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us that his only Son he gave.

Loving Father now before thee we will ever praise thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing 'til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb.
Giving glory, giving glory to our God and to the Lamb.

Words from a Chinese Hymn, translated by Francis Johnson; Music by Andrew Osenga ©2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings (ASCAP) admin. by the Loving Company. CCLI#152421

The Sermon

***CHOSEN TO LOVE
III. THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE***

The Reverend James W. Forsyth

The Song of Sending

Grace Unmeasured

Grace unmeasured vast and free that knew me from eternity,
That called me out before my birth to bring you glory on this earth.
Grace amazing pure and deep, that saw me in my misery,
That took my curse and owned my blame, so I could bear your righteous name.

Chorus: Grace (grace, grace) paid for my sins and brought me to life.

Grace (grace, grace) clothes me with pow'r to do what is right.

Grace (grace, grace) leads me to heav'n where I'll see your face

And never cease to thank you for your grace.

Grace abounding strong and true that makes me long to be like you,
That turns me from my selfish pride to love the cross on which you died.

Grace unending all my days, you'll give me strength to run this race.
And when my years on earth are through, the praise will all belong to you. **Chorus**

Words and music by Bob Kauffin c. 2005 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI) CCLI #152421

The Benediction

The Dismissal

Leader: Live now in the power of Christ, to the praise of his name!

People: We go to be his body in a broken world.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

The Postlude

*** Indicates ushers may seat at these times

Next Lord's Day:

Text: Ephesians 1: 15-22

Sermon: A VISION OF BEAUTY

IV. THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE

"THY KINGDOM COME . . ."

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1020 BALLS HILL ROAD, McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22101-2021 ● PHONE: 703-821-0800 ● WWW.MCLEANPRES.ORG

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