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WHEN YOU PRAY...

PRAY FOR LEADERSHIP

July 31, August 1 and 4, 2021

The need to hold on to control in our lives causes untold pain and heartache. Our minds and our hearts, no matter how pure or justified we think our goals and aims may be, are corrupt and dangerously fallible. Jesus holds out the cure by teaching us to pursue in everything our heavenly Father's direction and leadership.

BELLS AND WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN SING

OPENING HYMN 256, vv. 1, 3, 4

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin.
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"

M The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Dear family of God, the prophet Jeremiah shares a sobering assessment of our ability to accurately evaluate our motives and actions:

C **The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9).**

M God knows. He sees clearly how sin taints and impacts everything we think, say, and do. This reality rightfully fills us with fear. But God's perfect love drives out that fear. God's love found a way to justly pay sin's price, freeing us from the condemnation we deserve. Confident of God's forgiving love in Christ, we confess our sins.

All **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you have promised that if we continue in your Word, then we will know the truth and the truth will set us free.

C **Pour out your Holy Spirit on us today.**

M Teach us what it means to live our lives under your leadership,

C **so that we may hallow your name in all we say and do.**

M We pray in your name, Lord Jesus. For you live and reign with Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:4-14, Bible page 332

When given the opportunity to ask for anything he wanted, Solomon asked for God's leadership in his life so that he might be a just and compassionate ruler of God's people.

- M You, LORD, showed favor to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- C **You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins.**
- M Restore us again, God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.
- C **Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations?**
- M Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- C **Show us your unfailing love, LORD, and grant us your salvation.**
- M I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants.
- C **Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**
- M The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.
- C **Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.**
- All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11, Bible page 967

Our Lord and Savior seeks the leadership of his heavenly Father in the Word to overcome temptation and to do his Father's will.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



THE SIXTH PETITION

- All **Lead us not into temptation.**
- M *What does this mean?*
- C **God surely tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us, so that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or lead us into false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins; and though we are tempted by them, we pray that we may overcome and win the victory.**

THE SEVENTH PETITION

- All **But deliver us from evil.**
- M *What does this mean?*
- C **In conclusion we pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would deliver us from every evil that threatens body and soul, property and reputation, and finally when our last hour comes, grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven.**

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That has us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done;
Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one
Whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?" Jesus Christ it is,
The almighty Lord. And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain,
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will -- Hate, steal, hurt, or kill --
Though all may be gone, Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!

SERMON

Matthew 6:13, Bible page 970

Pastor Pete Panitzke

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge -- Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 537, vv. 1-3

Onward, Christian Soldiers

Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.
Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle See his banners go!
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS