

THE DIVINE SERVICE

February 8, 2004

The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whomsoever will come. Jesus taught us that if our brother has something against us, we ought to go and be reconciled to him before we do anything else in gathered worship. Please do that without delay if necessary.

In Preparation

PRELUDE

Christina Bausman

*Gottes Sohn ist kommen – Ernst Pepping
(Once He Came in Blessing)*

*Once he came in blessing, all our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us; Hope and freedom gave us.*

Toccata – Eugene Gigout

WORDS OF PREPARATION

1 Corinthians 14:12b-20

So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.

Luke 5:1-11

On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

SILENT PRAYER

Following the prelude, please observe silence in final preparation for gathered worship.

Minister: We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Minister: Let us pray.

✠ **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Minister: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins to God our Father, saying:

Unison: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against one another, in thought, word and deed. From the great storehouse of your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Minister: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. God does not despise a broken and a contrite heart. Jesus said: "Whoever comes to me I will never drive away." The Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. To those who repent and look to Jesus Christ for their salvation, I declare that the absolution of sins is effected in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouth will declare your praise.

✠ **GLORIA PATRI**

☞

The Service of the Word



CHORAL ANTHEM

Greater Love Hath No Man – John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death. (Song of Solomn 8:6,7)
Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13)
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,
that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. (1 Peter 2:24)
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified,
in the Name of the Lord Jesus: (1 Corinthians 6:11)
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
That ye should shew forth the praises of him
who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)
I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God,
that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice,
Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (Romans 12:1)

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

OUR RESPONSE

Isaiah, Mighty Seer

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Unison: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERLUDE

☞ *Children Pre-K through 2nd grade may be dismissed through the foyer to children's worship at this time (9:00 am only).
At this time, please sign and pass the red pads down the row.*

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Teaching Elder, Ronnie Rowe (9:00)
Ruling Elder, Marvin Olasky (10:45)

Following the prayer of the leader, the congregation will pray "The Lord's Prayer."

Unison: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Youth Choir

The Lord's Prayer – Kathy Bowen

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy holy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us our daily bread. Forgive our debts as we forgive.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and thine is the power,
and thine is the glory forever. Amen.
(Matthew 6:9-13)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MORNING SERMON

Dr. Robert Godfrey

President and Professor of Church History, Westminster Seminary, California

Enjoying God

Psalm 73

A PSALM OF ASAPH

Truly God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.
²But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled,
my steps had nearly slipped.
³For I was envious of the arrogant
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
⁴For they have no pangs until death;
their bodies are fat and sleek.
⁵They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
⁶Therefore pride is their necklace;
violence covers them as a garment.
⁷Their eyes swell out through fatness;
their hearts overflow with follies.
⁸They scoff and speak with malice;
loftily they threaten oppression.
⁹They set their mouths against the heavens,
and their tongue struts through the earth.
¹⁰Therefore his people turn back to them,
and find no fault in them.
¹¹And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
¹²Behold, these are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.
¹³All in vain have I kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.
¹⁴For all the day long I have been stricken,
and rebuked every morning.
¹⁵If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have
betrayed the generation of your children.

¹⁶But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,
¹⁷until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then I discerned their end.
¹⁸Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.
¹⁹How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!
²⁰Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself,
you despise them as phantoms.
²¹When my soul was embittered,
when I was pricked in heart,
²²I was brutish and ignorant;
I was like a beast toward you.
²³Nevertheless, I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
²⁴You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me to glory.
²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion
forever.
²⁷For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
²⁸But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SONG OF GRATITUDE TO GOD

In Sweet Communion, Lord with Thee

Those who have professed faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins within a church body and who have been baptized are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. It is dangerous to eat the body and blood of the Lord otherwise. For this reason, we ask those who do not meet the above conditions to refrain from eating. We receive the Lord's Supper worthily only if we bear in mind that Christ gave his body for the remission of our sins; it is his merit only that admits us to this table. To eat on any other grounds is dangerous. The Christian who doubts his standing before God should labor to have his doubts resolved. This brother or sister in Christ is especially encouraged to eat this feast that he may be further strengthened in his faith.

The Service of the Table

- ☞ Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you!
People: And also with you!
Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words which the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you."

- Minister: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord!
Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God!
People: It is good and right to do so!

- Minister: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now we do praise you who sent your only begotten Son, and that in him, being found in fashion as a man, you did reveal the fullness of your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

☞ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The center cup and inner circle contain grape juice and the outer circles contain wine. Our elders strongly encourage everyone to take the wine. The juice is available for those who cannot drink the wine in faith (Romans 14:23). Please hold each element until all have been served so that we may partake together.

COMMUNION HYMN (*as the bread is served*)

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

COMMUNION HYMN (*as the cup is served*)

Once He Came In Blessing

✠ **BENEDICTION**

✠ ✠ **DEPARTING HYMN**

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Redeemer family would like to thank Dr. Robert Godfrey for bringing God’s Word to us today. Dr. Godfrey has taught church history at Westminster Seminary, California since 1981, having previously taught at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Stanford University, and Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Currently he serves as the third President of Westminster Seminary, California and is a minister in the United Reformed Churches. As a Professor of Church History he helps students see God’s truth alive in the life of the church, shaping its worship, piety and theology. He encourages students to reflect on the ways in which different cultures have influenced the development of the church throughout its history. He has spoken at many conferences, including ones sponsored by the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, the Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology, and Ligonier Ministries. He is the author of *Reformation Sketches*, *Pleasing God in Our Worship* and *God’s Pattern for Creation*. He has written chapters or articles in *John Calvin, His Influence in the Western World; Through Christ’s Word; Theonomy: A Reformed Critique; The Agony of Deceit; Roman Catholicism; Sola Scriptura!; The Practice of Confessional Subscription; The Coming Evangelical Crisis;* and in such journals as *Archive for Reformation History, Sixteenth-Century Journal* and *Westminster Theological Journal*.

Dr. Godfrey and his wife Mary Ellen have three grown children.