

COS Sunday Devotional Streaming 03/22/20

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Pastor: Dear Jesus, you promised that wherever two or three are gathered in your name, you would be there among them. We are not gathered in one place, as we would prefer, but we are still of one spirit thinking of You and yearning for your special presence among us. Please hear us as we call on your name, and do as you promised: be among us, in each of our homes, apartments, or wherever we may be.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

People: Amen

MUSIC & MEDITATION

Listen to a brief time of recorded music and pray, or use the time as you wish, to reach out to Jesus with your thoughts. If you have prayer requests, you can submit them during the music.

MEDITATION SONG: BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

(Bridge and Chorus)

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name

(Chorus)

PSALM OF THE DAY

A Maskil of David, when he was in the cave. A Prayer.

142 With my voice I cry out to the Lord;
with my voice I plead for mercy to the Lord.

² I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.

³ When my spirit faints within me,
you know my way!
In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴ Look to the right and see:
there is none who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for my soul.

⁵ I cry to you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."

⁶ Attend to my cry,

for I am brought very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me!
7 Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name!
The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me. (ESV)

DEVOTIONAL SONG: WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS?

What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown
for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb
Who is the great "I AM";
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing His love for me,
And through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: I ask you before God, who searches our hearts and thoughts: Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His anger and punishment?

People: I do so confess.

Pastor: Do you repent of all of your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?

People: I do so repent.

Pastor: Do you believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake will forgive you all your sins?

People: I do so believe.

Pastor: Do you promise that you will, with the help of the Holy Spirit, correct your sinful life?

People: I do so promise.

Pastor: Finally, do you believe that through me, a servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

People: I do so believe.

Pastor: As you believe, so may it be unto you. I by virtue of my office, as an ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the place and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 42:14-21 (ESV)

¹⁴ For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶ And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.
These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷ They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
"You are our gods."
¹⁸ Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!
¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the Lord?
²⁰ He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.
²¹ The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Devotional Questions

1. How does this reading relate to the rest of the readings?
2. How does it relate to the theme, "Following the plan in the face of trouble?"
3. How does this prophecy relate to us today?
4. Doesn't Isaiah often refer to Jesus as "the servant"? Then how is he blind?

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5:8-14 (ESV)

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,
"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

Devotional Questions

1. How does this reading relate to the rest of the readings?
2. How does it relate to the theme, "Following the plan in the face of trouble"?
3. What does it mean to "expose the works of darkness"? How can we do that?
4. How does the poem at the end of this reading relate to the Christian life in relation to infectious, possibly deadly, disease?

DEVOTIONAL SONG: CORNERSTONE

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name (repeat)

Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord, Lord of all
He is Lord, Lord of all, Christ alone

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

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 and ever. Amen.

VIRTUAL "SHARING OF THE PEACE"

GOSPEL: JOHN 9:1-39 (ESV)

As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE BY PASTOR ELY PRIETO

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION