

Worship Service on November 12, 2023

Welcome and Announcements ~ Bryan Richheimer

Today ~ Our Operation Christmas Child boxes are due today!
Thank you to all who filled a box and to those who are willing to help with the cost of shipping.

Tonight ~ There is a “Un-Hunger Games” youth activity at the Zion Episcopal Church from 5 – 6:30 pm. It is for kids 5th grade and up and will include a meal and games. People who attend are invited to bring canned goods to donate to the food pantry.

Tuesday ~ The deacons are meeting at 4:30 pm in the fellowship room.
~ At 6 pm, everyone is invited to come for a potluck meal to express our gratitude to God through fellowship and testimonies. If you would like to share your story of coming to faith, we would be delighted to hear it. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship room.

Wednesday ~ The Seeking God Together group will meet via zoom at 11 am.
~ Women Who Pray will meet at 2 pm at Tatiana’s home and discuss Rachel and Leah from our book.
~ The Christian Education Committee will meet at 6:30 pm via zoom.

Thursday ~ There is a Prudential Committee meeting at church and via zoom at 5 pm
~ Choir practice will be at the church at 7 pm.

Friday ~ The Pastoral Relations Committee will meet at the Sommons’ home at 3:30 pm.

Saturday ~ The Men’s FOCUS group will meet for breakfast and a discussion of marriage at 9 am at the church.

*Happy Birthday to Ray Koch this past Wednesday
and to Cheryl Hess on this coming Thursday*

Happy Anniversary to Jim and Carol Johnson on Wednesday!

*Thank you to Lindy Mylott for the flowers
in loving memory of her mother, Ruby Norse and her Aunt May.*

Mission Moment ~ Matthew Sommons will introduce the International Ministries giving opportunity for November before we see a video highlighting one of the many Global Servants of IM. There are special envelopes available near the box, or you can designate your offering check IM or World Missions.

Honoring Veterans ~ Please stand if you have served your country.

Personal Story ~ Bryan Richheimer

Singing Navy Hymn ~ “*Eternal Father Strong to Save*” (#85, blue)

*Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave
Who bid the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O Savior, whose almighty word the wind and waves submissive heard
Who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease, and gave for fierce confusion, peace
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea
O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger’s hour
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoever they go
Thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea*

Words ~ William Whiting, 1860, Music ~ John B. Dykes, 1861 | Public Domain

Call to Worship ~ selected verses from Psalm 92 (NIV)

Please join in reading the bold lines.

¹ It is good to praise the Lord
and make music to your name, O Most High,

² proclaiming your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night,

⁴ For you make me glad by your deeds, Lord;
I sing for joy at what your hands have done.

⁵ How great are your works, Lord,
how profound your thoughts!

^{7b} Though the wicked spring up like grass and evildoers flourish,
they will be destroyed forever.

⁸ **But you, Lord, are forever exalted.**

⁹ For surely your enemies will perish;
all evildoers will be scattered.

¹² The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;

¹³ planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ They will still bear fruit in old age,
they will stay fresh and green,

¹⁵ proclaiming, “The Lord is upright;
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.”

Choir Song ~ “I Worship You”

Praying Together ~

**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**

Song ~ The worship team will lead us in singing

“Trust and Obey”

*When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word
What a glory He sheds on our way
While we do His good will, He abides with us still
And with all who will trust and obey*

Chorus

*Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey
But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows
Are for them who will trust and obey*

Chorus

Lord, I love You, Please help me to trust and obey
[repeat once]

*Then in fellowship sweet, we will sit at His feet
Or we'll walk by His side in the way
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go
Never fear, only trust and obey*

Chorus two times

Lord, I love You, Please help me to trust and obey
[repeat 2 times]

CCLI Song # 22094

Daniel Brink Towner | John Henry Sammis | Big Daddy Weave Version
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Introducing the Sermon ~ Rev. Rebecca Sommons

Scripture Text ~ 1 Samuel 15 read by Bryan Richheimer

¹ Samuel said to Saul, “I am the one the Lord sent to anoint you king over his people Israel; so listen now to the message from the Lord.

² This is what the Lord Almighty says:

‘I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt.

³ Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them.

Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.”

⁴ So Saul summoned the men and mustered them at Telaim—two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand from Judah.

⁵ Saul went to the city of Amalek and set an ambush in the ravine.

⁶ Then he said to the Kenites,
“Go away, leave the Amalekites
so that I do not destroy you along with them;
for you showed kindness to all the Israelites
when they came up out of Egypt.”

So the Kenites moved away from the Amalekites.

⁷ Then Saul attacked the Amalekites all the way from Havilah to Shur, near the eastern border of Egypt.

⁸ He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword.

⁹ But Saul and the army spared Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs—everything that was good.

These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.

(Continued on the next page)

¹⁰ Then the word of the Lord came to Samuel:

¹¹ “I regret that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions.”

Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all that night.

¹² Early in the morning Samuel got up and went to meet Saul, but he was told, “Saul has gone to Carmel.

There he has set up a monument in his own honor and has turned and gone on down to Gilgal.”

¹³ When Samuel reached him, Saul said,
“The Lord bless you! I have carried out the Lord’s instructions.”
¹⁴ But Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?”

¹⁵ Saul answered, “The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the Lord your God, but we totally destroyed the rest.”

¹⁶ “Enough!” Samuel said to Saul.

“Let me tell you what the Lord said to me last night.”

“Tell me,” Saul replied.

¹⁷ Samuel said, “Although you were once small in your own eyes, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel?

The Lord anointed you king over Israel.

¹⁸ And he sent you on a mission, saying,
‘Go and completely destroy those wicked people, the Amalekites; wage war against them until you have wiped them out.’

¹⁹ Why did you not obey the Lord?
Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the Lord?”

(Continued on the next page)

²⁰ “But I did obey the Lord,” Saul said.

“I went on the mission the Lord assigned me.

I completely destroyed the Amalekites

and brought back Agag their king.

²¹ The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder,

the best of what was devoted to God,

in order to sacrifice them to the Lord your God at Gilgal.”

²² But Samuel replied:

“Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices

as much as in obeying the Lord?

To obey is better than sacrifice,

and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination,

and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,

he has rejected you as king.”

²⁴ Then Saul said to Samuel,

“I have sinned. I violated the Lord’s command and your instructions.

I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them.

²⁵ Now I beg you, forgive my sin

and come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord.”

²⁶ But Samuel said to him, “I will not go back with you.

You have rejected the word of the Lord,

and the Lord has rejected you as king over Israel!”

²⁷ As Samuel turned to leave,

Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore.

²⁸ Samuel said to him,

“The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today

and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you.

²⁹ He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind;

for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind.”

(Continued on the next page)

³⁰ Saul replied, “I have sinned.

But please honor me before the elders of my people and before Israel;

come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord your God.”

³¹ So Samuel went back with Saul, and Saul worshiped the Lord.

³² Then Samuel said, “Bring me Agag king of the Amalekites.”

Agag came to him in chains.

And he thought, “Surely the bitterness of death is past.”

³³ But Samuel said,

“As your sword has made women childless,

so will your mother be childless among women.”

And Samuel put Agag to death before the Lord at Gilgal.

³⁴ Then Samuel left for Ramah, but Saul went up to his home in

Gibeah of Saul.

³⁵ Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again,

though Samuel mourned for him.

And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Sermon~ “Prioritizing Complete Obedience”

~ Rev. Rebecca Sommons

Question ~ What is God asking you to do or dedicate to Him?

Song ~ The worship team will lead us in singing

“Lord, I Need You”

*Lord I come. I confess. Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart*

Chorus

***Lord I need You, oh I need You. Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God how I need You***

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found, is where You are

And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me

Where You are Lord I am free. Holiness is Christ in me

Chorus

*So teach my song to rise to You, when temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus You're my hope and stay*

Chorus

My one defense my righteousness, Oh God how I need You

CCLI Song # 5925687

Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher

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Benediction ~ from Psalm 119:33-35 (NIV)

Teach us, Lord, the way of your decrees,
that we may follow it to the end.

Give us understanding, so that we may keep your law
and obey it with all our hearts.

Direct us in the path of your commands,
for there we find delight.