



LET MY PEOPLE GO!

“Let Me Explain”

March 25, 2020

7:00 pm

Welcome to Worship! The Ten Commandments were given by God for our benefit and for His glory. We use them every day to help guide our decisions in life, even decisions at a time like this. While we don't keep them perfectly, we thank God that Jesus did.

Large Print Bulletins and hearing devices are available from an usher.

+++ Service of Prayer & Preaching, Page 260 +++

THE PRELUDE: "Alas, My God, My Sins are Great" - Marpurg

THE OPENING HYMN: "All Depends on Our Possessing" Hymn 732

- 1 All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken
And will keep a dauntless heart.
- 2 He who to this day has fed me
And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me
Will remain my help divine.
- 3 Many spend their lives in fretting
Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.
- 4 When with sorrow I am stricken,
Hope anew my heart will quicken;
All my longing shall be stilled.
To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender,
For on God alone I build.

5 Well He knows what best to grant me;
All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt His wisdom never;
As God wills, so be it ever;
I commit to Him my way.

6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in His grace.

THE OPENING VERSICLES (LENT): (page 260)

L This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

L Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

L Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

C let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

L Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C He was bruised for our iniquities.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C 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.**

THE PSALM: Responsively (selected verses from Psalm 136)

P: The LORD brought Israel out of Egypt.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: He acted with a strong hand and outstretched arm.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: Give thanks to him who parted the Red Sea.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: He led Israel safely through.

C: His steadfast love endures forever!

P: He hurled Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea!

C: His steadfast love endures forever!

P: Give thanks to him who led his people through the wilderness!

All: His steadfast love endures forever!

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE EPISTLE READING: Philippians 4:11-13

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 20:20–28

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LENTEN RESPONSORY: (page 263)

L We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

L Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

L We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

The Apostles' Creed

C **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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE SERMON HYMN: "What is the World to Me"

Hymn 730

- 1 What is the world to me
 With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone,
 Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
 My soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest.
 What is the world to me!

- 2 The world seeks to be praised
 And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects
 That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
 Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone.
 What is the world to me!

- 3 The world seeks after wealth
 And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content
 Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good,
 Content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth.
 What is the world to me!

- 4 What is the world to me!
 My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
 My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all,
 My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare:
 What is the world to me!

THE SERMON: "Let Me Explain"

THE PRAYERS: (page 265)

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

THE EVENING PRAYER: (page 266)

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

THE BLESSING: (page 267)

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN: "On What Has Now Been Sown"

Hymn 921

- 1 On what has now been sown
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!

- 2 To Thee our wants are known,
From Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.

- 3 O grant that each of us,
Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

THE SILENT PRAYER: Thank you Jesus for your loving desire to acquire me, now and forevermore! Amen.

THE POSTLUDE: "God That Made the Earth and Heaven" - H. Alexander Matthews

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Serving in Worship

Preacher: Pastor Rodriguez **Liturgists:** Pastor Bloch and Pastor Blumenberg

Lector: Vicar Ronchetto **Organist:** Mr. Paul Scheiderer