



*“growing a family  
to reach a community”*

Loving God, loving one another, and embracing  
our community and world with Jesus

# *Lord's Day Worship*

*September 6, 2020*

## *Call to Worship*

Psalm 150

*Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!  
Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent  
greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!  
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!  
Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*

**Doxology**

Song

Opening Prayer

## *Confessing Our Sins Together*

2 Corinthians 4:7-18

*So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*

**Our Father in heaven, we confess how often our eyes look down to the earth rather than up to heaven. Our minds are on earthly things. Our strength is spent on things that will not last. Our hearts stray from the One who made us. Forgive us our many sins and enable us to behold your glory once again, from the Scriptures, that we might worship you. For we pray in the Name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## *Rejoicing in Our Forgiveness*

Acts 4:11-12

*This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

**Lord I Need You**

Song

**Man of Sorrows**

Song

Prayers of Praise and Adoration

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Matthew 6:19-21

*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

**Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart**

Song

## *Hearing God's Word Together*

The Gospel According to Acts

Acts 7. 51 – 8.1

*A Fruitful Death*

**Lead on O King Eternal**

Hymn #580

## *Celebrating the Lord's Supper*

**O Mighty Cross**

Song

Benediction

Matthew 28:18-20

*And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>1</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

## *Scripture Reading*

### **Acts 7. 51 – 8.1 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>51</sup> “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup> Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup> you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup> Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup> But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup> But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup> Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup> And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

<sup>8.1</sup> And Saul approved of his execution.

**The Gospel According to Acts**  
**Acts 7. 51 – 8.1**  
***A Fruitful Death***

**I. A Deadly Reaction**

- “... *they were enraged ...*”
- “... *they ground their teeth at him.*”
- “... *and stopped their ears...*”
- “... *and rushed together at him.*”
- “... *they cast him out of the city...*”
- “... *and stoned him ...*”

Application: we must beware of stopped ears & hardened hearts.

**II. A Courageous Witness**

A. His vision (v. 55)

B. His words

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 56)

2. A \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 59)

3. A \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 60)

**Applications:**

A. Suffering for Christ is necessary & promised.

B. Suffering’s purpose is often \_\_\_\_\_ to us.

C. Suffering’s effect is often \_\_\_\_\_ to us.

## *Sermon Quotes and References*

Cheap grace means grace sold on the market like a traveling salesman's wares. The sacraments, the forgiveness of sin, and the consolations of religion are thrown away at cut prices. Grace is represented as the Church's inexhaustible treasury, from which she showers blessings with generous hands, without ever asking questions or fixing limits. "Grace without price, grace without cost" she cries! The essence of grace, we suppose, is that the account has been paid in advance; and, because it has been paid, everything can be had for nothing. Since the cost was infinite, the possibilities of using and spending it are infinite. The argument is often made - what would grace be if it were not cheap?

But the Word of God is clear - the cross is laid on every Christian. The first Christ-suffering which every Christian must experience is the call to abandon the attachments of this world. It is that dying of the old man which is the result of his union with Christ. As we embark upon discipleship we surrender ourselves to Christ in union with his death—we give over our lives to death. Thus it begins; the cross is not the terrible end to an otherwise god-fearing and happy life, but it meets us at the beginning of our communion with Christ. When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

**This Week:**

Today .....Ultimate Frisbee info meeting, 12:00 p.m. at the Pavilion  
.....“Hinged” Ephesians Bible Study Family Celebration, 5 p.m.  
at the Pavilion  
.....Youth Group, 6:00 p.m. at church  
Wednesday .....Nowicki’s HFG, 6:00 p.m. at church  
Thursday .....*Revelation* Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
.....Men’s Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. at church  
Friday .....B. & C. Lacock HFG, 5:30 p.m. at the Pavilion

**Future:**

Sept 15.....Ultimate Frisbee games begin, 6:30 p.m. at the Pavilion

**Announcements:**

**Discovering Providence Part 2, Lunch and Learn Classes**, next Sunday, September 13 at 12:30-2:30 p.m. Please see Mike Boesch if you have any questions.

Ultimate Frisbee: *The Provi Cup Tournament* Enjoy fellowship, exercise, & outreach!  
~**5 weeks ~ 5 games ~ 6 teams ~ 1 Provi cup!** Players of all ages & levels are welcome.  
Invite your neighbors, friends and family to join in. Each team will play 5 games total.  
Game nights are Tuesday or Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the pavilion. Season starts on  
Tuesday, September 15th and ends on Saturday, October 17th with a cookout and the  
presentation of the Provi Cup Tournament Trophy! There is a brief information  
meeting this Sunday, September 6th, after our 10:30 service at the pavilion. A sign up  
is in the church foyer. Any questions please contact Rebekah Fodale:  
fodaler@gmail.com or 484.894.4550.