

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 20, 2007

11:00 AM

*A nursery is available during the service. An usher will be happy to assist you.
Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available upon request from an usher.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS MOMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE *Morning Prayer* M.F. Lawrence

CALL TO WORSHIP Miriam King, Liturgist

Liturgist: O Lord, our Lord, how exalted is your name in all the world!

People: Out of the mouths of infants and children your majesty is praised above the heavens.

Liturgist: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

People: what are we human beings that you should be mindful of us—mere mortals that you should seek us out?

Liturgist: Yet, you have made us but a little lower than the angels; you adorn us with glory and honor.

People: O Lord, our Lord, how exalted is your name in all the world!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

***HYMN No. 386** *O for a World* AZMON

*CONFESSION OF SIN *(In Unison)*

Blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Our Creator, our Redeemer, and our Sustainer, yours is a perfect relationship, One God in three persons, mutual and whole. We confess that our relationships are not that way. We have been too selfish. Or we have given too much. Or we have accepted too little. We have failed to love after the manner of Jesus. We have let sin drive us away from one another and from you. We long for wholeness and peace and a sense of well-being, but our sin takes us in other directions. Forgive us and restore us. Pull us to you, with mercy and grace, pull us to you.

(Let each worshipper pray silently.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI *(The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 579)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 (Pew Bible, OT Section, page 563)

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Jonathan Fettig

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Church in Fellowship Hall)

ANTHEM *It Is Well with My Soul* arr. J.N. Beck

SECOND LESSON: Romans 5:1-5 (Pew Bible, NT Section, page 142)

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN No. 138** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* NICAEA

SERMON LESSON: John 16:5-15 (Pew Bible, NT Section page 102)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON **We are not Orphans** Jonathan Fettig

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – *(In Unison)* Apostles' Creed (traditional) *The Presbyterian Hymnal p. 14

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Folk Song* G.M. Martin

PRESENTATION, The Doxology *(The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***HYMN No. 139** *Come, Thou Almighty King* ITALIAN HYMN

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Almighty King* Arr. A.L. Page

MUSICAL NOTES

The Anthem, *It Is Well with My Soul*, is a beautiful setting by John Ness Beck, of the beloved hymn of the same name. Helen Salem Rizk, in her book Stories of the Christian Hymns, shares the origin of this powerful hymn. She writes:

Tragedy was associated with the writing of the words of this famous gospel hymn, and followed closely the composing of the music. H.G. Spafford wrote the poem on the mid-Atlantic over the exact spot where his four children had drowned a few days before. His wife and children were sailing to France on the *Ville du Havre*, one of the largest ships afloat. It was rammed by an English iron sailing vessel and sank to the bottom of the ocean within two hours, killing 226 people. Mrs. Spafford lived, but the four children were lost. Just weeks before this tragic drowning, Spafford had lost everything he owned in the great Chicago fire. And now, if not tested enough, he lost all of his beloved children. As soon as it could be arranged he sailed to Europe to join his wife. On the way, December 1873, the captain of his ship pointed out to him the spot where the tragedy had occurred. Here in the dark of night, with a heart heavy with grief and pain, but yet surging with faith and hope, Spafford wrote these words:

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrow like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul!*

Philip Paul Bliss, great song leader and composer, wrote the music for this hymn in November, 1876. Two weeks after it being written, Bliss and his wife were killed in a tragic train crash in Ashtabula, Ohio. It was said by witnesses that Bliss could have escaped, but chose to die by the side of his wife, who was caught in the flaming wreckage.

This hymn and now this anthem have become a blessing to those who have experienced great loss and to those who simply need to feel the encouragement and peace of God's tender care.

The Chancel Choir shared this piece yesterday as a tribute to the life of Jean Wilson, and we share it this day to honor so many who have gone before and have taught each of us to truly say, "It is well with my soul."