

OUR CONFIDENCE IN PRAYER:
CHRIST *MERITS* OUR SALVATION!

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 60: How are you righteous before God?
A. Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is accept this gift with a believing heart.

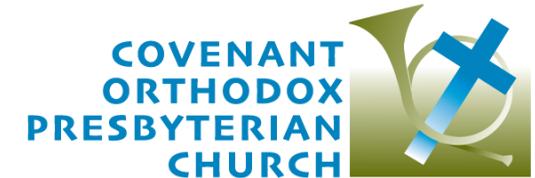
KEY Q — But how does this work? (Goodwin): "Alas for us! After we are sanctified, we remain imperfect, lacking all in comparison to God's holiness. How are we to be perfected? By that one offering, Christ purchased all that ever shall go to make up our perfection! He procured all by His death, anything necessary to perfect a saint. Likewise, when He first entered heaven, our Head received the whole of all that should be given to us by the Spirit, even to saints that were then unborn; He received all of it all at once, though it is given forth by parcels to all eternity."

Exalted to the right hand of God, He has poured out what you see & hear. Acts 2:33

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LORD'S DAY EVENING WORSHIP

January 18, 2025



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Prelude
Welcome
Salutation
Call to Worship

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

*** Opening Hymn**

Christians, awake, Salute the Happy Morn
209 Trinity Hymnal (verses 1-2, 5-6)

1 Christians, awake, salute the happy morn,
whereon the Savior of the world was born;
rise to adore the mystery of love,
which hosts of angels chanted from above;
with them the joyful tidings first begun
of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son.

2 Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
who heard th'angelic herald's voice: "Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Savior's birth to you
and all the nations on the earth:
this day hath God fulfilled his promised word,
this day is born a Savior, Christ the Lord."

5 Let us, like these good shepherds,
then employ our grateful voices to proclaim the joy;
trace we the babe, who hath retrieved our loss,
from his poor manger to his bitter cross;
treading his steps, assisted by his grace,
till man's first heav'nly state again takes place.

6 Then may we hope, th'angelic throngs among,
to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphant song;
he that was born upon this joyful day
around us all his glory shall display;
saved by his love, incessant we shall sing eternal praise
to heav'n's almighty King. **

*** Invocation**

God's Law & Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Prayer

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Acts 2:29-36
(p 1082 pew Bible)

John 16:5-15
(p 1072 pew Bible)

Sermon Texts:

Acts 2:33 & John 16:13

Sermon

God Answers 3rd Petition:
Sending Spirit Down Full of Heavenly Words

Prayer of Application

*** Closing Hymn**

Only Trust Him
675 Trinity Hymnal (all verses)

1 Come, ev'ry soul by sin oppressed, there's mercy with the Lord,
and he will surely give you rest, by trusting in his Word.

Refrain: Only trust him, only trust him, only trust him now;
he will save you, he will save you, he will save you now.

2 For Jesus shed his precious blood rich blessings to bestow;
plunge now into the crimson flood that washes white as snow. [Refrain]

3 Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way, that leads you into rest;
believe in him without delay, and you are fully blessed. [Refrain]

4 Come then, and join this holy band, and on to glory go,
to dwell in that celestial land, where joys immortal flow. [Refrain] **

*** Benediction**

*Please stand if able

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HEAVENLY GENEROSITY ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

Charles Spurgeon (June 30th Morning Devotional, "Morning and Evening.")

Behold the superlative liberality of the Lord Jesus, for He hath given us His all. Although a tithe of His possessions would have made a universe of angels rich beyond all thought, yet was He not content until He had given us all that He had.

It would have been surprising grace if He had allowed us to eat the crumbs of His bounty beneath the table of His mercy; but He will do nothing by halves, He makes us sit with Him and share the feast. Had He given us some small pension from His royal coffers, we should have had cause to love Him eternally; but no, He will have His bride as rich as Himself, and He will not have a glory or a grace in which she shall not share.

He has not been content with less than making us joint-heirs with Himself, so that we might have equal possessions. He has emptied all His estate into the coffers of the Church, and hath all things common with His redeemed. There is not one room in His house the key of which He will withhold from His people. He gives them full liberty to take all that He hath to be their own; He loves them to make free with His treasure, and appropriate as much as they can possibly carry. The boundless fulness of His all-sufficiency is as free to the believer as the air he breathes. Christ hath put the flagon of His love and grace to the believer's lip, and bidden him drink on for ever; for could he drain it, he is welcome to do so, and as he cannot exhaust it, he is bidden to drink abundantly, for it is all his own. What truer proof of fellowship can heaven or earth afford?