

⁷ But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

SERMON

Faith Alone
Reformation series
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE 92

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

*WORDS OF PEACE

CHORAL BENEDICTION 727 *Lead Me, Lord, Lead Me in Thy Righteousness*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Psalm 19, *Benedetto Marcello*, arr. Wolf/ Weaver
(Brass and Organ)

PRELUDE

Baroque Suite/Johann Pezel
Intrada
Sarabande
Finale

Brass Quartet: Al Kernc and Shawn Rudy, Trumpet
Scott Paist and Charles Griffen, Trombone
Douglas Weaver, Organ

◇ A time of quiet preparation

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Isaiah 6:1-7 (NIV)

Leader: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

People: **Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.**

Leader: At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said,

People: **See, this has touched your lips;
your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.**

IN HYMN 103 (Choir only vs. 1; Congregation vss. 2 & 4)

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 295

Crown Him with Many Crowns

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Unison: Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements and those when I have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 55:6-7 (NIV)

Leader: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.” I Corinthians 1:30-31 (NIV)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD’S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less/arr. J. Ferguson

Congregation joins choir vs 4

*When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!
On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.*

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 3:9-28

⁹ What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin.

¹⁰ As it is written:

“There is no one righteous, not even one;

¹¹ there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God.

¹² All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.”

¹³ “Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.”

“The poison of vipers is on their lips.”

¹⁴ “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood;

¹⁶ ruin and misery mark their ways,

¹⁷ and the way of peace they do not know.”

¹⁸ “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

Philippians 3:5-9

⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.