



FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH THE GOSPEL



CHRIST
CHURCH

October 19, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Pastor Michael Anderson

Silent meditation

- Q. 80. Can true believers be infallibly assured that they are in the estate of grace, and that they shall persevere therein unto salvation?
- A. Such as truly believe in Christ, and endeavor to walk in all good conscience before him, may, without extraordinary revelation, by faith grounded upon the truth of God's promises, and by the Spirit enabling them to discern in themselves those graces to which the promises of life are made, and bearing witness with their spirits that they are the children of God, be infallibly assured that they are in the estate of grace and shall persevere therein unto salvation.
- Q. 81. Are all true believers at all times assured of their present being in the estate of grace, and that they shall be saved?
- A. Assurance of grace and salvation not being of the essence of faith, true believers may wait long before they obtain it; and, after the enjoyment thereof, may have it weakened and intermitted, through manifold distempers, sins, temptations, and desertions; yet are they never left without such a presence and support of the Spirit of God, as keeps them from sinking into utter despair.

Westminster Larger Catechism

...

The assurance of salvation is, simply put, knowing for sure that you are saved. Many Christians throughout history have written about their struggles in being assured of their salvation. The problem is that many followers of Jesus Christ look for the assurance of salvation in the wrong places.

We tend to seek assurance of salvation in the things God is doing in our lives, in our spiritual growth, in the good works and obedience to God's Word that is evident in our Christian walk. While these things can be evidence of salvation, they are not what we should base the assurance of our salvation on. Rather, we should find the assurance of our salvation in the objective truth of God's Word. We should have confident trust that we are saved based on the promises God has declared, not because of our subjective experiences.

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GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

Elder Bob La Fleur

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
to him who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

to him who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
to him who spread out the earth above the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

to him who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
and rescued us from our foes,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
he who gives food to all flesh,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

** Please rise in body and/or in spirit.*

* Psalm 19: May the Words

text, Psalm 19; music, Brian Moss



1. The skies o - pen up to the glo - ry of
2. The law of _____ the Lord ~ is per - fect and



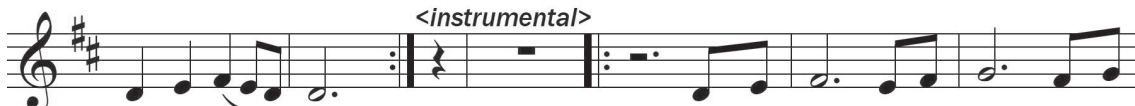
God. A voice call - ing out through the day and the
right, re - stor - ing _____ my soul, giv - ing joy to my



night. ~ There is no place where the song is not heard through
heart. The fear of the Lord is en dur ing and pure and



out the heav - ens and earth. O Lord, my Rock, and
true and right eous and wise. O Lord, my Rock, and



my Re-deem - er. May the words of my mouth and the
my Re-deem - er.



thoughts of my heart be ac - cept - a - ble, _____ ac - cept - a - ble _____ to



you. O Lord, my Rock, and my Re deem - er.

* Invocation

Psalm 27

children's choir

text, Psalm 27
music, Mark Clark and Brad Nix

The Lord is my light.
The Lord is my salvation.
The Lord is my strength!
The stronghold of my life!
Whom shall I fear?
Of whom shall I be afraid?

Teach me your ways, Lord,
Lead me in a straight path.
Teach me your ways, Lord,
And to wait on you.
Teach me your ways, Lord,
For you are my refuge.
Teach me, Lord, to wait on you.

I have come to praise you with shouts of joy!
I will sing and make music to you, my Lord!

Teach me your ways, Lord,
Lead me in a straight path.
Teach me your ways, Lord,
And to wait on you.
Teach me your ways, Lord,
For you are my refuge.
Teach me, Lord, to wait on you.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

Hebrews 4:16

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Prayer of confession

followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of Forgiveness Isaiah 54:10

“For the mountains may depart
and the hills be removed,
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,”
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Reception of New Members

Helen Hoogland	8:30 service
Norah, Luca, and Susannah Hemsley	
Noah and Elsa Williamson	

Claire Wiest	11:15 service
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Baptism

David William Dodds, Jr., covenant son of David & Tori	8:30 service
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8:30 service	On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 5- year-olds are invited to the foyer to join Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.
11:15 service	Church bags are available in the foyer for 4- to 5-year-olds who need some quiet activities during the sermon.

*** Father, Let Your Kingdom Come**

Orlando Palmer, Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell
Liz Vice, Latifah Phillips

CHORUS



Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah, Fa - ther, let your king - dom come.

VERSE



1. May the works _____ of my hands bring you joy May the works
2. May the words _____ from my mouth speak your peace. May the words



____ of my hands bring you joy. May the works ____ of my hands bring you
____ from my mouth speak your peace. May the words ____ from my mouth speak your



joy. May the works ____ of my hands bring you joy. to Chorus
peace. May the words ____ from my mouth speak your peace. to Chorus

BRIDGE



You make all things new. You make all things new. in



pla - ces we don't choose. You make all things new. to Chorus

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

I John 2:3-6, 28-29; 3:19-24; 5:13

^{2:3} And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

⁴ Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

^{2:28} And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

^{3:19} By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him;

²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

^{5:13} I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

Elder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon Knowing that We Know

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

Pastor John and the Problem of Doubt

Pastor John and the Promises of the Gospel

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

Time of silence for prayer and meditation

I would that my heart was ever strong, O Lord,
my faith always firm and unwavering,
my thoughts unclouded,
my devotion sincere,
my vision clear.

I would that I dwelt always in that state
wherein my belief, my hope, my confidence,
were rooted and certain.

I would that I could remain in those seasons
when assailing storms seem only
to make faith stronger, proving your presence, your provenance.

But it is not always so.
There are those other moments...
when I cannot sense you near,
cannot hear you, see you, touch you—times
when fear or depression or frustration overwhelm,
and I find no help or consolation,
when the seawalls of my faith crumble
and give way to intrushing tides of doubt....
I believe, Lord. Help me with my unbelief!

For where else but to you might I flee
with my doubts? You alone have the
words of eternal life.

This I know to be true, my Lord and my God:
You are not in the least angered
by my doubts and my questions,
for they have often been the very things
that lead me to press closer in to you,
seeking the comfort of your presence,
seeking to understand the roots of
my own confusion.

So also use these present doubts
for your purposes, O Lord.
I offer them to you.

So help me, my Lord and my God.
I have no consolation but you.
Meet me now in this eclipse-shadow
of my doubt. Lead me again into your light. Amen.

–from *Every Moment Holy*, “A Liturgy for Nights & Days of Doubt”

*** *It Is Well with My Soul***

Trinity Hymnal 691

Living out our faith

announcements about the life of the church

Prayers of the People

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.

Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (888) 793-1604

Offertory *Pensive, Doubting, Fearful Heart*

text, John Newton; music, Justin Smith

Pensive, doubting, fearful heart,
Hear what Christ the Savior says.
Every word should joy impart,
Change thy mourning into praise.
Yes, he speaks, and speaks to thee,
May he help thee to believe!
Then thou presently wilt see,
Thou hast little cause to grieve.

"Fear thou not, nor be ashamed,
All thy sorrows soon shall end.
I who heaven and earth have framed,
Am thy husband and thy friend.
I, the High and Holy One,
Israel's GOD by all adored,
As thy Savior will be known,
Thy Redeemer and thy Lord."

"For a moment I withdrew,
And thy heart was filled with pain,
But my mercies I'll renew,
Thou shalt soon rejoice again.
Though I scorn to hide my face,
Very soon my wrath shall cease.
'Tis but for a moment's space,
Ending in eternal peace."

"When my peaceful bow appears,
Painted on the watery cloud,
'Tis to dissipate thy fears,
Lest the earth should be overflowed.
'Tis an emblem too of grace,
Of my cov'nant love a sign.
Though the mountains leave their place,
Thou shalt be forever mine."

"Though afflicted, tempest-tossed,
Comfortless awhile thou art,
Do not think thou can be lost,
Thou art graven on my heart.
All thy walls I will repair,
Thou shalt be rebuilt anew,
And in thee it shall appear,
What a God of love can do."

*** The God We Love (Nicene Creed chorus)**

by Rich Thompson, Jonny Robinson
& Matt Redman

All glo - ry to the Fa - ther now, all

hon - or to the Son. And praise the Spir - it,

now and al-ways. This is the God we love.

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*** Benediction**

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and wave the colorful flags as we sing our closing Amen song.

*** Let the Church Say Amen**

Let the Church say "A - men." Let the Church say "A - men." —

God has spok-en, let the Church say "A - men."

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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*** Postlude**

Worship musicians

Lena Bading, Children's Choir Director
Emma van der Veen, Children's Choir
Claudia Chang, piano

Pam Scofield, song leader
Emma van der Veen, song leader
Thomas Scofield, song leader
Susan Guerra, piano
Mark Lundell, bass
John Bratt, drum