

Total Depravity

Is human nature good or evil? What is God's analysis? Wherever you turn in the Bible you find a consistent and definitive portrayal. Prior to the flood the Lord pronounced this verdict upon humanity: "...The wickedness of man was great in the earth, and ... every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Later, David looked over the human panorama and saw a universal apostasy: "They are all gone aside; they are together become filthy." And Paul declared, "... All have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God."

These passages surely teach that man, apart from God's grace, is totally depraved, or defiled in all his faculties. Sin—the effect of the fall—has cast a veil over the mind and misdirected our affections, so that we do not naturally love God. Guilt has thrown up a roadblock between a holy Creator and a rebellious race.

All of this points to the necessity for the intervention of a work of divine mercy before we can be restored to fellowship with God. "Sin is a blood disease and calls for a blood remedy," said Spurgeon. But a gracious God has provided healing for hopeless patients. "...You were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, ...but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ."

Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace,
Or wash away the stain:
But Christ, the heavenly Lamb
Takes all our sins away,
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.

Have you gone to the fountain God has opened for sin?

*None is righteous,
no, not one;
no one understands;
no one seeks for God.*

Romans 3:11

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 368

“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 76

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Exodus 20:1-17

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Assurance of Forgiveness

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 510

“Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 463

“A Debtor to Mercy Alone”

Sermon Text

Luke 20:1-8

Sermon

BY WHAT AUTHORITY?

THE LORD'S TABLE

Hymn of Preparation # 426

“Till He Come!”

Celebrating the Supper

*Hymn of Response # 305

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 10:00am. Sunday School.

Today. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church.

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church. All are welcome.

There is no Tuesday Bible Study this week. The Bible study resumes on Tuesday, July 16 at 7:00 pm

Monday, July 8 – Friday, July 12. The 2024 Summer Bible Camp will be held at Redwood Christian Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains. For more information, see the Presbytery's website at www.pncnopc.org/family-camp.

Beginning Sunday, August 4 and occurring quarterly thereafter, we will resume our practice of receiving an offering for the Deacons Fund during the singing of the hymn following The Lord's Supper.