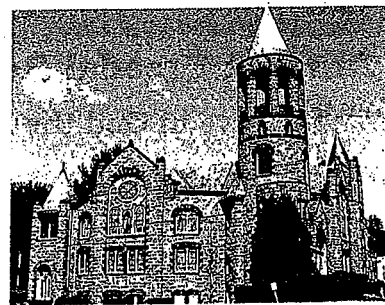


Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)
Biblical, Traditional, Protestant

Worship Service: 10:00 AM
March 22, 2020

"I Am the resurrection and the life" – John 11:25



Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

"Rock of Ages" – arr. David Paxton

*Hymn #15 (red hymnal)

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Call to Worship

Psalm 68:1,18-20; (NASB)

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered,
And let those who hate Him flee before Him . . .
You have ascended on high, You have led captive Your captives;
You have received gifts among men,
Even among the rebellious also, that the LORD God may dwell there.
Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burden,
The God who is our salvation.
God is to us a God of deliverances;
And to GOD the Lord belong escapes from death.

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Gospel Absolution Text

John 6:35-40

"Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.'"

Ancient Creedal Reading:

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Anthem "A Scarlet Robe"

Willard Minton, solo

Prayers of the Church**Lord's Prayer** (*sins*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Reformation Creedal ReadingSavoy Declaration, 2.1

There is but one only living and true God; who is infinite in being and perfection, a most pure Spirit, invisible, without body, parts or passions, immutable (i.e. unchanging), immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, most wise, most holy, most free, most absolute, working all things according to the counsel of His own immutable and most righteous will, for His own glory, most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression and sin, the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him; And withal most just and terrible in His judgments, hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty.

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text

Exodus 3:13-14

Sermon

"I Am"

***Hymn #93** (green hymnal)

"Guide Me"

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

"Toccata Breve" – Edward Broughton

Offering

(Please place your offering in the plate available in the back of the sanctuary.)

(Thank you for your patience and generosity.)

Announcements

- All church events are canceled through March 29th.
- With the ongoing concern about Covid-19, and the Governor's proclamation of shutting down all gatherings above 50, we are recommending everyone stay at home for the next two Sundays. This includes anyone involved in the service, though please contact Pastor Doug so he can make the necessary arrangements. The church will be open, because Pastor Doug will be live streaming the service through his YouTube channel, "Simply Reformed."
- Pastor Doug's Wednesday Study still meets through the online app Zoom (zoom.us) from 7:00-8:30 PM. We are studying the Book of Acts. If you are interested in attending please send Doug an email at: douglas_aldrich@sbcglobal.net
- Pastor Dan is also offering his study via Zoom.
- An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary.

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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Joachim Neander, 1650-1680
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8.
"Stralsund Gesangbuch," 1665

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign - eth,
3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de - fend thee;
4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal - va - tion!
Shel-ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so gen - tly sus - tain - eth!
Sure-ly his good-ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.
All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be - fore him.

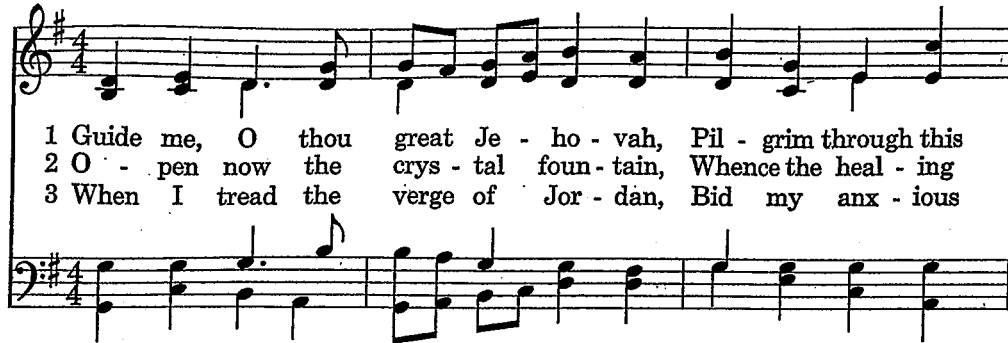
All ye who hear, Now to his tem - ple draw near;
Hast thou not seen How thy de - sires e'er have been
Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can do,
Let the A - men Sound from his peo - ple a - gain:

Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
Grant-ed in what he or - dain - eth?
If with his love he be - friend thee.
Glad - ly for aye we a - dore him. A - men.

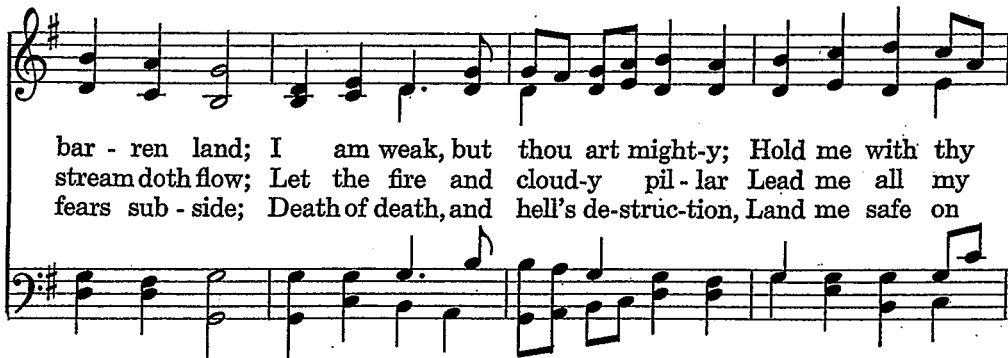
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

William Williams, 1717-1791
Tr. Peter Williams, 1727-1796, and others

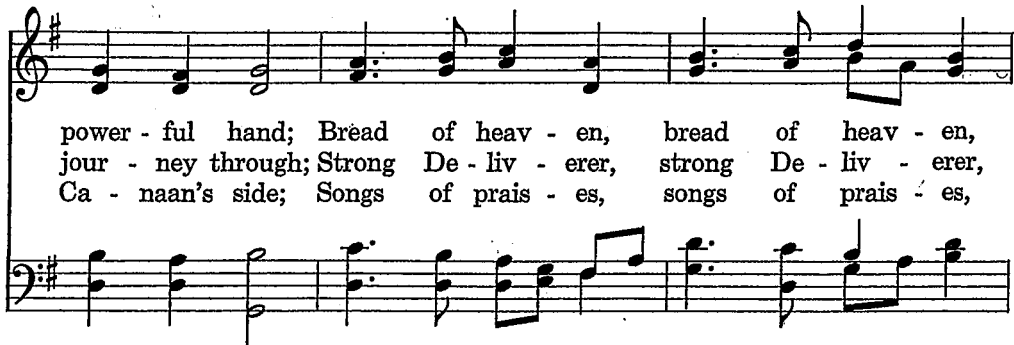
CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
John Hughes, 1873-1932



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might-y; Hold me with thy
stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar Lead me all my
fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, Land me safe on



power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,



Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
Be thou still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee. A - men.

Sermon Notes

Exodus 3:13-14
"The Name of God"
March 22, 2020

Introduction

- 1) Historically, many turn to God, or a god, in their lives.
 - a) To find true assurance, comfort and hope one has to turn to the true God
 - b) Besides getting God right, the more you understand and trust in God's character and attributes the more assurance, comfort and hope one will have.
 - c) Just like trusting in a beloved friend or spouse, who you have known for years, is vastly better than trusting in a stranger, or even worse, a make believe friend.
 - d) Mature Christians put their hope in God's character and nature instead of the world.
 - i) For example: Your best friend, who isn't a Christian, dies and you really wish/hope they will be in heaven.
 - ii) The foolish choice is to hope in man, either yourself or your friend, by thinking they are in heaven because they were nice to you. (Note the focus on man.)
 - iii) Instead the mature Christian rests in the character of God, who is holy, just, and good. That God will do what is right according to His standards.
- 2) To have this mature faith, one must know more about God.
- 3) And just like the first thing you learn about a person is their name, so too knowing and understanding God's name is a good place to start to ponder and know God.

The Name of God

- 1) Did you know God has a personal name?
- 2) Moses asked God directly what His name *is*. (Not "was" but "is" – More about that later.)
 - a) In Exodus 3 God spoke to Moses in a burning bush and called Him to go to Egypt to liberate the enslaved Israelites. Ex 3:2-4
Ex 3:7-10
 - b) Moses is at first hesitant asking "*who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh.*" Ex 3:11
 - c) Though God promises that He will certainly be with him, Moses then asks, "*Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?*" – Ex 3:13 Ex 3:12
 - d) God answers: "*I AM WHO I AM; and He said, 'Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'*" – Ex 3:14
- 3) God's name is "*I AM*".
 - a) In Hebrew it is: יהוה
 - i) To spell it in English, it is: YHWH.
 - ii) It is called the "*Tetragrammaton.*" (Meaning: "Consisting of four letters.")
 - iii) There are no vowels in ancient Hebrew.
 - iv) YHWH is considered unpronounceable.
 - v) Though "Jehovah" and "Yahweh" are later attempts to pronounce it.

- b) By ancient Jewish tradition (going back to before Christ's incarnation) the word "Adonai" ("my Lord") was substituted when YHWH appeared in the text.
- i) In most modern Bibles YHWH is translated as "LORD" in all capitals.
 - ii) For example in Exodus 4:10a – *"Then Moses said to the LORD (YHWH), 'Please, Lord (Adonai) ...'"*
 - iii) It gets a bit interesting when the "I AM" is called Adonai. For example, Ps 68:20 – *"God ('el" a generic term for "God" or "god") is to us a God of deliverances; And to GOD ("YHWH") the Lord ("Adonai") belong escapes from death."*
- 4) God's name is beautiful "I AM" is mysterious and profound.
- 5) Yet it is also clear, powerful and all encompassing.
- a) As Calvin wrote, *"This is very plain, that God attributes to Himself alone divine glory, because He is self-existent and therefore eternal; and thus gives being and existence to every creature. Nor does he predicate of Himself anything common, or shared by others; but he claims for Himself eternity as peculiar to God alone, in order that He may be honored according to His dignity . . . Wherefore, in order rightly to apprehend the one God, we must first know, that all things in heaven and earth derive at His will their essence, or subsistence from One, who only truly is. From this Being all power is derived; because, if God sustains all things by His excellency, He governs them also at His will"*
 - b) This is hope, because in the end there is just God. In reality we are the optional extras, not the Almighty. He needs nothing, because He has all life unto Himself because He is a timeless complete being, the great and only "I AM."
- 6) Salvation of course from God too, found in His Son, the incarnate Word of God, Jesus Christ.
- 7) Christ stated that He is the "I Am" the . . .
- "Christ, the Son of the Blessed One"* – Mark 14:61-62
 - "Son of God"* – Luke 22:70
 - "(living) bread of life"* – John 6:35,48,51
 - "light of the world"* – John 8:12,18
 - "gate/door"* – John 10:7,9
 - "good shepherd"* – John 10:11,14
 - "resurrection and the life"* – John 11:25
 - "way, and the truth, and the life"* – John 14:6
 - "(true) vine"* – John 15:1,5
 - "Alpha and the Omega", "first and the last"* – Rev 1:8,17; 22:16
- 8) Besides teaching that Christ is the Savior and Lord, His "I AM" statements show that He is God.
- a) In John 8 our Lord responds to His detractors by stating, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I Am."* – John 8:58
 - b) "Father" Abraham (the earthly founder of Israel) lived some 2,200 years before Jesus.
 - c) Not only does the Lord Jesus claim to have existed before Abraham, but that Christ has always existed and that He is God, the "I Am!", though different from God the Father.
 - d) There is no doubt that Jesus is claiming to be God, since we read in John 10:30-33 His fellow countrymen try to stone Him for that very claim.
- 9) This is a great comfort! Because there is full assurance in Christ because He is God!
- 10) *"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."* – Acts 4:12