



24th May 2020 (Ascension Sunday)

Welcome to all worshippers this evening to Christ the Saviour Presbyterian Church in Krakow. As you enter the sanctuary, please feel free to greet one another. When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of God. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please allow us to get to know you better by staying for tea and coffee after the service.

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

“Pragnieniem Ducha Świętego jest, żebyśmy było skupieni nie na nim samym, ale na Jezusie Chrystusie.” Steve Lawson (Jana 14:26;16:14).

CALL TO WORSHIP

In Christian theology, we oftentimes talk about “Already but not yet”. We usually talk about this concept in light of certain eschatological issues (the things to come). For instance, we talk about the Kingdom of God and how it’s already here, but NOT YET in fully.

And as we gather each Lord’s Day, between the NOW and NOT YET of God’s Kingdom, let us worship God for who he is, as one eternal God in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and for what he will do in the coming consummation. Let us worship God on earth as he is worshiped in heaven.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jonathan Edwards mentioned a couple of aspects of the nature of God that provokes hostility within us, people. These have to do with God’s attributes. We will look at them more in depth at our next sermon series.

- 1) God is holy and we are not. People who are not holy do not appreciate a standard that reveals their unrighteousness. If God were not so holy, and we were not so sinful, perhaps we could get along.
- 2) God is omniscient. Because God sees and knows all, we cannot hide from Him. We can hide from the gaze of humans in our private sin, but there is no way to avoid the gaze of God. Psalm 139:7-8.

3) God is omnipotent. If He were holy and knew everything about us but was impotent, we would have nothing to worry about. Psalm 20:7a.
But since God is almighty and able to do anything He wishes with us, we have all reasons to be worried.

CONFESSION OF SINS

A moment of silence is followed by this corporate prayer:

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins...

All: Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen

SONG – Pan jest mocą swojego ludu (In the Lord I Will Be Ever Thankful)

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Celebrant: The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;

All: **There is none who does good.**

Celebrant: The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

All: **They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.**

Celebrant: Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD?

All: **There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.**

Celebrant: You would shame the plans of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge. Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

- Psalm 14 (ESV)

FIRST READING Ephesians 1:15-23 (page 976)

SECOND READING Matthew 28:16-20 (page 835)

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERMON

SERMON

CALL TO CONFESSION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Q.49

Q. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

Christ resides in heaven in His both natures: the human and the divine nature. The Catechism based on God's Word is telling us that Christ's presence in His body in heaven is a guarantee that ours will be there too someday.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose 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 Ghost; the holy catholic (universal) church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG – Ku tobie, Boże mój (Neerer, My God, to Thee)

CALL TO PRAYER

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,

as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips... Psalm 63:1-5

QUIET PRAYER TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Our Father in Heaven...

CLOSING SONG – Duszo ma Pana chwal (Bless the Lord, O my soul)

OFFERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS (see the end of the bulletin)

BENEDICTION

Celebrant: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

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All sing: Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

PRAISE POINTS

1. The ability to worship together at the church again.
2. For Serhii and Daniela for God's providence.

PRAYER REQUESTS PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY

1. Sashko's, Dave's, Anna's, Leana's health.
2. Everyone who is suffering from the coronavirus infection around the world. May God be with them, bless them and comfort them. And also may God give wisdom to scientists who are working on researches about this virus, so that there will be effective means to fight against this virus developed as soon as possible.
3. For the health of Kirill's parents and of a pastor from his hometown.
4. For Leana's grandmother's health.
5. For Larysa, Sashko's mother effective treatment.
6. Artur's and Tatyana's parent's health.

PRAYER FOR STUDENTS AND WORKER

1. For Dave's work and for wisdom.
2. Also for God's blessing for Daniela and the child.
3. For Lewis to make a wise decision regarding his future studies.
4. For the Love God Greatly ministry which will be translated into Russian.
5. Preparations for the mums and toddlers group.
6. For good relationships between the young people in our Church and their parents.
7. For wise decisions for Kirill.
8. An unmentioned request for Bogdan.
9. Leana's preparation for the USMLE exam.
10. For Emily ad Pasha, that they would be able to organize their trip back to Poland and for wisdom as to when they should leave Northern Ireland. Also for God's guidance in their future plans.
11. Pray for Ivonne Pozerski who is shipping a large amount of books from Australia for the Church library.
12. For Artur's work.
13. For a flight back to Poland for Pavel.
14. For Karina, for wisdom at work.
15. For Sashko's studies at seminary.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

1. Pray for more church workers for our fellowship and a university student ministry.
2. Let us pray for the successful printing of the books "The Biggest Story" and "Preparing for Marriage".

OTHER

1. Pray for unity among all Reformed churches in Poland. Pray for the Presbyterian Church in Poland to come to existence.
2. For the new Presbyterian Church which is growing in Gdańsk.
3. For the leaders of the countries around the world, for wisdom in making decisions amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

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GIVING INFORMATION

Online giving for the church is payable to:

Fundacja "Europejska Misja Chrześcijańska", ul. Św. Filipa 23/4, 31-150 Kraków
IBAN: PL 94 1140 2004 0000 3802 7701 2043.

Cash offerings should be put into white envelopes placed at the back of hymnals and put into the offering basket.

Cash offering from last week: 0 złoty.

Bank transfers received during the week: 400 złoty.

All up to date events including this bulletin can be found on our church's web site:
www.kosciolzbawiciela.pl/en

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28/05 Thursday, 17.30

Study of Martyn Lloyd-Jones's book "God the Father, God the Son"

Smolki 8

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8097444012>

28/05 Thursday, 19.00

Bible Study in English – Book of Romans

Smolki 8

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8097444012>

31/05 Sunday, 11.00

Morning service in Polish

Smolki 8