



**March 22, 2020  
Lord's Day Worship**

You may access the Live Stream at either of the following links:

[www.sermonaudio.com/spriggsroadpca](http://www.sermonaudio.com/spriggsroadpca)

<https://www.spriggsroad.org/SRPCwp/home/live-webcasts/>

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### **Order of Worship**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

Pastor Michael

**Announcements**

**Meditation**

<sup>1</sup> He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

<sup>2</sup> I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

<sup>3</sup> For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

<sup>4</sup> He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

<sup>5</sup> You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

<sup>6</sup> nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

*Psalm 91:1-6 (ESV)*

**Call to Worship/Invocation**

Pastor Michael

1 Though troubles assail us and dangers affright,  
though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,  
yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,  
the promise assures us, "The Lord will provide."

2 The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;  
from them let us learn to trust God for our bread.  
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied  
so long as 'tis written, "The Lord will provide."

3 When Satan assails us to stop up our path,  
and courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.  
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,  
this heart-cheering promise, "The Lord will provide."

4 No strength of our own and no goodness we claim;  
yet, since we have known of the Savior's great name,  
in this our strong tower for safety we hide:  
the Lord is our power, "The Lord will provide."

Psalms 121 and 110 are paired together because the LORD in both watches over His people and protects them. He also is revealed as the Messiah, the King and Priest Who will rule forever.

We sing with joy and confidence because, as we lift up our eyes to the LORD our God, He keeps our feet from slipping.

He also is the One Who reigns by conquering all the powers that seek to destroy us.

Because He makes us willing in the day of His power, let us worship Him using these psalms.

*To the tune of "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"*

*Psalm 121:*

1 I to the hills will lift my eyes.

From whence shall come my aid?

2 My safety cometh from the LORD

Who heav'n and earth has made.

3 Thy foot He'll not let slide, nor will

He slumber that thee keeps.

4 Lo, He that keepeth Is-ra-el,

He slumbers not nor sleeps.

*Psalm 110:*

1 Jehovah to my Lord has said,

"Sit Thou at My right hand

Until I make Thy foes a stool

Whereon Thy feet may stand."

2 Jehovah shall from Zion send

The scepter of Thy power.

In battle with Thine enemies

Be Thou the conqueror.

3 A willing people in Thy day

Of power shall come to Thee.

Thy youth arrayed in holiness

Like morning dew shall be.

4 Jehovah swore, and from His oath

He never will depart:

"The order of Melchizedek

A priest Thou ever art."

## Pastoral Prayer

### Confession of Faith

*Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 113*

113 Q. What is the aim of the tenth commandment?

**A. That not even the slightest desire or thought contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in our hearts.**

**Rather, with all our hearts we should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Ps. 19:7-14; 139:23-24; Rom. 7:7-8

†**Scripture Teaching** [Seat Bibles, p. 1016]

[1 Peter 4:1-6](#)

**Expounding the Word of God**

Pastor Michael

### *Ready to Suffer for the Gospel*

Title: "Ready to Suffer for the Gospel"

Text: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Theme: When you resolve in your heart to live for Christ you will offend and enrage the "gods" of the culture. You need to be ready to suffer.

I. God's People Must \_\_\_\_\_ to Endure \_\_\_\_\_  
(1-2)

II. There Is No \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ for Christians to  
\_\_\_\_\_ as the Worldly Culture Lives (3)

III. Though the Unbelieving Culture \_\_\_\_\_ God's People, God Will  
\_\_\_\_\_ Them (4-5)

IV. The \_\_\_\_\_ in Which Believers Trust Ensures Their  
\_\_\_\_\_ Over Their Persecutors (6)

V. Application

A. We need to be resolved in our hearts to endure \_\_\_\_\_ and not  
\_\_\_\_\_ it if and when the LORD God \_\_\_\_\_ us to endure it.

B. Suffering for Christ \_\_\_\_\_ the  
\_\_\_\_\_ process.

C. You have had more than enough time \_\_\_\_\_ living for the desires of the  
\_\_\_\_\_. Now is the time to live for the \_\_\_\_\_ and the glory of God.

D. God does not call every Christian to suffer or for all to suffer in the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. But He does summon us to be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
to suffer for the sake of the Gospel.

†**Hymn of Response** [TH,610; scen]

*“Take Up Your Cross,” the Savior Said*

1 "Take up your cross," the Savior said,  
"if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after me."

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak soul with vain alarm;  
his strength shall bear your spirit up,  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

3 Take up your cross; nor heed the shame,  
and let your foolish pride be still;  
your Lord refused not e'en to die  
upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.

4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
and calmly sin's wild deluge brave;  
'twill guide you to a better home,  
it points to glory o'er the grave.

5 Take up your cross, and follow on,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only he who bears the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

†**Benediction**

Pastor Michael

†Standing if able

## Announcements:

**All of the regular activities are suspended temporarily.**

**Schedule for Worship During the Coronavirus Pandemic:** Events have been changing rapidly and the Session and Diaconate are working diligently to adapt to circumstances that have been set upon us. For the present, the Session will be live-streaming a modified worship service via SermonAudio.com that you can access. The service intends to start at 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning, our customary time to meet for worship. There undoubtedly will be blips and glitches, so we ask for your patience and indulgence as we feel our way through in this.

For the present, our governing authorities have requested a limit of no more than 10 people for a public gathering, so we will have a skeleton crew for transmitting the service electronically and to assist in worship that complies with that request.

Once the pandemic begins to subside, the intention is to gradually ease back into our normal schedule of worship. We then intend to hold multiple services on the Lord's Day for those who feel comfortable to attend and to provide for a safe distance between them by limiting the number present. We pray that this hazard will abate to the extent that we might be able to resume a modified schedule of worship on Easter Sunday, April 12.

The Session encourages all to be gracious and accommodating to the consciences of our brethren who may be uncomfortable to gather publicly during this pandemic and even once the threat of the virus subsides. With a situation as fluid as this has been, we all must support, encourage, care for, and forebear with one another as we navigate through this life-altering experience.

**More details will be forthcoming as events and circumstances dictate.**

As always, thank you for your prayers, your patience, your feedback, your love, and your support for the Lord's church.

**Electronic Giving:** Remember that even though we are not meeting publicly, the work of ministry still continues and so do expenses. Please remain faithful in your commitment to the financial underwriting of the Lord's work. There are several ways to give electronically. Please contact Lloyd Moore or one of the Deacons for ways to give by PayPal, Zelle, or other means.

### **Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:**

1. **What happened to Jesus during His time on earth that Peter uses to prepare Christians (v. 1a)?**
2. **What way of thinking are we to adopt (v. 1a)?**
3. **What does suffering for Christ in the life of the believer mean (v. 1b)?**
4. **What is the purpose for being ready to suffer for the Lord Jesus (v. 2)?**
5. **What characterized the Gentile life (v. 3)?**
6. **How did non-believers often react to Peter's audience when they refused to participate with them (v. 4)?**
7. **What does Peter want his audience to know regarding how unbelievers treat them for refusing to participate with them (v. 5)?**
8. **To whom will persecutors of Christians give an account (v. 5)?**
9. **What ensures that believers have victory over their persecutors (v. 6a)?**
10. **What happens to those who have believed and accepted the Gospel even though they may suffer and be persecuted in this life (v. 6b)?**
11. **Does suffering mean that the Christian no longer sins (v. 1b)?**
12. **What might the resolve to endure suffering in your life look like?**
13. **Does suffering for the Gospel mean that a Christian is on a higher plane spiritually than those who do not so suffer?**
14. **What does suffering do for the believer with respect to his or her practice of sin? Why might this be the case?**
15. **Should Christians court suffering in order to be more sanctified? What ancient and medieval lifestyle might this encourage?**
16. **Does a non-believer always live a profligate life? How do you decide between what is acceptable behavior on the part of non-believers and what is unacceptable?**
17. **Have you ever been maligned or slandered for refusing to participate in certain behavior whether at work, school, or with friends? Why did you refuse to participate?**
18. **In which common practices of an unbelieving world today should Christians refuse to participate? Where do the descriptions that Peter makes of Gentile behavior in verse 3 show up today?**
19. **Where do you witness a significant amount of persecution of God's people today? How likely do you think it is that Christians will suffer for the Gospel in our country? Why or why not?**
20. **How can you prepare yourself for suffering when it might seem so remote a possibility in your life?**