

Order of Worship Supplement

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

— July 10, 2016 —

Words for Reflection

The Psalms were Jesus' resource in times of suffering. If we are going to suffer in Christ, we ought to respond the way he did, by the Psalms. And the Psalms are apt. No other body of literature in the world so completely runs the range of human feelings. The Psalms are not just expressions of joy, elation, trust, thanks, and hope; they also express anguish, despair, anger, pain confusion, and sorrow to the dregs.

-Dan McCartney

Lament is anguish out loud.

-Jemar Tisby

Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

-Isaiah 1:17

Prayer of Confession & Lament

Hear our cry, O Lord. Be merciful and forgive our many sins. Enter into the pain and sorrow of our broken community. Send comfort to those who are grieving. Break our hearts for those whose lives have been shattered by senseless violence and death. Protect us from cold indifference, and cause the hope of the gospel to be seen and known in Your people until You make all things new. Amen.

Silent Confession & Lament

Assurance of Forgiveness

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

—Psalm 34:18 & 1 Peter 2:24 ESV

The Offertory - "How Long?"

How long? Will You turn Your face away?

How long? Do You hear us when we pray?

On and on, still we walk this pilgrim way - How long?

How long 'til Your children find their rest?

How long 'til You draw them to Your breast?

We go on holding to Your promises - How long?

Refrain: 'Til You wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye

'Til we see our home descending from the sky

Do we wait in vain? Jesus, give us hope again!

How long 'til Your word will still the storm?

How long 'til You bare Your mighty arm?

*How we groan 'til You snatch us from the thorns -
How long?*

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race.

How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs.

*Looking on - great that cloud of witnesses! How
long?*

The Reading of the Word

Psalm 13

13:1 How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? **2** How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? **3** Consider and answer me, O LORD my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, **4** lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken. **5** But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. **6** I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

Real Life with God: A Study of the Psalms "How Long?"

1. Lament asks God desperate questions (vv. 1-2).
2. Lament cries out to God in desperate pleas (vv. 3-4).
3. Lament clings to God with desperate trust (vv. 5-6).

Departing Hymn | All Must Be Well

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well;
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well;
Precious is the blood that healed us,
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well;
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well;
Happy still in God confiding,
Fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well;
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well;
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes in living or in dying,
All must be well.

Words: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith
Music: Matthew S. Smith