WORSHIP GUIDE A Survey of Church History, Part 23a: William Farel

T IS NOT AN EXAGGERATION to say that Calvin's work would not have been possible without the fearless labors of another French Reformer, William Farel, who hacked away the undergrowth of Roman Catholic superstition and plowed the soil of Switzerland so that the seeds of Calvin could be sown and bear their fruit.

Philip Schaff writes of him:

Farel's work was destructive rather than constructive. He could pull down, but not build up. He was a conqueror, but not an organizer of his conquests; a man of action, not a man of letters; an intrepid preacher, not a theologian. He felt his defects, and handed his work over to the mighty genius of his young friend Calvin. In the spirit of genuine humility and self-denial, he was willing to decrease that Calvin might increase. This is the finest trait in his character.

The character which God gave him, forceful and belligerent, admirably suited him for the work of the Reformation and the unique place in the Reformation which he occupied. The work was important, for without it other Reformers could not have accomplished what they did.

William Farel was born near Gap in Dauphiny, in the mountainous regions of the Alps, in the southeastern part of France. This part of France had at one time been under the influence of the Waldensians, but they had been all but destroyed in France through the horrors of the inquisition. He was the oldest of seven children, born from a family which belonged to the nobility, but which had fallen on bad times and was very poor. He was baptized with the name Guillaume, the approximate French equivalent of William. He was born five years after Luther and Zwingli and twenty years before John Calvin. He belongs, therefore, to the first generation of reformers.

Paris, the center of Roman Catholic studies, beckoned him and, in his studies there, he concentrated on philosophy, theology, and the ancient languages, including Hebrew. He had, at this time, very little religious conviction, although he was zealous for Rome and was, in his own words, "more popish than popery."

But God used these very studies to bring him to faith in the truths of Scripture as set forth by the Reformation. Even in Paris Luther's thoughts were being circulated and discussed, and Farel was brought under the influence of Jacques Lefèvre d'Étaples. Lefèvre was one of those shadowy figures in the Reformation who himself was convinced of the great truth of justification by faith, but who never could summon the courage to break with Rome and join the Protestant cause. It was Lefèvre who said to the young Farel: "My son, God will renew the world, and you will witness it."

From that point on Farel immersed himself in the Scriptures and was soon (1521) sent to Meaux in France, where he received authority to preach. It was in his preaching that his character began to become apparent.

Sermon Notes

Guest Minister Rev. Phil Owen



The Lord's Day Evening

Sunday, January 24, 2021, 4:00 p.m.



The Reverend Mr. Phil Owen, *Presiding* Ruling Elder Mr. Jonathan Bergmann, *Assisting*

The Welcome

The Prelude

The Call to Worship - Psalm 136:3

*The Hymn of Praise
To God Be the Glory

see bulletin

see bulletin

*The Responsive Reading

Genesis 2:7-9, 15-25

Pew Bible pg. 1240 (#2)

* The Psalm of Doxology Psalm 100:1-2

The Pastoral Prayer

The Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 5:1-11

The New Testament Reading

1 Peter 3:8-17

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

- * The Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings
- *The Psalm of Adoration

Psalm 16:1-11 - Preserve Me, O God

Psalm 16C

The Prayer of Illumination

The Preaching of God's Word

Guest Minister, Rev. Phil Owen

*The Psalm of Response

Psalm 125:1-5 - All, Like Mount Zion

Psalm 125

- * The Benediction
- * The Extroit

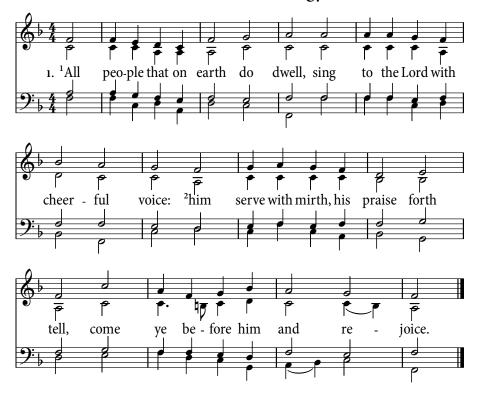
see bulletin

The Q&A

*— Please stand, as you are able.

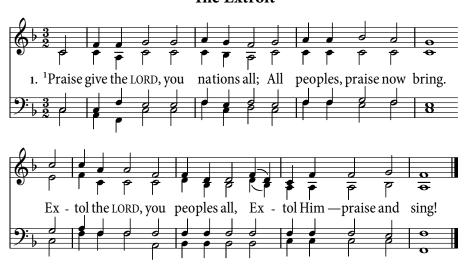


The Psalm of Doxology



Psalm 100:1-2 OLD 100TH. L.M. The Scottish Metrical Psalter, 1650 CCLI License #473612

The Extroit



Psalm 117:1 AZMON, C.M. Tim and Julie Tennent, 2017 CCLI License #473612

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

Week of January 24, 2021

AMILY WORSHIP GUIDE for this week as a helpful resource for the families of Armor Bible Presbyterian Church. Feel free to adjust this schedule to best fit your family. This schedule assumes that you have the Book of Psalms for Worship and includes this week's bulletin hymns and Psalms which we will be singing the following week. If you miss a day, just pick up where you left off and catch up another day.

Weekly Memorization:

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Westminster Shorter Catechism #9

Q. What is the work of creation?

A. The work of creation is God's making all things of nothing, by the word of his power, in the space of six days, and all very good.

Family Worship:

Monday:

Sing: Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (1/24 AM bulletin)

Read: Genesis 20

Prayer request: Mission of the month: Bert Family - Quebec, Canada

Tuesday:

Sing: To God Be the Glory (1/24 PM bulletin)

Read: Genesis 21

Prayer request: Those who are sick

Wednesday:

Sing: Psalm 59B - I Wait for You

Read: Genesis 22

Prayer request: Those in authority

Thursday:

Sing: Psalm 146B - Praise the LORD

Read: Matthew 6

Prayer request: Armor Bible Presbyterian Church

Friday:

Sing: Psalm 17A - Consider, LORD, A Righteous Cause

Read: Matthew 7

Prayer request: Friends, coworkers, neighbors, family who do not know

Jesus

Saturday:

Sing: Psalm 122A - I Was Filled with Joy and Gladness

Read: Matthew 8

Prayer request: For the Lord to prepare our hearts for the Lord's Day

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11.11. with Refrain

Fanny Crosby. CCLI License #473612