Baptism of James Du September 6th

Hymn 1

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity!

Holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee, Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see, Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea:

Holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity!

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:9-21

⁹ Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. ¹¹ Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

¹² For we do not commend ourselves again to you, but give you opportunity to boast on our behalf, that you may have an answer for those who boast in appearance and not in heart. ¹³ For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you. ¹⁴ For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

¹⁶ Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not [imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Hymn 2

I once despised and scorned the name Of my Creator God, Believing every boastful claim Of those who spurn His Word.

I walked in bondage to the ways
Of this lost world below,
And spent my strength and passing days
In selfishness and show.

Now in His Word my soul has found All knowledge, truth and light; Diffusing all my wondering mind With unsurpassed delight.

Secure in Christ, He keeps me by A living stream of grace, And turns the sorest trial or sigh To fruitfulness and peace.

Without His pardoning love would I No place in Heaven find, But be condemned, at death, to fly As chaff before the wind.

I'll trust His never-failing love Who knows and keeps His own; He guards my way to realms above And watches from His throne.

James' Testimony

Hymn 3

I stand amazed in the presence Of Jesus the Nazarene, And wonder how He could love me, A sinner condemned, unclean.

Refrain

How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be: How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

For me it was in the garden, He prayed: "Not My will, but Thine." He had no tears for His own griefs, But sweat-drops of blood for mine. **Refrain**

In pity angels beheld Him, And came from the world of light To comfort Him in the sorrows He bore for my soul that night. **Refrain**

He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them His very own; He bore the burden to Calv'ry, And suffered, and died alone. **Refrain** When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see, 'Twill be my joy through the ages To sing of His love for me. **Refrain**

Sermon - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Baptism

Welcome into membership

Hymn 4

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray:
I woke – the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

No condemnation now I dread:
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, thru Christ, my own
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

PRAYER

BENEDICTION