

CRESTVIEW WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday June 3, 2018

Four Words: A Study of Titus and Philemon

This Sunday: ***TRUE!***

Preparation Music

On this final Sunday of the 2017-2018 Choir Season, the Choir begins worship with the ending--singing the gospel favorite **AMEN!** Common meanings of AMEN include: *verily* or *truly* or *so be it*. There are three distinct Biblical usages of **AMEN**:

1. Initial *amen*, referring back to words of another speaker and introducing an affirmative sentence, e.g. 1 Kings 1:36.
2. Detached *amen*, again referring to the words of another speaker but without a complementary affirmative sentence, e.g. Nehemiah 5:13.
3. Final *amen*, with no change of speaker, as in the subscription to the first three divisions of Psalms.

Like the beginning of our worship today, all **INITIAL** amens occur in the sayings of Jesus (*verily, verily I say unto you*). In Revelation 3:14, Jesus is referred to as, "**the Amen**, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation." Enjoy this fun piece, be open to receiving God's Truth this morning, and following worship, thank a choir member for their weekly service and leadership these past 38 weeks!

Call to Worship

Today's Call to Worship is inspired by the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:5-13. Here's a prayer you can pray before worship: ***Father in heaven, you are Lord of all. Your will is perfect, and you provide generously for all of your creatures. You cleanse us from all our sins. You lead us in paths that are safe and right. Your kingdom is to be desired above all else. Your power is the greatest force in the universe. Your glory radiates from every corner of Creation. We praise and adore you. Heavenly Father, for all that you are and for the amazing grace and forgiveness you have extended to us! Amen!***

Leader: Our Father, you are in heaven, high and lifted up, higher than our highest thoughts.

**People: Holy is your name; beside you there is no other!
You are God, and you alone!**

Leader: Receive us into your kingdom---the coming kingdom---
the kingdom of your anointed Son, Jesus, whose name we bear.

**People: Receive us, for we come you you in his name---we
pray in him and with him. For yours is the kingdom and the
power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. AMEN!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Romans 12:1-2 *offer your bodies as living sacrificesō be transformed+*
Today's scripture from TITUS 1 begins talking about ELDERS. Here's a
prayer for our ELDERS: *Thank you for giving us elders who show us how
to follow your Word and how to live godly lives. May our elders reflect the
character of Jesus Christ and demonstrate His love and grace through the
integrity of their words and actions. Give to them a faith worth imitating and
a godly heritage to pass on. Help us to follow their example as they follow
the example of Christ. AMEN!*

The second part of today's scripture from TITUS 1 continues teaching us to
listen and accept only sound doctrine and ignore rebellious people, mere
talkers and deceivers. Here is a prayer for us: *Purify my heart, Lord and
make my motives pleasing to you. Purify my mind so that I can view the
world with childlike innocence, without suspicion or cynicism. Purify my
conscience, Lord and remove every trace of perversion or prejudice.
According to your grace and mercy, grant me singleness of heart and
action so that with everything that is in me, I can serve your better and love
you more! AMEN!*

Today's opening hymn both praises God and speaks to qualities which will
help us be better servants!

V1

**Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord;
Make your lives for him more fitted, tune your hearts with one accord.
Come into His courts with gladness, all your sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.**

V2

**Of your time and talents give ye, they are gifts from God above;
To be used by Christians freely to proclaim His wondrous love.**

**Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and off'rings with you bring.
In your work, with Him find favor, and with joy His praises sing.**

V3

**Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ's name believe;
Worship Him with consecration, grace and love will you receive.
For His grace give Him the glory for the Spirit and the Word,
And repeat the gospel story until all His name have heard.**

CALL TO CONFESSION Jeremiah 32:39 *I will give them singleness of heart and actions, so that they will always fear me for their own good and the good of their children after them. A prayer might be: Faithful, loving God, you are fully devoted to your people. Please give me a heart that is fully devoted to you, and the integrity to live according to my convictions.*

We have the opportunity to examine ourselves against the writing in Titus 1: 4-16 and to repeat our prayer above as our prayer of confession.

Leader: Purify our hearts, Lord, and make our motives pleasing to you.

People: Purify our minds, so that we can view the world with childlike innocence, without suspicion or cynicism.

Leader: Purify our conscience, Lord, and remove every trace of perversion or prejudice.

People: According to your grace and mercy, grant us singleness of heart and action, so that with everything that is in us, we can serve you better and love you more.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 3:7-9 *I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.*

Our sins are forgiven through the grace of Christ. Our work as forgiven people is to preach + share to the nations the boundless riches of Jesus.

Leader: In Christ we have the forgiveness of sins and the riches of God's grace. This grace was given to us: to preach to the nations the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone

the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

People: Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE/SERMON

Titus 1:4-16. It is important to have leaders who can effectively preach God's Word. It is important to have leaders who can live out God's Words and be an example for others to follow. Beginning in verse 10, Paul is pointing out Judaizers! These were Jews who were teaching Gentiles had to become Jews before they could become Christians. Paul had to write letters to several churches to help them understand that Gentile believers did not have to become Jews first---God accepts anyone who comes to him in faith. Paul is also warning Titus to lookout for other false teachers-people who say they speak God's Word but whose lives are not consistent with it. Jesus and the apostles repeatedly warned against false teachers because their teaching attack the foundations of truth and integrity upon which the Christian faith is built. False teachers will focus more attention on themselves than on Christ; ask you to do something that will compromise or dilute your faith; de-emphasize the divine nature of Christ or the inspirations of the scriptures, or urge the church to make decisions based more on human judgment than on prayer and biblical guidelines.

OFFERING MUSIC

Inner peace through an implicit trust in the love of God is the real evidence of a mature Christian faith. Here are key lines from this hymn to help us with today's scripture: It is well with my soul; Christ hath regarded my helpless estate and shed his own blood for my soul; in the day of judgment- it is well with my soul.

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul." It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul. My sin---O, the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin—not in part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

CLOSING MUSIC

On this day of worship and last Sunday of the Chancel Choir 2017 and 2018 season, this postlude is a song inspired from 1 Chronicles 16- a

chapter entitled: David gives praise to God. The leaders sacrificed burnt and peace offerings before God and David blessed the people in the name of the Lord. (verse 7) David began the custom of using choirs in the Tabernacle to sing thanksgiving to the Lord. One of the first ANTHEMS ever sung is recorded in 1 Chronicles 16 verses 8-36. In verse 25 is the scripture for this postlude: *For the Lord is great, and should be highly praised. He is to be held in awe above all gods.* In verse 36 we find the scripture for the choir's prelude today: *And ALL THE PEOPLE SHOUTED: AMEN!*

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise, Great is the Lord: now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

SEE YOU SUNDAY IN WORSHIP