

**Order of Worship 25 October 2020**

**Theme: We Worship the Lord Who Calls Us to Self Examination**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship Psalm 139:1-4;23-24**

O Lord, you have searched me and known me! **2**You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. **3**You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. **4**Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! **24**And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Hymn of Adoration “God Be Merciful to Me”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fc3gpwfaLFE>

1 God, be merciful to me,  
on thy grace I rest my plea;  
plenteous in compassion thou,  
blot out my transgressions now;  
wash me, make me pure within,  
cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

2 My transgressions I confess,  
grief and guilt my soul oppress;  
I have sinned against thy grace  
and provoked thee to thy face;  
I confess thy judgment just,  
speechless, I thy mercy trust.

3 I am evil, born in sin;  
thou desirest truth within.  
Thou alone my Savior art,  
teach thy wisdom to my heart;  
make me pure, thy grace bestow,  
wash me whiter than the snow.

4 Broken, humbled to the dust  
by thy wrath and judgment just,  
let my contrite heart rejoice  
and in gladness hear thy voice;  
from my sins O hide thy face,  
blot them out in boundless grace.

5 Gracious God, my heart renew,  
make my spirit right and true;  
cast me not away from thee,  
let thy Spirit dwell in me;  
thy salvation's joy impart,  
steadfast make my willing heart.

**Corporate Confession of Sin Psalm 51:1-3**

Have mercy on me,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+51&version=ESV#fen-ESV-14693a)] O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. **2**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! **3**For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**Silent Confession of Sin**

**Assurance of Pardon Psalm 32:1-2**

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. **2**Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**Prayer for Our Needs**

**Scripture Reading Esther 5**

On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, in front of the king's quarters, while the king was sitting on his royal throne inside the throne room opposite the entrance to the palace. **2**And when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won favor in his sight, and he held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. **3**And the king said to her, “What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom.” **4**And Esther said, “If it please the king, let the king and Haman come today to a feast that I have prepared for the king.” **5**Then the king said, “Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther has asked.” So the king and Haman came to the feast that Esther had prepared. **6**And as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king said to Esther, “What is your wish? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” **7**Then Esther answered, “My wish and my request is: **8**If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it please the king[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Esther+5&version=ESV#fen-ESV-12788c)] to grant my wish and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said.”

**9**And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai. **10**Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. **11**And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. **12**Then Haman said, “Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king. **13**Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.” **14**Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, “Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast.” This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made.

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Sermon Pastor Steven Hansen**

**“Esther Series: When God Seems Absent**

**Esther 5: “ ?”**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving “I Will Rise”**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa8w7mGug0c**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa8w7mGug0c)

**Benediction Philippians 4:7**

Sermon Notes:

Esther 5: “A Tale of Two Characters”

Introduction:

1. **A God-Focused Life: (5:1-8)**
2. *One of Humility*
3. *One that is Sacrificial*
4. *One filled with Patience*
5. **A Self-Focused Life: (5:9-14)**
6. *One that is Prideful*
7. *One that is never satisfied*
8. *One that is filled with impatience*