When God Laughs

Introduction

- The Way the Sermon Came Together
- Main Study Group: Sermon on Abraham
- Then the Memory of Psalm 79

God Having Them in Revision

1. The Picture is that of Jesus
   - Tower of babel
   - Abolition of Tzefel
   - Bern
   - The Roman Soldiers and the Christian Church

2. This is true of many situations
   - Nations: Babylon, Greece, France, in Germany or America
   - Families
   - The church - Our own Lines
God Laughs In His Mercy

1. The Account of Sarah and Isaac
   - Sarah laughs at the prophet
   - Then the Child comes
   - Then God laughs

2. The Bible is full of this
   - Moses
   - Rejoices before the prophet
   - Jesus on the Cross
   - The elevator in resurrection

3. We Need to Learn This
   - The Need for Meekness
   - At the End of Our Fetter
"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more."

I WAS IN THE SPIRIT ON THE LORD'S DAY

Prelude—"**A Joyous March"** Sowerby
"Meditation" Ropartz

The Chimes
Choral Call to Worship
Processional Hymn—"Come Ye Thankful People, Come" 593
Invocation
Lord's Prayer and Gloria

* * *

HE WHO HAS AN EAR LET HIM HEAR

Reading of the Holy Scriptures—Selected portions from II Corinthians 8-9
Choral Call to Prayer
Pastoral Prayer
Choral Response

* * *

Anthem—"**All Creatures of Our God and King"**—17th Century German Melody
Junior Choir

"**Thanks Be To God"** Handel

Thanks to Thee, Lord
For Thou, O Lord, led Israel, Thy people
With Thee thru the sea.
Like a flock it passed thru, O Lord,
Thy guiding hand protected it,
Thy loving kindness led it thru the sea.
Thanks be to Thee.

PRAISE OUR GOD, ALL YOU HIS SERVANTS

Christian Greetings
Offertory Hymn—"Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart" 418
Receiving Our Tithes and Offerings
Organ Offertory—"Lento" Reinecke
Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

FEAR NOT, I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST

*Anthem—"Now Thank We All Our God"**—Cruger
Junior Choir

**Solo—"The Lord Is My Light"** Allitson
Mrs. James Smart, contralto

Sermon by Pastor Fredrikson—"They First Gave Themselves"

THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY, "COME"

Hymn of Dedication and Decision—"More Love to Thee, O Christ" 390
Benediction
Choral Response
Postlude

*First Service Only  **Second Service Only  ***Ushers may seat latecomers

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7:30 P.M.

Prelude
Fellowship Singing
Christian Greetings and Announcements
Music By Youth Choir
Scripture—Genesis 21: 1-8 and Psalm 2
Call to Prayer
Prayer
Prayer Response
Witness by a Layman
Singing a Hymn—‘For All The Saints Who From Their Labors Rest’..........................577
(Hymn of the month)

Receiving the Offering
Special Music by Deborah Franklin
Evening Meditation by Pastor Fredrikson—‘When God Laughs’
Closing Hymn—‘Under His Wings’.................................................................231
Benediction—Closing Moments—‘When I Survey the Wondrous Cross’
Postlude

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, 2:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
4:45 p.m.—Junior High Choir Rehearsal
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6:00 p.m.—Youth Groups
6:00 p.m.—Membership Class—Session Six
8:45 p.m.—Hi Fi
8:45 p.m.—Afterglow
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Group II—Church Parlor
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CHURCH STAFF

Ministers:
Dr. Roger L. Fredrikson..........................Pastor
Rev. Albert H. Babcock ..................Christian
Rev. James E. Rowe .....................New Life

Secretaries:
Miss Winifred Jones ..................Financial
Miss Margaret Clark ..................Pastor’s
Mrs. Clarence Anderson ..................Church

Musicians:
Dr. Lee Bright..........................Director
Dr. Maynard Berk ..................Organist
Mr. Harold Wortman ..................Youth
Miss Lois Harchanko ..................Children

Hostess:
Mrs. Vera Fredrikson

Sextons:
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ysbrand
Mr. Lamont Reichelt
They first gave themselves

A Week of Great Possibilities

- The reality of our dedication.
- The investment of our time and money in God's work.
- His message: The preparation of the way.

Paul's great section on giving: Titus 2:9

- Taking an offering for the Christians in Jerusalem.
  - Those are Gentiles receiving money for Jesus.
  - The Gospel is now coming through.

The motivation for giving

"Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly nor under compulsion, for God loves the man who gives cheerfully."

1. Not grudging
   - We don't like some phase of the program.
   - We are waiting for some.

2. Not under compulsion
   - No arm-twisting, no false appeals.

The Great Theme of Giving

1. "A Magnificent Concern for Others"
   "The honor of supporting their brothers in Christ"

1. Do you care for others?
   - The life of the Church is oriented toward others.
   - If you are centered in yourself, this is so.

2. Some Examples of This
   - Leaving the Church Door Open
   - Young boy who was sick needing help.
   - Taking Communion to the Aged and Sick
     - At home and at the Convalescent Home.

2. "The Generosity of Jesus Christ"
   "Do you remember the generosity of Jesus Christ, the Lord of us all? He was rich beyond our telling, yet he became poor for your sakes so that his
donors might make you rich."

1. Has This Careless Abandon of God's Lordship Claimed on You?
   - Upon telling alone the landowner and the son being killed.
   - On the farther waiting for the Son.
3. In our situation
   - Plane leaving bright and clear free.
   - Great doctors operating for nothing
     because that's all we can do.
3. Our Utter Dependence on God.

"He who gives the seed to the sower and turns that seed into bread to eat will give you the seed of generosity to sow."

1. Our Utter Dependence for all Simple Things.
   - Truth and Life and Death.
   - Food, Drink, and Purpose.
   - The Mysteries of Love and Courtship.

2. Even our Giving is a grace from him.
   - This is the response of love and sharing.


"This means that when thank God that you practice the Gospel that you profess to believe in."

1. This becomes a testimony to others.
   - The Faith at Work, People.
   - Their Great Generosity and its repercussions in our Church.
The Curse Of The Whole Matter

1. They first gave themselves
   - Life is a matter to be clutched.
   - Money represents a positive example of an end in itself.
   - People are seen as troublesome or
tenious or as getting in one's way.

2. To those who have given themselves
   - Life is expendable. P.E. stocks
   - The first foggy to T. Chirie and his kingdom.
   - Money becomes a mean, a part
of that loyalty.
   - People are chosen for whom Chirie died. They are precious. They

We are winning. We love myself.
First Baptist Church
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES
November 12, 1961

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O’Clock

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