

## Receiving Yourself in the Fires of Sorrow

By Oswald Chambers

...what shall I say? "Father, save Me from this hour"? But for this purpose I came to this hour. "Father, glorify Your name."

—John 12:27-28

As a saint of God, my attitude toward sorrow and difficulty should not be to ask that they be prevented, but to ask that God protect me so that I may remain what He created me to be, in spite of all my fires of sorrow. Our Lord received Himself, accepting His position and realizing His purpose, in the midst of the fire of sorrow. He was saved not *from* the hour, but *out of* the hour.

We say that there ought to be no sorrow, but there is sorrow, and we have to accept and receive ourselves in its fires. If we try to evade sorrow, refusing to deal with it, we are foolish. Sorrow is one of the biggest facts in life, and there is no use in saying it should not be. Sin, sorrow, and suffering *are*, and it is not for us to say that God has made a mistake in allowing them.

Sorrow removes a great deal of a person's shallowness, but it does not always make that person better. Suffering either gives me to myself or it destroys me. You cannot find or receive yourself through success, because you lose your head over pride. And you cannot receive yourself through the monotony of your daily life, because you give in to complaining. The only way to find yourself is in the fires of sorrow. Why it should be this way is immaterial. The fact is that it is true in the Scriptures and in human experience. You can always recognize who has been through the fires of sorrow and received himself, and you know that you can go to him in your moment of trouble and find that he has plenty of time for you. But if a person has not been through the fires of sorrow, he is apt to be contemptuous, having no respect or time for you, only turning you away. If you will receive yourself in the fires of sorrow, God will make you nourishment for other people.



## FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

[faithcovenantstl.com](http://faithcovenantstl.com)

### Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

### Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory of God.

### Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430  
St. Charles, MO 63302  
636-373-9001

### Weekly Corporate Gatherings:

Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM  
Discipleship Groups (times vary)

### Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor  
Rose Hammond- Receptionist

Order of Worship  
Sunday, June 25, 2023

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Congregation** responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.

### Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Lord, as we walked through the doors to this place of worship, we brought with us our cares and concerns, our joys and our sorrows. Touch our hearts and heal us, Lord. Make us ready to become your faithful disciples. (Prayer)

### Worship in Song (click on the song title for a YouTube track)

[This is Your House](#)     [I Came to Magnify the Lord](#)  
[Worthy is Your Name](#)

### Prayer for Illumination

O Lord, Your Word is a lamp to our feet and light to our path. Give us grace to receive Your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path You set before us, through Jesus Christ. Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus. Help us to experience Your presence as we listen to your Word. In Jesus name we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen**

### Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

### Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 91:1-16 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

### Worship in Song: Hymn of the Month

[All in Jesus](#) | View the lyrics [here](#)

### Scripture Reading: Romans 6:12-33 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:5a, 21-33 (NASB95)

Sermon (10:45 a.m.) <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

### Confession & Prayer of Repentance

Let us humbly confess our sins with one another to Almighty God. (quiet confession)

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, may He have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Prayers of the People: (liturgy on screen)

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always.

**People: And, with you** (Passing of the Peace)

### Corporate Affirmation of Faith: Apostle's Creed

### The Blessing and Sending

**A Persecution Protest and a Protection Praise**

25 June 2023

Jeremiah 20:7-13 (NASB95)

Pastor Michael Hammond Sr.

**QUESTIONS**

- Name a time(s) when you obeyed God and been repaid evil instead of good by others.
- Have you ever had God tell you that things would be really bad, and the pain and emotions of it all made you feel like God had deceived you?
- What was your previous knowledge of and experience with God, and what impact did/does that have on you in these situations?

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**Announcements**

Leadership Meeting: Our monthly leadership meeting scheduled for today has been CANCELLED. Please use the additional time to connect with your discipleship group members and to complete your monthly reports for submission next Sunday.

July Love Feast: Our July Agape Meal will be next Sunday immediately following morning worship. We're looking forward to hearing how God is moving as you share your glory sightings!!

Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>: There will be a sermon online ONLY that day, and no in-person gathering at church. Mark your calendars.

**Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer**  
 U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of MO- Saylor A. Fleming  
 St. Charles County Council District 7- Tim Baker  
 8th Circuit US Court of Appeals- Hon. David R. Stras