

Evening Service

January 17, 2016

6:30 p.m.

Prayers of Contrition

Ezra 9:1-15

WELCOME AND INVOCATION TO WORSHIP

SINGING TOGETHER (Congregation Stands)

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

"God Will Take Care of You"

"Glorify Thy Name"

PRAYER FOR THE GATHERING

GOD'S GREETING AND GREETING EACH OTHER

OFFERTORY

SCRIPTURE READING: Ezra 9:1-15

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MESSAGE: "Prayers of Contrition" Ezra 9:1-15

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

RESPONSE SONG (Congregation stands)

"I Will Serve Thee"

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Thou Art Worthy, Great Jehovah"

Rev. Kirby Williams
Worship Leader - Byron Cox

I. Introduction, Psa. 51:16.

II. Exposition of the text, Ezra 9:1-15.

A. Context

B. Discovering the problem, vs. 1-5.

1. Hearing the bad news, vs. 1-2.

a. The delegation, vs. 1.

b. The confession, vs. 2.

c. Reflections of the Exodus, Deut. 7:1-4.

2. Ezra's heartfelt reaction, vs. 3-5.

a. Ezra's distress, vs. 3, Job 1:20.

b. The people's distress, vs. 4.

c. Assuming the position of contrition, vs. 5.

C. Ezra's prayer of contrition, vs. 6-15.

1. Introduction to the prayer.

2. Mortified by sin, vs. 6-7.

a. A personal address.

b. The expression of mortification.

i. Shame and humiliation.

ii. Loss of face.

iii. Mortified inside and out, Ex. 19:6.

c. Taking personal responsibility.

3. Unwarranted mercy, vs. 8-9.

a. A good sense of history, Ex. 3:7-8.

b. Disgrace in the face of grace, vs. 8.

c. Providential blessings, vs. 9.

4. The sin of mixed marriages, vs. 10-14.

a. Forsaking the commandments, vs. 10-12a, 2Cor. 6:14, Ezra 4:3.

b. A reminder of God's blessings, vs. 12b.

c. Ezra's amazement at sin, vs. 13-14.

5. Closing thoughts, vs. 15.

III. Application, Isa. 57:15.

IV. Conclusion