

The Sunday After the “Roe” Reversal

by Scotty Smith

“O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

“Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause.” Isaiah 1:17

Heavenly Father, I have so many intense feelings coursing through my heart and “bones” this morning. I feel deep gratitude for the reversal of “Roe Vs. Wade.” Your in-the-womb image bearers—fully human, and very much real children, are the greatest benefactors of the Supreme Court’s decision.

I also feel tremendous sadness about the intense divide in our country. So many of us see this, and other issues, so differently. That’s nothing new, it’s just gotten much more obvious, ugly, and threatening. Have mercy, Lord. Have mercy on us.

What I *don’t* feel is a spirit of gloating—as though my lacrosse, basketball, or soccer team just won a heated contest. Abortion—and the complex issues surrounding it, has never been a “game” to win or lose. Again, Father, have mercy on us.

I *do* feel sober, realistic, and hopeful about the huge Gospel-work in front of us. We who have prayed, worked, and sacrificed for this decision, have way more praying in the Spirit, labors of love, and sacrificial generosity knocking at front doors.

Now isn’t the time to buy a bag of popcorn, sit down, and watch for the next Supreme Court decision. It’s a time for “faith expressing itself in love” and grace being revealed through servanthood. The call to a lifestyle of doing good, seeking justice, correcting injustice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with you just got “ramped up” big time, Father. In Jesus’ name, help us. So Very Amen.



June 26, 2022

10:30 A.M.

Celebrate The Precious Gift of Life



Ephesians 2:10

*For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand,
that we should walk in them.*

Order of Service

Announcements

Welcome

Preparation for Worship

Hymn of Praise

“Come Praise and Glorify” Chester/Kauflin

-----**God’s Greatness**-----

Call to Worship: Psalm 139:1–17 (ESV)

Hymn of Adoration

“He Knows My Name” Tommy Walker

Prayer of Invocation

Video

“He Himself Gives Life”

Children are Dismissed to Sunday School

-----**God’s Renewal**-----

Public Confession

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort: Ephesians 2:4–6 (ESV)

Song of Renewal

“All the Poor and Powerless” Jordan/Leonard

-----**God’s Grace**-----

Scripture: Romans 12:9–21 (ESV)

Prayer

The Sermon

“The Church After Roe”

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Hymn

“Lead Me to the Cross” Brooke Fra-

ser

Prayer of Approach

Words of Institution: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (ESV)

Holy Communion

-----**God’s Blessing**-----

Parting Hymn

“Facing a Task Unfinished” Wesley/Getty/Cash/de Barra

Benediction

Will abortion end now that *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned?

Overturing *Roe v. Wade* was a crucial first step, but it is only the beginning. The pro-life movement must continue to work to protect innocent life as a human right for everyone, born or unborn.

So after *Roe*, what’s our job now?

It is the same as always: we must be gospel advocates of all that is right and good and true.

- We must care for the poor, the hurting, and the marginalized.
- We must speak the truth in love.
- We must remind our magistrates of their responsibilities.
- We must disciple.
- We must be unflinching in the proclamation of the good news, which changes everything.
- Our intercessions and labors must be unceasing.
- Our local crisis pregnancy centers need our support like never before.
- Our pulpits need to ring out with practical, pastoral, and prophetic urgency like never before. And we need to remember God’s glorious promise like never before: “Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” ([Isa. 43:19](#)).

Celebrate the Precious Gift of Life

Human life is a magnificent thing. There is nothing else like it. Every human being, no matter how small, is fearfully and wonderfully made. Every human being, no matter how disregarded, bears the image of God. And every human being, no matter how weak, will keep on living forever.

The gospel says,

- We have tremendous value as God's image-bearers. *Genesis 1:27*
- Each one of us is "fearfully and wonderfully made." *Psalms 139:14*
- We have lovingly "received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'" *Romans 8:15*
- God's glory and grace shine even, and especially, in those with physical limitations or weaknesses. *2 Corinthians 12:9*

If only they could see with their Eyes

The newborn baby lovingly cuddled for the first time and welcomed into the world with tears of joy is the same child who has been denied a right to live a few inches away on the other side of the birth canal. Father, forgive us, for we know what we do.

Since the fall, men have contrived ingenious diversions to satisfy their depraved passions. And child-killing has always been chief among them.

They served their idols, which became a snare to them. They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons; they poured out innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood. "Thus they became unclean by their acts, and played the whore in their deeds."

Psalm 106:36-39

Virtually every culture in antiquity was stained with the blood of innocent children.

Unwanted children were disposed of in various ways. Some were sold into slavery. Others were aborted in the womb. Many more were simply killed as infants.

Life After *Roe v. Wade*

The *Dobbs* decision is monumental and is great cause for giving thanks to God and celebrating a victory for the unborn. Now, the work of protecting the unborn, supporting and caring for mothers, and creating a culture that affirms life from conception to natural death moves into its next phase.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, June 28 6:00 PM to Dusk (includes Supper)

Summer Youth/Young Adult Bible Study at the Deicherts

Thursday, June 30 7:00 P.M. Elders and Leadership Meeting

at the home of Pastor Rick and Barb

Saturday, July 2 6:00 P.M. Prayer Dinner

at the home of Pastor Rick and Barb

Saturday, July 16 8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast

at the home of Pastor Rick

Sunday, July 17 6:15-7:15 P.M. House of Prayer

GCC Prayer Gathering —1300 High St.

FamilyLife: A CRU Ministry

Steve and Kristen Scholl

- Pray for the all staff conference in Milwaukee this July.
- Pray as they lead "Art of Parenting" at their church this fall.
- Pray that their daughter Maddie finishes her school year strong (June 30)



Crossing Cultures International

Dave and Mindy Nelson

Laos: Praise God for the new church planted by a pastor who is an alumnus and a CCI Area Coordinator. Pray for spiritual growth for the church members and that they will commit to investing in God's work. Pray for protection from the enemy, that they will be clear-minded and watchful.

Supreme Court Decision

Both **Genesis Women's Clinic** and **Birthright of Pottstown** are Pregnancy Care Centers in Pottstown that are in need of our prayers especially now. As the Supreme Court on the *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization* Case has overturned *Roe v. Wade* and returned to the States the right to have their own abortion laws, the Centers across the country have been under attack. At the time of writing this note, 23 Pregnancy Care Centers across the County have been vandalized. Recently, over this past weekend, Hope Pregnancy Center in Philadelphia was attacked by vandals.

Pray especially for the protection of Pregnancy Care facilities in Pottstown and across the USA as they work to protect not only the buildings where they serve but the clients, the babies, and the staff.

Prayer/Praise. June 26, 2022

- Pray for Lorraine Blanski's sister-in-law, Beth, who is scheduled to have lumpectomy surgery on July 5th and radiation afterwards. Pray for a successful surgery and God's healing for Beth.
- Praise that Mike Row's kidney stone surgery was successful. Mike had a tube removed from his back and went back to the hospital on June 23rd to have the stent removed. Pray for continued healing for Mike.
- Praise that Austin, the stepson of Lorraine Blanski's niece, is doing well with his prosthetics. Pray for continued healing and mental health and God's strength for Austin as he navigates his new life.
- Praise that Anthony Conte, father of Mandi Yensan's friend, Christine got transferred to a heart hospital in Long Island and they were able to do the surgery he needed there. His wife said that the surgery went well and he is like a new man! Praise God!
- Pray for Leah, daughter of John Kurtyka and cousin of Lorraine Blanski, who is struggling with drug addiction and is away at an 8-month drug rehabilitation program. Pray for God's strength, peace, and comfort for Leah.
- Pray for Terry Cecchetelli's grandnephew, Liam, who is 1-year old and has a rare disease called PDHA-1. He will need a feeding tube. Pray for God's wisdom for Liam's doctors and strength and comfort for the families.
- Pray for Steve Simons neighbor, Mrs. McCabe, who has dementia. Pray for God's strength for the McCabe family during this difficult time.
- Praise that Dalton Weider, father of Lulu Bocci's friend, Mary, is now in rehab learning to talk, walk, and move his muscles. Pray for his progress and his family as they support him.
- Pray for Igor Parfeniuk, a North Coventry police officer with Matt Deichert. Pray for Igor's sister and her family, as they are still living in Ukraine.
- Praise that Dawn Rhoads, Igor's mother-in-law, who had her 4th cancer treatment on April 25th, is doing much better. Pray for continued healing for Dawn.
- Praise that Donna Jenkins' friend, Debbie Breyer, is home from the nursing home. Pray for Debbie's husband, who is in the hospital with undetermined issues. Pray for God's healing.
- Pray for Donna Jenkins' nephew, Evan James, who has a very rare disease, CDA. Praise that Evan can be off the breathing machine for the hours he is awake. Pray for God's healing for Evan and for his family and wisdom for his doctors.
- Pray for Justine Schumaker, mother of Renee Schumaker. Pray for healing for Justine through her chemotherapy treatment.

Message

Celebrate the Precious Gift of Life The Church After Roe

Romans 12:9–21 (ESV)

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

It is Who We Are

Caring for the helpless, the deprived, and the unwanted is not simply what we do; it is who we are. It always has been. It always will be.

Life is God's gift.

It is His gracious endowment upon the created order. It flows forth in generative fruitfulness.

- *Every child is a gift, a heritage from the Lord (Psalm 127:3)*

Abortion says,

Unborn babies have value only as expendable commodities.

- Each baby is only a clump of tissue, devoid of any purpose or life.
- There's not a place for you in my plan right now.
- Disability limits a chance at any manner of a quality of life.