

Celebration of Worship

November 17, 2024

Prelude

The Prelude is a time to begin transitioning from fellowshipping with our neighbors to preparing our hearts to worship God. Please adjust all electronic devices so as not to interrupt the service.

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to all our visitors. Please fill out the guest registration to let us know of your visit.

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

O God, who has brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel, and has begotten us again to a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; make us steadfast and immovable in this faith, always abounding in the work of the Lord; who died for our sins, and rose again, and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 12:1-6

- Pastor: We will praise you, O Lord. Though you were angry with us, your anger has been turned away, and you have comforted us.
- All: The Lord, the Lord is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation. We will trust and not be afraid. With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.
- All: Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

^{*} Indicates please stand if able.

*Invocation and Adoration

The invocation should acknowledge that our worship is in vain if it is not Spirit-inspired. Often, the invocation will also employ the language of adoration and praise, which is very fitting in light of the vertical, God-focused dimension of this prayer.

*Worship in Song

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Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Public Confession of Sin

ALL: Most Merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things we should have done. And we have done those things we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who repent, according to your promises declared to us in Your Holy Word. And grant, O merciful Lord, that we might hereafter live holy lives, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in steadfast love. ¹⁹He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. ~ Micah 7:18-19

Corporate Confession of Faith – Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.* The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Some versions of the Creed omit this phrase; it was inserted to affirm the reality of Christ's physical death;

**or universal; this phrase simply refers to the fact that the Church is made up of believers of all times in all nations.

PETITIONING GOD'S PROVIDENCE

Testimony of God's Work Prayers of God's People

(The pastor will lead us in prayer, reading submitted praises and requests)

Adoring God's Glory

Public Reading of Scripture Judges 3:1-6

(Lectio Continua – the practice of reading Scripture in sequence)

Scripture Context:

A period of testing begins for the nation of Israel.

Now these are the nations that the LORD left, to test Israel by them, that is, all in Israel who had not experienced all the wars in Canaan. ² It was only in order that the generations of the people of Israel might know war, to teach war to those who had not known it before. ³ These are the nations: the five lords of the Philistines and all the Canaanites and the Sidonians and the Hivites who lived on Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal-hermon as far as Lebo-hamath. ⁴ They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. ⁵ So the people of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁶ And their daughters they took to themselves for wives, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God.

The Giving of First Fruits

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. **~Proverbs 3:9-10**

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanks and Dedication *Worship in Song

Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1

Come ye sinners poor and needy Weak and wounded sick and sore Jesus ready stands to save you Full of pity love and power

Verse 2

Come ye thirsty come and welcome God's free bounty glorify True belief and true repentance Every grace that brings you nigh

Verse 3

Come ye weary heavy-laden Lost and ruined by the fall If you tarry 'til you're better You will never come at all

Verse 4

Let not conscience make you linger, Nor of fitness fond-ly dream; All that He re - quires as fit -ness, Is to know your need of Him.

Chorus:

I will arise and go to Jesus He will embrace me in His arms In the arms of my dear Savior O there are ten thousand charms

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The Lord Is My Salvation

Verse 1 The grace of God has reached for me And pulled me from the raging sea And I am safe on this solid ground The Lord is my salvation

Verse 2

I will not fear when darkness falls His strength will help me scale these walls I'll see the dawn of the rising sun The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

Who is like the Lord our God Strong to save faithful in love My debt is paid and the victory won The Lord is my salvation

Verse 3 My hope is hidden in the Lord

* Indicates please stand if able.

He flow'rs each promise of His Word When winter fades I know spring will come The Lord is my salvation

Verse 4

In times of waiting times of need When I know loss when I am weak I know His grace will renew these days The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

Verse 5 And when I reach the final day He will not leave me in the grave But I will rise He will call me home The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

Bridge Glory be to God the Father Glory be to God the Son Glory be to God the Spirit The Lord is our salvation

Chorus

Who is like the Lord our God Strong to save faithful in love My debt is paid and the victory won The Lord is my salvation

The Lord is our salvation, The Lord is our salvation!

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PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading & Prayer of IlluminationSermon Text:James 4:13-17Preaching of the Word

The Arrogance of Presuming

*Closing Hymn

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Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Benediction

Just as God has the first word in worship, he also has the last word. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing. We look up and extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.

Postlude

* Indicates please stand if able.

Memory Verse of the Week:

Psalm 62:8 Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.