

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel...Romans 1:16

Celebration of Worship

May 18, 2025

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 quest registration to let us know of your visit.

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

Almighty God, who has made a covenant of unspeakable grace and mercy with us in Christ Jesus and conveyed to us therein a heavenly inheritance upon sincere obedience to His commands, which is our reasonable service: Grant that we evermore rejoice in You, and walk worthy of our holy calling; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

from Psalm 118

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good and his love

endures forever.

All: Let those who fear the LORD say "His love endures

forever."

Pastor: The Lord is our strength and our song; he has become

our salvation.

All: I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you

have become my salvation.

Pastor: The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine

upon us.

^{*} Indicates please stand if able.

All: You are our God, and we will give you thanks: you are our God, and we will exalt you.

*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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The Mighty God, the Lord

(Psalm 50; Scottish Psalter, 1650)

Public Confession of Sin

Create In Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God And renew a right spirit with-in me (repeat)

Cast me not away from Your presence, Oh Lord, And take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation And renew a right spirit within me.

Silent Prayer of Confession Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. ~ Psalm 130:7

Corporate Confession of Faith

The Ligonier Statement on Christology

We confess the mystery and wonder of God made flesh and rejoice in our great salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son created all things, sustains all things, and makes all things new. Truly God, He became truly man, two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary and lived among us. Crucified, dead, and buried, He rose on the third day, ascended to heaven, and will come again in glory and judgment.

For us, He kept the Law, atoned for sin, and satisfied God's wrath. He took our filthy rags and gave us His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King, building His church, interceding for us, and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord; we praise His holy Name forever. Amen.

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 9:34-45

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

Scripture Context:

This incident continues to show the lawlessness of Israel and their desperate need for the Righteous Judge, Deliverer and King – our Lord Jesus Christ

So Abimelech and all the men who were with him rose up by night and set an ambush against Shechem in four companies. ³⁵ And Gaal the son of Ebed went out and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city, and Abimelech and the people who were with him rose from the ambush. ³⁶ And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, "Look, people are coming down from the mountaintops!" And Zebul said to him, "You mistake the shadow of the mountains for men." ³⁷ Gaal spoke again and said, "Look, people are coming down from the center of the land, and one company is coming from the direction of the Diviners' Oak." ³⁸ Then Zebul said to him,

^{*} Indicates please stand if able. [4]

"Where is your mouth now, you who said, 'Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him?' Are not these the people whom you despised? Go out now and fight with them." 39 And Gaal went out at the head of the leaders of Shechem and fought with Abimelech. ⁴⁰ And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him. And many fell wounded, up to the entrance of the gate. 41 And Abimelech lived at Arumah, and Zebul drove out Gaal and his relatives, so that they could not dwell at Shechem. 42 On the following day, the people went out into the field, and Abimelech was told. 43 He took his people and divided them into three companies and set an ambush in the fields. And he looked and saw the people coming out of the city. So he rose against them and killed them. 44 Abimelech and the company that was with him rushed forward and stood at the entrance of the gate of the city, while the two companies rushed upon all who were in the field and killed them. 45 And Abimelech fought against the city all that day. He captured the city and killed the people who were in it, and he razed the city and sowed it with salt.

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

God is For Us

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Verse 1

We won't fear the battle
We won't fear the night
We will walk the Valley with You by our side
You will go before us
You will lead the way
We have found a refuge only You can save

Chorus

Sing with joy now our God is for us
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress
Raise your voice now no love is greater
Who can stand against us if our God is for us

Verse 2
Even when I stumble
Even when I fall
Even when I turn back still Your love is sure
You will not abandon
You will not forsake
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace

Chorus

Bridge
/ Neither height nor depth can separate us
Hell and death will not defeat us
He who gave His Son to free us
Holds me in His love /

Chorus (2x)

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Who You Say I Am

Verse 1

Who am I that the highest King, Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in, Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

Chorus Who the Son sets free, Oh is free indeed I'm a child of God, Yes I am

Verse 2
Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

Chorus

Who the Son sets free, Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
In my Father's house, There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am

Bridge
I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
I am who You say I am

Chorus

Who the Son sets free, Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, Yes I am
/ In my Father's house, There's a place for me
I'm a child of God, Yes I am /

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination Sermon Text: John 4:1-26

Preaching of the Word

Living Water

*Closing Hymn

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I Need Thee, Precious Jesus

*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

Memory Verse of the Week:

Psalm 51:10-11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Announcements

- There is a **VBS meeting** for this Monday, May 19th at 6pm. All volunteers are encouraged to attend. Judy Adkins will be covering important information.
- ESL has scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, May 20th at 6pm for all teachers/staff currently involved. If you would like to participate or are interested in helping for the 2025-2026 calendar year, please see Eric or Anna Coplin.
- Photographs for the church directory are currently in the process. If your last name begins with letters D-G, please see Abigail Weaver to have your picture taken.

^{*} Indicates please stand if able.

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- Save the date! Our monthly Hymn Sing is scheduled for Sunday, May 25th at 6pm.
- ❖ THERE ARE NAMETAGS FOR YOU TO WEAR. THESE NAMETAGS ARE LOCATED ON THE BACK SANCTUARY TABLE.