

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 27, 2022

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Luke 1:32-33

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 53 (p. 805)

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

**They are corrupt, and their ways are vile;
there is no one who does good.**

God looks down from heaven on the sons of men
to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

**Everyone has turned away, they have together become corrupt;
there is no one who does good, not even one.**

Will the evildoers never learn—those who devour my people
as men eat bread and who do not call on God?

**There they were, overwhelmed with dread,
where there was nothing to dread.**

God scattered the bones of those who attacked you;
you put them to shame, for God despised them.

Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!

**When God restores the fortunes of his people,
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!**

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we come before you with guilt and shame as we consider how we have offended you by our sinful actions, our hurtful words, and our disgraceful thoughts.

All: We confess that we have walked in darkness rather than living according to what you have revealed to us in your Word. We have sinned against you and our neighbors, and we are not worthy to be called your children.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray, and cause us to grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

All: Thank you for the assurance we have of forgiveness through the blood of our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 4:9-11

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Luke 1:1-25

Congregational Response

Hymn 162

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore!

This is he whom heav'n-taught singers sang of old with one accord,
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
Now he shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord, evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
All dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Luke 1:26-56

Congregational Response

(sung to the tune of “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”)

Song of Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord;
My spirit doth rejoice in God,
For he, my Savior, did in grace
His servant’s humble state regard.

Behold, all generations hence
My blessedness will e’er proclaim.
The Mighty One hath done great things
For me, and holy is his name.

For generations, fearing him,
His mercy will on them abide.
His mighty arm displays his strength;
He scatters those who dwell in pride.

He cast the mighty from their thrones,
And lifted those of low estate.
The hungry he hath filled with good;
The rich he empty sent away.

He helped his servant Israel,
In mem’ry of his mercy sure,
As told our father Abraham,
And to his seed forevermore. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Magnificat”
Luke 1:46-56

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O’er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
“Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

May the peace of God, our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God, the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.*

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his communion,
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings. Amen.*

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, November 28

Scripture: Daniel 5:1-31; 2 Peter 2:1-22; Psalm 119:113-128; Proverbs 28:19-20

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 3

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, November 29

Scripture: Daniel 6:1-28; 2 Peter 3:1-18; Psalm 119:129-152; Proverbs 28:21-22

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 39

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, November 30

Scripture: Daniel 7:1-28; 1 John 1:1-10; Psalm 119:153-176; Proverbs 28:23-24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 40

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Kenya and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, December 1

Scripture: Daniel 8:1-27; 1 John 2:1-17; Psalm 120:1-7; Proverbs 28:25-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 41

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.
Our pregnant mom.

Friday, December 2

Scripture: Daniel 9:1 - 11:1; 1 John 2:18 - 3:6; Psalm 121:1-8; Proverbs 28:27-28

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 42

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.

Saturday, December 3

Scripture: Daniel 11:2-35; 1 John 3:7-24; Psalm 122:1-9; Proverbs 29:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 43

Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, December 4

Scripture: Daniel 11:36 - 12:13; 1 John 4:1-21; Psalm 123:1-4; Proverbs 29:2-4

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 44

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize

followtruth99@gmail.com

Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand

dahlfred@gmail.com

Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda

ebyuganda@gmail.com

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In Luke 1 we read about the ways Jesus' first advent was announced to several people. After waiting for centuries, God's people finally heard that the arrival of the Messiah was imminent. Mary was at the center of the action because she would be the mother of the Christ. This was a high honor for her, all the more so because of her low social status. God did not choose the daughter of a king, or the daughter of an emperor. He chose Mary, who was poor and lowly, and who humbled herself before the Lord. Philip Ryken, in *The Incarnation in the Gospels*, writes:

The mighty God reaches down in mercy, lifting the humble to greatness. Mary herself was the perfect example. No one was lowlier than she was—a poor, young peasant girl from Nazareth. She was nobody from nowhere, and she knew it. She was also a sinner, which is why she praised God as her Savior. This is one of Luke's favorite titles for Jesus. Mary used it because she needed to be saved as much as anyone else. And by his grace, God saved her. He saw her lowly condition. He did great things for her, such as putting a child in her virgin womb, and sending his Son to be her Savior. God reached down and saved her. This is why all generations call Mary blessed: she was blessed by the undeserved favor of a merciful God.

The way God worked in Mary's life is the way he always works. Not that anyone else could ever bear the Son of God, of course, but that God always exalts the humble. He does great things for people who honor him. In every generation he shows mercy to those who fear him, which simply means to worship him with reverence and awe. To "fear" God means to cherish reverence and respect for him—not to be afraid, but to honor him lovingly by avoiding what is contrary to his will and by striving after what pleases him. God-fearing people like Mary will be lifted up, no matter how low their situation in life.

1. Read Luke 1:31-33. What did the angel Gabriel reveal to Mary about the child that would be conceived in her womb? Who would the child be? What would the child do? How did Jesus fulfill these prophecies during his earthly ministry, and how does he continue to fulfill them as our ascended Lord?
2. What does Luke 1:41 reveal about the spiritual connection between Jesus and John? What was John's role in Jesus' ministry according to Luke 1:13-17?
3. Read Mary's song of praise in Luke 1:46-55 and Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-10. What similarities do you notice between them? What does this reveal about Mary's knowledge of Scripture and her understanding of God's grace?
4. As you think about what we've learned so far in our series through the book of Genesis, why do you think Mary mentioned the Abrahamic Covenant in Luke 1:55? What does the fulfillment of this covenant reveal about God's grace and faithfulness?

Song of Mary

1. My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord; my spir - it
 2. Be - hold, all gen - er - a - tions hence my bless - ed -
 3. For gen - er - a - tions, fear - ing him, his mer - cy
 4. He cast the might - y from their thrones, and lift - ed
 5. He helped his ser - vant Is - ra - el, in mem - 'ry

doth re - joice in God, for he, my Sav - ior,
 ness will e'er pro - claim. The Might - y One hath
 • will on them a - bide. His might - y arm dis -
 those of low es - tate. The hun - gry he hath
 of his mer - cy sure, as told our fa - ther

did in grace his ser - vant's hum - ble state re - gard.
 done great things for me, and ho - ly is his name.
 • plays his strength; he scat - ters those who dwell in pride.
 filled with good; the rich he emp - ty sent a - way.
 A - bra - ham, and to his seed for - ev - er - more.