

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 21, 2023

For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

**Psalm 86:10**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing\*

Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 90 (p. 816 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn men back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, O sons of men.”

**For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.**

You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning—  
**though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.**

We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

**You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

All our days pass away under your wrath;

**we finish our years with a moan.**

The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength;

**yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.**

Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.

**Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy  
and be glad all our days.**

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.

**May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.**

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—

**yes, establish the work of our hands.**

\* Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

***A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing***

A hymn of glory let us sing; new songs thro'out the world shall ring: *Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
Christ, by a road before untrod, ascendeth to the throne of God.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand; *Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
And with his followers they see Jesus' resplendent majesty.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

To whom the angels, drawing nigh: "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" *Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
"This is the Savior," thus they say, "this is his noble triumph day."  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

"Again shall ye behold him so as ye today have seen him go, *Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
In glorious pomp ascending high, up to the portals of the sky."  
*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** We praise you, our God and King, because you are holy and good. Your unfailing love is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.

**All:** As we enter into worship, we feel the vast difference between who we are as creatures and who you are as our Creator. We are painfully aware of how we have sinned and fall short of your glory.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray. Help us not to grow weary of doing good, but instead fill us with devotion to you and love for others that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.

**All:** We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our risen and ascended Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Romans 5:6-9

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

2 Kings 6:8-23

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

### *More Than Conquerors*

All hail the mighty Conqueror, Christ Jesus, our great King!  
All hail the glorious Warrior, to whom our praise we bring.  
May he be given honors by all his ransomed host:  
We, too, are more than conquerors who make his name our boast.

Yet how can we inherit this title “conqueror” too?  
We have not earned the merit or fame that is his due.  
For we have only failed him by ev’ry sin and doubt;  
Indeed, we cruelly nailed him and cast the Conqueror out.

But rising up victorious he conquered death and sin,  
And reigns in heaven glorious, each conflict set to win.  
To those of his own choosing he shares the victory;  
Says, “Though you once were losing, come conquer now through me.”

“You cannot be defeated by trials in this life.  
The conquest is completed o’er Satan, sin, and strife.  
No pain, no tribulation, no danger, famine, sword,  
No—nothing in creation can conquer those in God.”

Now since our God is for us what have we then to fear?  
Though enemies deplore us, we face them all with cheer.  
For we will be triumphant: each foe will be trod down  
Beneath the Christ exultant, who shares the Conqueror’s crown. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 76.** *Which is the ninth commandment?*

**A.** The ninth commandment is, “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”

**Q. 77.** *What is required in the ninth commandment?*

**A.** The ninth commandment requires the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and of our own and our neighbor’s good name, especially in testifying as witnesses.

**Q. 78.** *What is forbidden in the ninth commandment?*

**A.** The ninth commandment forbids whatever is prejudicial to truth, or injurious to our own or our neighbor’s good name.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

### Doxology\*

Hymn 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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.

❖ *Tithes and offerings may be placed in the box at the entrance to the sanctuary or given online through our church’s website.*

# THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading\*

John 1:35-51

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 100])

Hymn 65

## *Before Jehovah's Awesome Throne*

Before Jehovah's awesome throne,  
All nations, bow with sacred joy;  
Know that the Lord is God alone,  
He can create, and he destroy—  
He can create, and he destroy.

His sovereign pow'r, without our aid,  
Made us of dust and formed us men;  
And when like wand'ring sheep we strayed,  
He brought us to his fold again—  
He brought us to his fold again.

We are his people, we his care,  
Our souls and all our mortal frame;  
What lasting honors shall we rear,  
Almighty Maker, to your name?—  
Almighty Maker, to your name?

We'll crowd your gates with thankful songs,  
High as the heav'ns our voices raise;  
And earth, with her ten thousand tongues,  
Shall fill your courts with sounding praise—  
Shall fill your courts with sounding praise.

Wide as the world is your command,  
Vast as eternity your love;  
Firm as a rock your truth must stand,  
When rolling years shall cease to move—  
When rolling years shall cease to move. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Jesus Is Our Stairway to Heaven”  
Genesis 28:10-22

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 290

### *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

Hail the day that sees him rise *Alleluia!*  
To his throne above the skies; *Alleluia!*  
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv’n, *Alleluia!*  
Enters now the highest heav’n. *Alleluia!*

There for him high triumph waits; *Alleluia!*  
Lift your heads, eternal gates, *Alleluia!*  
He hath conquered death and sin, *Alleluia!*  
Take the King of glory in! *Alleluia!*

See, he lifts his hands above! *Alleluia!*  
See, he shows the prints of love! *Alleluia!*  
Hark! his gracious lips bestow *Alleluia!*  
Blessings on his church below. *Alleluia!*

Lord, beyond our mortal sight, *Alleluia!*  
Raise our hearts to reach thy height; *Alleluia!*  
There thy face unclouded see, *Alleluia!*  
Find our heav’n of heav’ns in thee! *Alleluia! Amen.*

## **Benediction\***

### **Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father,  
praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit,  
three in One,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.





# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

## **Monday, May 22**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 1:1 - 2:11; John 12:20-50; Psalm 118:19-29; Proverbs 15:27-28

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 28

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

## **Tuesday, May 23**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 2:12 - 3:39; John 13:1-30; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 15:29-30

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 82

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

## **Wednesday, May 24**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 4:1 - 6:23; John 13:31 - 14:14; Psalm 119:17-32; Prov. 15:31-32

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 83

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

## **Thursday, May 25**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1 - 8:18; John 14:15-31; Psalm 119:33-48; Proverbs 15:33

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 84

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

## **Friday, May 26**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 9:1 - 11:27; John 15:1-27; Psalm 119:49-64; Proverbs 16:1-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 85

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

## **Saturday, May 27**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:1-31; John 16:1-33; Psalm 119:65-80; Proverbs 16:4-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 86

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

## **Sunday, May 28**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 13:1-39; John 17:1-26; Psalm 119:81-96; Proverbs 16:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 87

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**

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**Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda**

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## **GATHERING for EVENING PRAYER and HYMNS**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

**Hymn** “Rejoice, the Lord Is King” Hymn 310

**\*Scripture Reading**

**Hymn** “O Thou That Hear’st When Sinners Cry” Hymn 485

**Devotion**

**Hymn** “Arise, My Soul, Arise” Hymn 305

**Congregational Prayer**  
Men remain in the sanctuary;  
Ladies meet in the fellowship hall

**\*Hymn** “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night” Hymn 401

**\*Closing Prayer**

# More Than Conquerors

1. All hail the might - y Con - queror, Christ Je - sus, our great King!  
 2. Yet how can we in - her - it this ti - tle "con - queror" too?  
 3. But ris - ing up vic - to - rious He con - quered death and sin,  
 4. "You can - not be de - feat - ed by tri - als in this life.  
 5. Now since our God is for us what have we then to fear?"

All hail the glo - rious War - rior, to Whom our praise we bring. <sup>2</sup>  
 We have not earned the mer - it or fame that is His due. <sup>7</sup>  
 And reigns in Heav - en glo - rious, each con - flict set to win.  
 The con - quest is com - plet - ed o'er Sa - tan, sin and strife.  
 Though en - e - mies de - plore us, we face them all with cheer.

May He be giv - en hon - ors by all His ran - somed host;  
 For we have on - ly failed Him by ev' - ry sin and doubt;  
 To those of His own choos - ing He shares the vic - to - ry;  
 No pain, no trib - u - la - tion, no dan - ger, fam - ine, sword,  
 For we will be tri - um - phant: each foe will be trod down

We, too, are more than con - querors who make His name our boast.  
 In - deed, we cruel - ly nailed Him and cast the Con - queror out.  
 Says, "Though you once were los - ing, come con - quer now through me."  
 No noth - ing in cre - a - tion can con - quer those in God."  
 Be - neath the Christ ex - ult - ant, who shares the Con - queror's crown.