

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, June 4, 2023

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.

**1 John 4:10**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing\*

Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 23 (p. 791 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he restores my soul.**

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

**You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

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

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

***Holy, Holy, Holy!***

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Father, we come before you to acknowledge our sin, because if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**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 ashamed and sorry for how we have displeased you.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and renew our wills. We desire to be conformed more and more to the likeness of Christ; grant us grace and work in us by your Holy Spirit to that end.

**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, forever. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Exodus 20:1-17; Romans 13:8-10

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 141

### *God, in the Gospel of His Son*

God, in the gospel of his Son,  
Makes his eternal counsels known;  
Where love in all its glory shines,  
And truth is drawn in fairest lines.

Here sinners of a humble frame  
May taste his grace, and learn his name;  
May read, in characters of blood,  
The wisdom, pow'r, and grace of God.

The pris'ner here may break his chains;  
The weary rest from all his pains;  
The captive feel his bondage cease;  
The mourner find the way of peace.

Here faith reveals to mortal eyes  
A brighter world beyond the skies;  
Here shines the light which guides our way  
From earth to realms of endless day.

O grant us grace, almighty Lord,  
To read and mark your holy Word;  
Its truths with meekness to receive,  
And by its holy precepts live. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 79.** *Which is the tenth commandment?*

**A.** The tenth commandment is, “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

**Q. 80.** *What is required in the tenth commandment?*

**A.** The tenth commandment requires full contentment with our own condition, with a right and loving frame of spirit toward our neighbor, and all that is his.

**Q. 81.** *What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?*

**A.** The tenth commandment forbids all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

## 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.

## THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading\*

Genesis 29:31 - 30:24

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 23])

Hymn 87

### *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; he leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again;  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear none ill,  
For thou art with me; and thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me:  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Birth of the Nation of Israel”  
Genesis 30:1-24

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 465

### ***Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord***

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,  
Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

*Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.*

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss;  
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.

*Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.*

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, what can avail to wash it away?  
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide; whiter than snow you may be today.

*Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin. Amen.*

**Benediction\***

**Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit,  
Be to God and God alone!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
One in Three and Three in One. Amen.





# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

## **Monday, June 5**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:24 - 24:25; Acts 3:1-26; Psalm 123:1-4; Proverbs 16:21-23

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 30

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

## **Tuesday, June 6**

Scripture: 1 Kings 1:1-53; Acts 4:1-37; Psalm 124:1-8; Proverbs 16:24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 94

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

## **Wednesday, June 7**

Scripture: 1 Kings 2:1 - 3:2; Acts 5:1-42; Psalm 125:1-5; Proverbs 16:25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 95

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Mayotte and persecuted Christians.

## **Thursday, June 8**

Scripture: 1 Kings 3:3 - 4:34; Acts 6:1-15; Psalm 126:1-6; Proverbs 16:26-27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 96

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

## **Friday, June 9**

Scripture: 1 Kings 5:1 - 6:38; Acts 7:1-29; Psalm 127:1-5; Proverbs 16:28-30

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 97

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

## **Saturday, June 10**

Scripture: 1 Kings 7:1-50; Acts 7:30-50; Psalm 128:1-6; Proverbs 16:31-33

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 98

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

## **Sunday, June 11**

Scripture: 1 Kings 8:1-66; Acts 7:51 - 8:13; Psalm 129:1-8; Proverbs 17:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 99

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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## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

When historians record the history of nations and its leaders, they are often faced with the question of which details to include and which to leave out. Sometimes the details that cast the nation and its leaders in a negative light are left out. However, in describing the birth of the nation of Israel, Moses, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, included all the dark and sinful details to show us that God's promise was coming about by his grace and not by human effort. Iain Duguid in his book, *Living in the Grip of Relentless Grace*, writes:

It is important in the midst of this messy drama not to lose sight of what God is doing in all of this. Human sin and rivalry have been driving the action at one level, but at another level God has been accomplishing his purpose of making Jacob the father of a multitude of sons. What is more, at this point in God's plan the blessing will not pass to either Judah or Joseph. There was not one winner and eleven losers in the race for the Abrahamic blessing. Now the channel of God's blessing was broadening out, even as Isaac had declared in blessing Jacob (Gen. 28:3). God was making Jacob into a company of peoples, and even the sordid scheming of his wives would be the providential means by which God would accomplish his purpose of granting Jacob many sons. At the end of Jacob's life, he would not have to choose only one among his sons to bless, as his father had done; there would be blessings enough for all of Jacob's children to share (Gen. 48–49). Of course, many things might have been easier if Leah and Rachel had worked together harmoniously in pursuit of God's glory from the outset. Much pain might have been avoided. But God's plans were in no way thwarted by their stubborn, self-serving strategizing. On the contrary, it was through their sin that he achieved his good purposes.

1. Read Genesis 29:31 - 30:24 and make notes of each of the names given to the sons that were born. What does each name mean, and what does it reveal about that particular birth?
2. What does God teach us in these verses about the frustration and pain that results from us sinfully disregarding his design in creation? How is this particularly revealed in polygamy in this passage? How is it revealed in other ways in our society?
3. How does the striving within Jacob's family reveal his lack of spiritual leadership as a husband and father? What would have been a more godly way for Jacob to deal with the strife between Leah and Rachel? What is the danger of being passive as a father?
4. How does this passage reveal how God fulfills his covenant promises? Consider especially Deuteronomy 7:6-8 and Exodus 1:1-7. How does Genesis 30:1-24 point to Christ?