

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, April 7, 2024

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;  
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

**Psalm 9:1**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

**Greeting and Blessing\***

**Responsive Reading\***

Psalm 111 (p. 826 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Praise the LORD.

**I will extol the LORD with all my heart  
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.**

Great are the works of the LORD;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

**Glorious and majestic are his deeds,  
and his righteousness endures forever.**

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

**He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.**

He has shown his people the power of his works,  
giving them the lands of other nations.

**The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

They are steadfast for ever and ever,  
done in faithfulness and uprightness.

**He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

**To him belongs eternal praise.**

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

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

***Jesus Shall Reign***

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does his successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;  
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns; the pris'ner leaps to lose his chains,  
The weary find eternal rest, and all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen! Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, we come to you burdened by guilt and shame as we remember how often we sinned against you and others.

**All:** Forgive our sins, we pray, and help us to put off greed, pride, anger, unbelief, covetousness, impurity, and all the sinful, earthly thoughts and desires that still have influence in our lives.

**Leader:** Through the power of your Holy Spirit, enable us to put on our new nature, clothing ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, bearing with one another, and if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other as we have been forgiven by you.

**All:** Above all, empower us to put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony, as we together await the return of our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose Name we pray. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Jeremiah 31:33-34

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Genesis 6

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 244

### *He Was Wounded for Our Transgressions*

He was wounded for our transgressions,  
He bore our sins in his body on the tree;  
For our guilt he gave us peace,  
From our bondage gave release,  
And with his stripes, and with his stripes,  
And with his stripes our souls are healed.

He was numbered among transgressors,  
We did esteem him forsaken by his God;  
As our sacrifice he died,  
That the law be satisfied,  
And all our sin, and all our sin,  
And all our sin was laid on him.

We had wandered, we all had wandered  
Far from the fold of “the Shepherd of the sheep”  
But he sought us where we were,  
On the mountains bleak and bare,  
And brought us home, and brought us home,  
And brought us safely home to God.

Who can number his generation?  
Who shall declare all the triumphs of his cross?  
Millions dead now live again,  
Myriads follow in his train!  
Victorious Lord, victorious Lord,  
Victorious Lord and coming King! Amen.

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 73.** *Which is the eighth commandment?*

**A.** The eighth commandment is, “You shall not steal.”

**Q. 74.** *What is required in the eighth commandment?*

**A.** The eighth commandment requires that we utilize only lawful means in obtaining and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

**Q. 75.** *What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?*

**A.** The eighth commandment forbids whatever does, or may, unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor’s, wealth or outward estate.

## 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\*

2 Peter 2

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 111])

(music printed on p. 12)

## *O Give the LORD Wholehearted Praise*

O give the LORD wholehearted praise.  
To him thanksgiving I will bring;  
With all his people I will raise  
My voice and of his glory sing.

His saints delight to search and trace  
His mighty works and wondrous ways.  
Majestic glory, boundless grace,  
And righteousness his work displays.

God's wondrous deeds of faithfulness  
His people ever keep in mind.  
His works of love and graciousness  
Reveal that God the LORD is kind.

God's promise shall forever stand;  
He cares for those who trust his word.  
Upon his saints his mighty hand  
The wealth of nations has conferred.

His works are true and just indeed;  
His precepts are forever sure.  
In truth and righteousness decreed,  
They shall forevermore endure.

From God his saints' redemption came;  
His cov'nant sure no change can know.  
Let all revere his holy name  
In heav'n above and earth below.

In rev'rence and in godly fear  
Man finds the gate to wisdom's ways;  
The wise his holy name revere.  
Through endless ages sound his praise! Amen.

## Pastoral Prayer

### Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Lord Knows How to Rescue His People”  
2 Peter 2

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

### Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 347

#### *The Church’s One Foundation*

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the Word:  
From heav’n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, with ev’ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;  
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,  
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

‘Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee. 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, April 8**

Scripture: Deuteronomy 32:28-52; Luke 12:35-59; Psalm 78:56-64; Proverbs 12:24

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 8

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

## **Tuesday, April 9**

Scripture: Deuteronomy 33:1-29; Luke 13:1-21; Psalm 78:65-72; Proverbs 12:25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 37

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

## **Wednesday, April 10**

Scripture: Deut. 34:1 - Joshua 2:24; Luke 13:22 - 14:6; Psalm 79:1-13; Prov. 12:26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 38

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Russia and persecuted Christians.

## **Thursday, April 11**

Scripture: Joshua 3:1 - 4:24; Luke 14:7-35; Psalm 80:1-19; Proverbs 12:27-28

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 39

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

## **Friday, April 12**

Scripture: Joshua 5:1 - 7:15; Luke 15:1-32; Psalm 81:1-16; Proverbs 13:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 40

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

The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

## **Saturday, April 13**

Scripture: Joshua 7:16 - 9:2; Luke 16:1-18; Psalm 82:1-8; Proverbs 13:2-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 41

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

## **Sunday, April 14**

Scripture: Joshua 9:3 - 10:43; Luke 16:19 - 17:10; Psalm 83:1-18; Proverbs 13:4

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 42

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**

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

**Christ Bible Institute | Nagoya, Japan**

## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In chapter 2 of his letter, Peter writes about the dangers of false teachers who try to lead people away from Christ. In the same way that there were false prophets in Israel in the Old Covenant, there are false teachers in the Church in the New Covenant. These false teachers are motivated by greed, lust, and power. Their aim is not the glory of Christ, but their own glory. William VanDoodewaard, in his commentary on 2 Peter, provides helpful guidance on how we can protect ourselves against false teachers when he writes:

These solemn warnings are the words of the ascended Christ to us. Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd and Good Teacher. He saved and transformed Peter to love him, and to feed and tend the sheep—including us by warning us against false shepherds, thieves, and wolves (John 10:1–16). Our Lord faithfully shepherds and preserves his church through this world, partly by unmasking patterns of sin and evil. He is the faithful Savior, who also will never forsake us (Hebrews 13:5–6)... How can you best guard yourself, your family, and your church from false teachers? How can you overcome the sin that remains within? By “looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of your faith” (Hebrews 12:2). Living in communion with him, loving to listen to his Word, and being filled with the rich truth of what he says is the best means to grow strong in overcoming sin, and being able to discern and escape the false teachers who rise up within the church. Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand” (John 10:27–28).

1. For review, read 2 Peter 1. What do you recall learning from this chapter in the recent sermons? How have you applied what you learned in your own life?
2. Read 2 Peter 2:1-3. What is the difference between error and heresy? Why is it important to make a distinction between them?
3. Read 2 Peter 2:2-3, 10-22. What are some of the characteristics of false teachers? What are their motivations? Why are they dangerous?
4. Read 2 Peter 2:4-9. What will happen to false teachers on the Day of Judgment? How do the examples Peter draws from the Old Testament reveal God's wrath against the ungodly?
5. In what ways do the examples Peter uses also point to how God will rescue his people through Christ? What reasons for hope and assurance in Christ do you find in 2 Peter 2?

# O Give the LORD Wholehearted Praise 111B

1. <sup>1</sup>O give the LORD whole - heart - ed praise. To him thanks -  
 2. <sup>2</sup>His saints de - light to search and trace his might - y  
 3. God's won - drous deeds of faith - ful - ness his peo - ple  
 4. <sup>5</sup>God's prom - ise shall for - ev - er stand; he cares for  
 5. <sup>7</sup>His works are true and just in - deed; his pre - cepts

giv - ing I will bring; with all his peo - ple  
 works and won - drous ways. <sup>3</sup>Ma - jes - tic glo - ry,  
 • ev - er keep in mind. <sup>4</sup>His works of love and  
 those who trust his word. <sup>6</sup>Up - on his saints his  
 are for - ev - er sure. <sup>8</sup>In truth and righ - teous -

I will raise my voice and of his glo - ry sing.  
 bound - less grace, and righ - teous - ness his work dis - plays.  
 • gra - cious - ness re - veal that God the LORD is kind.  
 might - y hand the wealth of na - tions has con - ferred.  
 ness de - creed, they shall for - ev - er - more en - dure.

6. <sup>9</sup>From God his saints' redemption came;  
 his cov'nant sure no change can know.  
 Let all revere his holy name  
 in heav'n above and earth below.

7. <sup>10</sup>In rev'rence and in godly fear  
 man finds the gate to wisdom's ways;  
 the wise his holy name revere.  
 Through endless ages sound his praise!