

# **WORSHIP SERVICE**

January 19, 2025

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! Psalm 34:3

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

# **ENTERING INTO WORSHIP**

# Greeting and Blessing\*

## **Responsive Reading\***

Psalm 77 (p. 812 in the Trinity Hymnal)

I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.

# When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to be comforted.

I remembered you, O God, and I groaned; I mused, and my spirit grew faint.

## You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak.

I thought about the former days, the years of long ago;

## I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit inquired:

"Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favor again?

# "Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time?

"Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?"

# Then I thought, "To this I will appeal: the years of the right hand of the Most High."

I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

## I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.

Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God?

## You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.

With your mighty arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

# The waters saw you, O God, the waters saw you and writhed; the very depths were convulsed.

The clouds poured down water, the skies resounded with thunder; your arrows flashed back and forth.

# Your thunder was heard in the whirlwind, your lightning lit up the world; the earth trembled and quaked.

Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen.

# You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

\* Congregation is requested to stand, if able. The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

#### Hymn of Preparation\*

#### Sing Praise to the Lord!

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him in the height; Rejoice in his Word, you angels of light. You heavens, adore him by whom you were made, And worship before him in brightness arrayed.

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him on the earth In tuneful accord, you saints of new birth. Praise him who has brought you his grace from above; Praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.

Sing praise to the Lord! All things that give sound, Each jubilant chord, re-echo around. Loud organs, his glory tell forth in deep tone, And trumpets, the story of what he has done.

Sing praise to the Lord! Thanksgiving and song To him be outpoured all ages along! For love in creation, for heaven restored, For grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord! Amen.

#### **Congregational Confession of Sin**

- Leader: Almighty God and heavenly Father, we approach your throne of grace in sorrow and frustration as we consider how we have sinned against you and others.
- All: We have broken your laws, and we have failed to love others as you command us in your Word. Though you have equipped us with many gifts and graces, we did not faithfully use them for your glory.
- Leader: Have mercy on us, we pray, and grant us forgiveness through our Lord Jesus Christ. Cause us to grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- All: All glory be to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

#### **Private Confession of Our Sins**

#### Assurance of Forgiveness

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

Romans 10:8-11

# **ADORATION AND PRAISE**

#### First Reading\*

Exodus 15:1-21

Hymn 455

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

#### And Can It Be That I Should Gain

And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be That thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies: Who can explore his strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries To sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, Let angel minds inquire no more. Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above (So free, so infinite his grace!), Humbled himself (so great his love!) And bled for all his chosen race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me. Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee. Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine! Alive in him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ, my own. *Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?* Amen.

#### **Confession of Faith**

#### **Q. 57.** Which is the fourth commandment?

- A. The fourth commandment is "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."
- **Q. 58.** What is required in the fourth commandment?
- **A.** The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.
- **Q. 59.** Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath?
- **A.** From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.
- **Q. 60.** How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?
- **A.** The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.
- **Q. 61.** What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?
- **A.** The fourth commandment forbids the omission, or careless performance, of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.
- **Q. 62.** What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment?
- **A.** The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath day.

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

#### Doxology\*

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\*

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 13])

#### How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me

How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord, thou God of grace? How long shall fears beset me, While darkness hides thy face? How long shall griefs distress me And turn my day to night? How long shall foes oppress me And triumph in their might?

O Lord my God, behold me, And hear my earnest cries; Lest sleep of death enfold me, Enlighten thou mine eyes; Lest now my foe insulting Should boast of his success, And enemies exulting Rejoice in my distress.

But I with expectation Have on thy grace relied; My heart in thy salvation Shall still with joy confide; And I with voice of singing Will praise the Lord above, Who, richest bounties bringing, Has dealt with me in love. Amen. Revelation 15 Hymn 641 **Pastoral Prayer** 

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

Hymn 310

"Sing Praise to the Lord!" Exodus 15:1-21

# **GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

#### Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

#### Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore. *Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!* Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love; When he had purged our stains, he took his seat above. *Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!* Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n; The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n. *Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!* Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit, And bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet. *Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!* Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come, And take his servants up to their eternal home. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! Amen.

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#### **Benediction\***

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

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

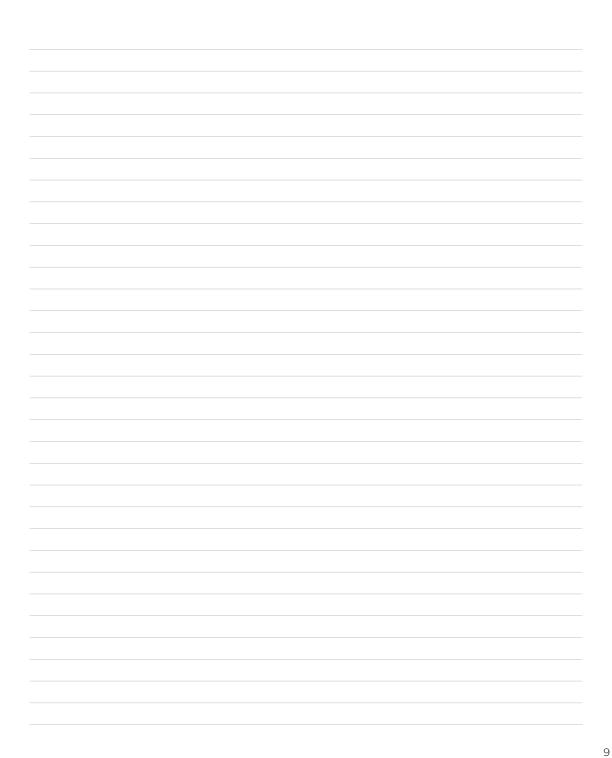
May the grace of Christ our Savior And the Father's boundless love, With the Holy Spirit's favor, Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union With each other and the Lord, And possess, in sweet communion, Joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.

# **SERMON NOTES**

"Sing Praise to the Lord!" Exodus 15:1-21

- Sing praise to the Lord for his victory over evil. (vv. 1-6) Colossians 2:13-15; Revelation 15:3-4
- Sing praise to the Lord because he is the one true God. (vv. 7-12) Isaiah 44:6, 8, 24, 27 John 14:6
- Sing praise to the Lord for his covenant faithfulness. (vv. 13-21) John 14:1-3 1 Peter 1:3-5



# **HOME WORSHIP GUIDE**

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

#### Monday, January 20

Scripture: Genesis 41:17 - 42:17; Matthew 13:24-46; Psalm 18:1-15; Proverbs 4:1-6 Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 16 Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

#### Tuesday, January 21

Scripture: Genesis 42:18 - 43:34; Matthew 13:47 - 14:12; Psalm 18:16-36; Prov. 4:7-10 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 69 Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

#### Wednesday, January 22

Scripture: Genesis 44:1 - 45:28; Matthew 14:13-36; Psalm 18:37-50; Proverbs 4:11-13
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 70
Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains. The churches in Tokelau and persecuted Christians.

#### Thursday, January 23

Scripture: Genesis 46:1 - 47:31; Matthew 15:1-28; Psalm 19:1-14; Proverbs 4:14-19 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 71 Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA. Our pregnant mom.

#### Friday, January 24

Scripture: Genesis 48:1 - 49:33; Matthew 15:29 - 16:12; Psalm 20:1-9; Prov. 4:20-27
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 72
Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs. The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

#### Saturday, January 25

Scripture: Genesis 50:1 - Exodus 2:10; Matthew 16:13 - 17:9; Ps. 21:1-13; Prov. 5:1-6 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 73 Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

#### Sunday, January 26

Scripture: Exodus 2:11 - 3:22; Matthew 17:10-27; Psalm 22:1-18; Proverbs 5:7-14 Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 74 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 in Belize Dave Eby in Uganda Christ Bible Institute in Japan The Shepherd's Church in Riverside

# **EVENING GATHERING for PRAYER and HYMNS**

#### Scripture Reading and Opening Prayer

Hymn 93 "The Tender Love a Father Has"

**Prayer for Church Members** 

Devotion

Hymn 507 "Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat"

#### Prayer for the Manrique Family and The Shepherd's Church

Hymn 551 "How Blest Is He Whose Trespass"

#### Prayer for Our Nation (Sanctity of Human Life Sunday)

Hymn 164 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

**Closing Prayer** 



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