

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 23, 2025

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

Acts 17:24-25

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 47 (p. 803 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!

He subdued nations under us, peoples under our feet.

He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved.

God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham,

for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

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

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

We Plow the Fields

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

He only is the Maker of all things near and far;
He paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;
The winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;
Much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

We thank you, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,
But that which you desire now: our humble, thankful hearts.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love. Amen.*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Our God and Father, thank you for the loving kindness you have shown us in Jesus Christ. While we were still sinners, he died for us.

All: We thank you also for your daily provision of food, comfort, and safety. We give you praise for the bounty of your gifts and the ability we have to diligently work with our hands.

Leader: We confess that we have sinned and been ungrateful. Forgive us for often desiring more than what it has pleased you to provide. Forgive us for our jealousy and covetousness, and for the anxiety we feel when we forget your fatherly goodness toward us.

All: As we consider your good gifts to us this morning, cause us to have a renewed thankfulness for our spiritual and earthly blessings, for we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalm 33

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 581

Fight the Good Fight

Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right:
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside; upon thy Guide
Lean, and his mercy will provide;
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove,
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 49. *Which is the second commandment?*

A. The second commandment is “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

Q. 50. *What is required in the second commandment?*

A. The second commandment requires the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire all such religious worship and ordinances as God has appointed in his Word.

Q. 51. *What is forbidden in the second commandment?*

A. The second commandment forbids the worshiping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his Word.

Q. 52. *What are the reasons attached to the second commandment?*

A. The reasons attached to the second commandment are: God’s sovereignty over us, his ownership in us, and the zeal he has for his own worship.

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.

✦ *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*

Matthew 6:25-34

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 8:1-6, 9])

Hymn 114

Lord, Our Lord, Thy Glorious Name

Lord, our Lord, thy glorious name
All thy wondrous works proclaim;
In the heav'ns with radiant signs
Evermore thy glory shines.
Infant lips thou dost ordain
Wrath and vengeance to restrain;
Weakest means fulfill thy will,
Mighty enemies to still.

Moon and stars in shining height
Nightly tell their Maker's might;
When thy wondrous heav'ns I scan,
Then I know how weak is man.
What is man that he should be
Loved and visited by thee,
Raised to an exalted height,
Crowned with honor in thy sight?

With dominion crowned he stands
O'er the creatures of thy hands;
All to him subjection yield
In the sea and air and field.
Lord, our Lord, thy glorious name
All thy wondrous works proclaim;
Thine the name of matchless worth,
Excellent in all the earth. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Praise and Thanksgiving”
Psalm 33

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 715

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied:
Come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God’s own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown:
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home;
From his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;
Give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home;
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
There forever purified, in thy presence to abide:
Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home. 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, November 24

Scripture: Ezekiel 47:1 - 48:35; 1 Peter 2:11 - 3:7; Psalm 119:49-64; Proverbs 28:12-13

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 27

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

Tuesday, November 25

Scripture: Daniel 1:1 - 2:23; 1 Peter 3:8 - 4:6; Psalm 119:65-80; Proverbs 28:14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 12

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

Wednesday, November 26

Scripture: Daniel 2:24 - 3:30; 1 Peter 4:7 - 5:14; Psalm 119:81-96; Proverbs 28:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 13

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Belgium and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, November 27

Scripture: Daniel 4:1-37; 2 Peter 1:1-21; Psalm 119:97-112; Proverbs 28:17-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 14

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

Friday, November 28

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

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 15

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

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

Saturday, 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 16

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

Sunday, 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 17

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

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

It is easy to fall into the sin of grumbling and complaining against the Lord. The Bible records that this was one of the besetting sins of the people of Israel. Despite God's covenant faithfulness, they often found reasons to express their discontentment. As you consider the patterns in your life, do you think you tend to be discontent more often than you are thankful and grateful to the Lord?

We see in Scripture, and especially in the psalms, how important it is to reflect on God's covenant faithfulness and use it as fuel for praise and thanksgiving. Our grumbling and complaining is often the result of forgetting God's goodness and thinking we deserve more than he has already blessed us with. When we read Psalm 33 as Christians, we need to see that we have even greater reason for praise and thanksgiving. While the writer of this psalm was reflecting on God's covenant faithfulness in bringing his people out of slavery in Egypt and into the Promised Land, we know how Christ has brought us out of slavery to sin and has assured us of our entrance into heaven. Knowing Christ, we can say with unshakeable confidence: "Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 106:1).

1. Read Psalm 33:1-3. What is significant about this call to praise and thanksgiving?
2. Read verses 4-9. How does the psalmist describe God's creative power and why he deserves our praise?
3. Read verses 10-12. What do these verses reveal about God's providence? How does knowing and believing the doctrine of God's providence comfort you? How does it move you to praise and thanksgiving?
4. Read verses 13-17. What do these verses teach about God's sovereignty? As you examine your life currently, do you believe that you truly believe God is sovereign? How might more fully embracing this truth change your life?
5. Read verses 18-19. Why is our salvation through Jesus Christ our greatest reason for praise and thanksgiving? What are some things you can do in your life to prioritize thinking about God's grace to you in Christ?
6. Read verses 20-22. In these verses, the psalmist expresses the confidence believers have for the future. Why can we have such confidence?



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