# **WORSHIP SERVICE**

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 136:26

#### **Prelude**

Welcome and Announcements

## **ENTERING INTO WORSHIP**

#### **Greeting and Blessing\***

#### Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 69:1-18 (p. 809 in the Trinity Hymnal)

Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck.

I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold.

I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me.

I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched.

My eyes fail, looking for my God.

Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head;

many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me.

I am forced to restore what I did not steal.

You know my folly, O God; my guilt is not hidden from you.

May those who hope in you not be disgraced because of me, O Lord, the LORD Almighty; may those who seek you not be put to shame because of me, O God of Israel.

For I endure scorn for your sake, and shame covers my face.

I am a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons;

for zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who insult you fall on me.

When I weep and fast, I must endure scorn; when I put on sackcloth, people make sport of me.

Those who sit at the gate mock me, and I am the song of the drunkards.

But I pray to you, O LORD, in the time of your favor;

in your great love, O God, answer me with your sure salvation.

Rescue me from the mire, do not let me sink;

deliver me from those who hate me, from the deep waters.

Do not let the floodwaters engulf me or the depths swallow me up or the pit close its mouth over me.

Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love; in your great mercy turn to me.

Do not hide your face from your servant; answer me quickly, for I am in trouble.

Come near and rescue me; redeem me because of my foes.

<sup>\*</sup> Congregation is requested to stand, if able.

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:

All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! Amen.

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

**Leader:** Gracious God, we confess that you are holy and perfect. We feel unworthy to enter into your presence because we again have failed to keep all your commandments.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you and others, and that we have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, our God.

**Leader:** Forgive us, O Lord, and help us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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

Colossians 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\* Exodus 3

#### **Congregational Response**

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.

#### Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

- **Q. 27.** What was Christ's humiliation?
- A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.
- Q. 28. What is Christ's exaltation?
- A. Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the Last Day.
- Q. 29. How do we take part in the redemption purchased by Christ?
- **A.** We take part in the redemption purchased by Christ by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Doxology\* Hymn 732

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\* Ephesians 2

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month)

(also printed on pg. 10)

## The LORD Said to My Lord

The LORD said to my Lord:

"Sit here at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies
A footstool for Your feet."

The LORD from Zion sends
Your scepter in its strength,

"With mighty power show Your rule
Among Your enemies."

Your people freely come
Throughout Your day of pow'r;
From morning's dawn, in holy robes,
Your youth are like the dew.
The LORD has sworn an oath,
And will not change His mind:
"In th'order of Melchizedek,
You ever are a priest."

The Lord at Your right hand
Will shatter kings in wrath.
Among the nations He will judge,
And fill them with their dead.
Yes, He will smite and crush
Chief men in many lands.
And from the wayside brook He'll drink,
And therefore lift His head. Amen.

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

Sermon Pastor Ben Muresan

"Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life" John 14:4-6

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

Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 181

#### We Come, O Christ, to You

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man, By whom all things consist, in whom all life began: In you alone we live and move, and have our being in your love.

You are the Way to God, your blood our ransom paid;
In you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand, your love has met your law's demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in you, The Source of every skill, the one eternal TRUE! O great I AM! In you we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true Life, to know you is to live The more abundant life that earth can never give: O risen Lord! We live in you: in us each day your life renew!

We worship you, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
To you our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
So fill our hearts, that all may view your life in us, and turn to you. Amen.

## Benediction\*

# **Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Sung to Trinity)

To the great One in Three Eternal praises be, hence evermore. His sovereign majesty may we in glory see, And to eternity love and adore. Amen.

# **SERMON NOTES**

"Jesus Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life" John 14:4-6

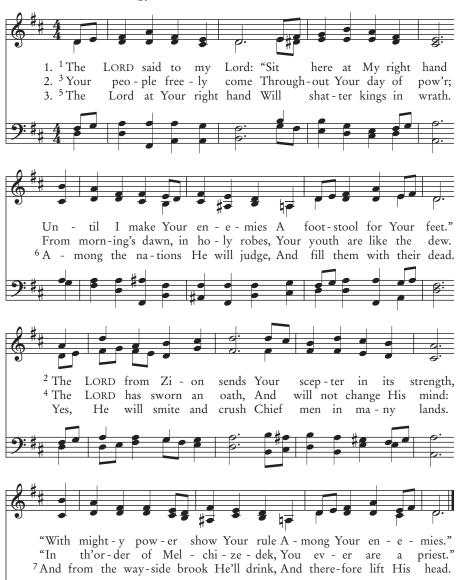
1. Jesus Is God the Son.

	Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:11, 25
2.	Jesus Is the Only Way of Salvation.
	Genesis 6:5 John 1:18; Hebrews 1:1-2 Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1-7; John 11:25-26
3.	Jesus Is the Sure Way of Salvation.
	John 3:16

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# The LORD Said to My Lord

Having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, He sat down... waiting from that time onward. —Hebrews 10:12-13



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## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In John 14, Jesus was in the Upper Room with his disciples, preparing them for his departure. He knew that in just a few hours he would be crucified, would die, and be buried. After his resurrection, he would ascend to the Father, and send the Holy Spirit to apply the benefits of his redemption to his people. We understand this timeline because we have its full revelation in the New Testament. The disciples in the Upper Room, however, did not yet understand. They were confused about how Jesus was describing his departure.

So Thomas spoke up and said what they were all thinking: "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Thomas admitted that the disciples were confused about Jesus' ultimate destination and the way they themselves would also reach that place. Jesus explained that he was going to the Father—to return to the glory that he had with the Father before his incarnation—and that by knowing him, they would also be with him in glory (John 17:1-5).

His destination was to the right hand of the Father's throne in glory, and he is the only means by which his disciples and all those who desire salvation can be saved. As Peter later declared while preaching to the Jewish religious council: "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

1. For review, read each of the "I am" statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John and consider the significance of what each statement reveals about Jesus.

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John 6:35, "I am the bread of life..."
John 8:12, "I am the light of the world."
John 10:7, "I am the door of the sheep."
John 10:11, "I am the good shepherd."
John 11:25, "I am the resurrection and the life."
John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."
John 15:1, "I am the true vine..."
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- 2. Why do we need a way to reach God? Why is Jesus the only way to God according to Romans 3:21-25?
- 3. Why do we need truth to be revealed to us? How is Jesus the full revelation of God according to Hebrews 1:1-4?
- 4. Why do we need to be given life? How is Jesus the means of eternal life according to John 10:27-28?
- 5. How should receiving and resting in these truths about Christ affect our daily lives? How should receiving and resting in these truths about Christ affect our relationships with fellow believers and with non-believers?

# **HOME WORSHIP GUIDE**

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan. Use our church directory to pray for an individual or family each day.

#### Monday, March 22

Scripture: Numbers 33:40 – 35:34; Luke 5:12-28; Psalm 65:1-13; Proverbs 11:23

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 14 Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

#### Tuesday, March 23

Scripture: Num. 36:1 – Deut. 1:46; Luke 5:29 – 6:11; Psalm 66:1-20; Prov. 11:24-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 46 Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

#### Wednesday, March 24

Scripture: Deuteronomy 2:1 – 3:29; Luke 6:12-38; Psalm 67:1-7; Proverbs 11:27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 47

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Belize and persecuted Christians.

#### Thursday, March 25

Scripture: Deuteronomy 4:1-49; Luke 6:39 – 7:10; Psalm 68:1-18; Proverbs 11:28

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 48

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

#### Friday, March 26

Scripture: Deuteronomy 5:1 – 6:25; Luke 7:11-35; Psalm 68:19-35; Proverbs 11:29-31

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 49 Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

#### Saturday, March 27

Scripture: Deuteronomy 7:1 - 8:20; Luke 7:36 - 8:3; Psalm 69:1-18; Proverbs 12:1

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 50 Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

#### Sunday, March 28

Scripture: Deuteronomy 9:1 - 10:22; Luke 8:4-21; Psalm 69:19-36; Proverbs 12:2-3

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 51

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.

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