

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!
Psalm 100:1

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 85 (p. 814)

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;

you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins.

You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.

Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.

Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations?

Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what God the LORD will say; he promises peace to his people, his saints—
but let them not return to folly.

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.

The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

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

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care,
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Most holy and merciful Father, we confess that we have broken your commandments and sinned against you.

All: We confess that we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways. We have rebelled against your wisdom and sought after foolishness. We have rejected your fatherly commands and have done what is right in our own eyes.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Enable us to receive and rest in the truth that we have been justified by faith and have peace with you through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Give us a growing desire to joyfully serve you and one another as we follow after our Savior, 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

1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Ezekiel 36:16-38

Congregational Response

Hymn 650

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

I will sing of my Redeemer, and his wondrous love to me:
On the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
In his boundless love and mercy, he the ransom freely gave.

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will praise my dear Redeemer, his triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
How the victory he giveth over sin and death and hell.

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heav'nly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me, Son of God, with him to be.

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With his blood he purchased me;
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free. Amen.*

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 35. *What is sanctification?*

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, by which we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die to sin and live to righteousness.

Q. 36. *What are the benefits that in this life accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?*

A. The benefits that in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are: assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, increase of grace, and perseverance to the end.

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*

Acts 2:22-47

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month)

Hymn 57 (printed on p. 12)

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
He shall die, to dust returning,
And his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blessed whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heav'n and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness he will maintain.

Food he daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning pris'ner free,
Raises those bowed down with anguish,
Makes the sightless eye to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger he befriends,
Helps the fatherless and widow,
Judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages he is King;
Unto him, your God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

What Difference Does the Holy Spirit Make?
He Causes Us to Love and Obey Christ
John 14:15-17; 21-24

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 335

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would gracious be;
And with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal;
And with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would truthful be;
And with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear;
And with actions brotherly speak my Lord's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would mighty be;
Mighty so as to prevail where unaided man must fail;
Ever by a mighty hope pressing on and bearing up.

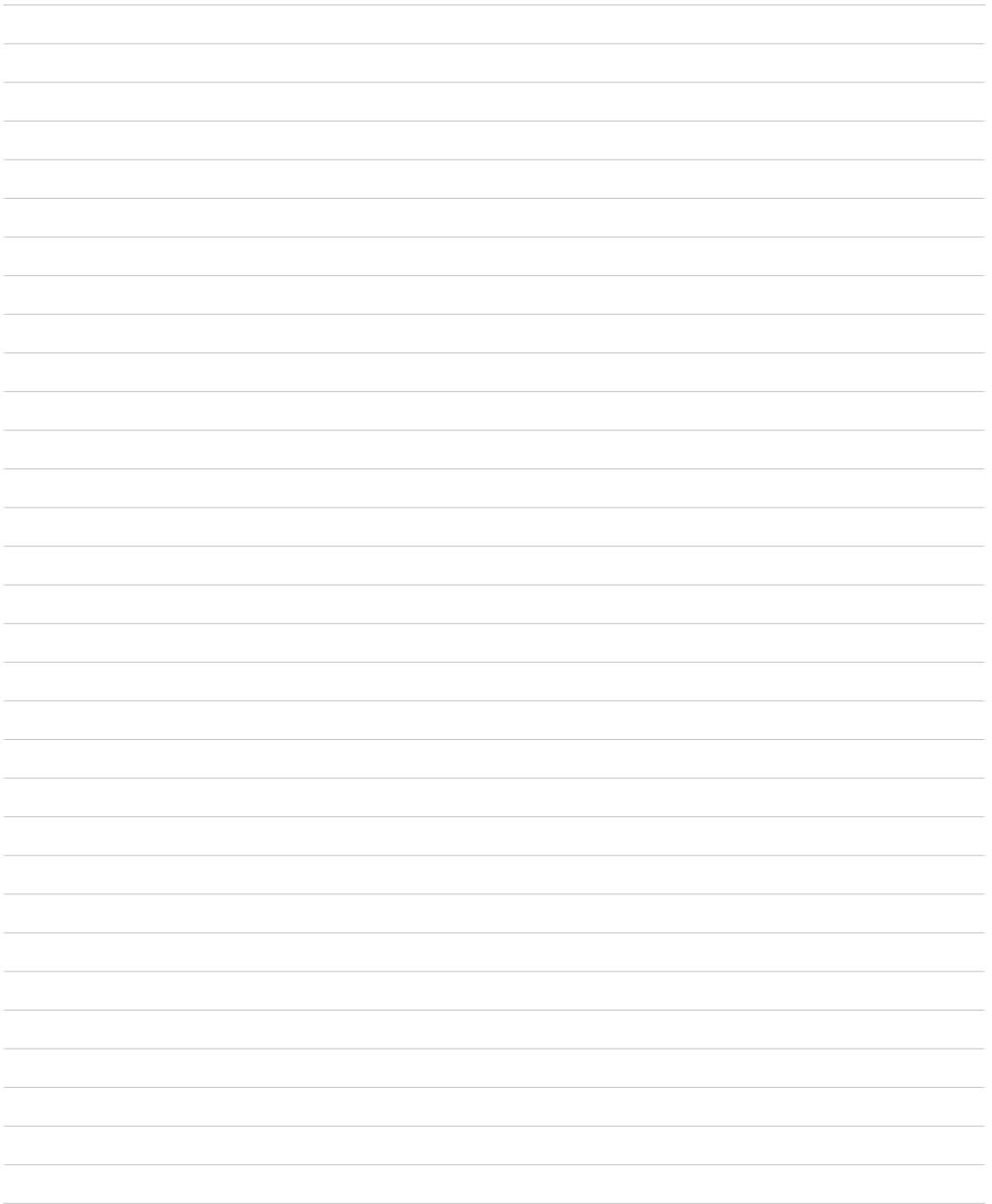
Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I myself would holy be;
Separate from sin, I would choose and cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be, give to him who gave me thee! Amen.

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.



HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, April 19

Scripture: Joshua 19:1 - 20:9; Luke 19:28-48; Psalm 88:1-18; Proverbs 13:12-14

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 18

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

Tuesday, April 20

Scripture: Joshua 21:1 - 22:20; Luke 20:1-26; Psalm 89:1-13; Proverbs 13:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 70

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

Wednesday, April 21

Scripture: Joshua 22:21 - 23:16; Luke 20:27-47; Psalm 89:14-37; Proverbs 13:17-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 71

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.

The churches in Bolivia and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, April 22

Scripture: Joshua 24:1-33; Luke 21:1-28; Psalm 89:38-52; Proverbs 13:20-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 72

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

Friday, April 23

Scripture: Judges 1:1 - 2:9; Luke 21:29 - 22:13; Psalm 90:1 - 91:16; Proverbs 13:24-25

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 73

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

Our pregnant moms.

Saturday, April 24

Scripture: Judges 2:10 - 3:31; Luke 22:14-34; Psalm 92:1 - 93:5; Proverbs 14:1-2

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 74

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

Sunday, April 25

Scripture: Judges 4:1 - 5:31; Luke 22:35-53; Psalm 94:1-23; Proverbs 14:3-4

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 75

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 Jesus told his disciples that he was going to leave them, they began to be troubled. They believed that Jesus was going to remain with them indefinitely, and as the Messiah, would establish his throne in Jerusalem, appointing them to rule and reign with him. Jesus, however, had another plan. His plan, which was established before the foundations of the earth, was not to rule and reign in Jerusalem, but to die for the sins of his people on the cross and be raised in glory.

While the disciples did not fully understand what Jesus was about to accomplish for his people, he comforted them by explaining that he would still be with them, though not physically. He was going away to the Father, but he would be with them by his Spirit. As believers, the Spirit unites us to the risen and ascended Christ, so that we can know with true assurance that he remains with us “even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

1. Read Ezekiel 36:16-38. What problem does God identify with Israel? How does he promise to address the problem?
2. Read Acts 2:22-47. How does this event reveal the fulfillment of what God promised in Ezekiel 36:16-38?
3. Read the following question and answer from the Westminster Larger Catechism. How does it highlight God's sovereign work of grace by his Holy Spirit?

What is effectual calling?

Effectual calling is the work of God's almighty power and grace, by which (out of his free and special love to his elect, and from nothing in them moving him to do so) he does in his accepted time invite and draw them to Jesus Christ, by his Word and Spirit; savingly enlightening their minds, renewing and powerfully determining their wills, so as they (although in themselves dead in sin) are hereby made willing and able, freely to answer his call, and to accept and embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it. (WLC Q/A 67)

4. According to John 14:15, 21-24, how can you know that you love Christ?
5. What does it mean to obey Christ? How does God enable us both to love and obey Christ?

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Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Ps. 146:1, 2

1. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise;
 2. Hap - py is the man that choos - es Is - rael's God to be his aid;
 3. Food he dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the mourn - ing pris - 'ner free,
 4. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise;

I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.
 he is blessed whose hope of bless - ing on the Lord his God is stayed.
 rais - es those bowed down with an - guish, makes the sight - less eye to see.
 I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.

Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor for help on man de - pend;
 Heav'n and earth the Lord cre - at - ed, seas and all that they con - tain;
 Well Je - ho - vah loves the righ - teous, and the strang - er he be - friends,
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er, through all a - ges he is King;

he shall die, to dust re - turn - ing, and his pur - pos - es shall end.
 he de - liv - ers from op - pres - sion, righ - teous - ness he will main - tain.
 helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 un - to him, your God, O Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.