

ORDER OF WORSHIP | 17 MAY

Notes on Today's Worship Service

Welcome to worship. We're glad you've gathered with the International Protestant Church of Zurich to seek God's face.

If you're participating in a live service, here are some things to help enrich your experience. If you're worshipping on your own, most of this can be ignored.

Guests: you are very welcome! At the end of the service, we'll take a few minutes to meet you. All you need to do is un-mute yourself and say hello. Tell us your name, and where you are from.

How the service works. You may use this online order of worship, but it is not absolutely necessary if you are participating using Zoom. We will share music and slides with the lyrics via Zoom. Audio and video is provided here in the Order of Worship, but you should not play these files during the live service; we will play them and share them with you through Zoom. (You can enjoy them later on your own if you'd like.)

Headphones. If possible, wear a pair of headphones or earbuds that have a built-in microphone (as most do these days). This will improve your listening experience and will help eliminate feedback. If you're "attending" with others in the room, consider using a quality external speaker.

Muting. Awkward as it is, our "usher" will keep everyone muted for most of the service. This will keep us from experiencing accidental distractions like noise and feedback.

Gathering in God's Presence

Greeting

The Bible is full of greetings, and our worship leader greets us in God's name.

2 Peter 1:1-2

To you who through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ have received a faith as precious as ours: Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Psalm of the Day

We begin our worship with a silent meditation on our Psalm of the Day during the Prelude. Use this time to focus your hearts and minds on God as he speaks to us through his Word.

Psalm 127

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

1 Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.

2 In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

3 Children are a heritage from the Lord,
offspring a reward from him.

4 Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.

5 Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.

They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their opponents in court.

Prelude

Johann Sebastian Bach

Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot

(These are the Holy Ten Commandments)

Ruth Pfister, organ

*Call to Worship

Our Call to Worship draws us into conversation with our God, and is usually taken from our Psalm of the Day. We address one another and enter God's presence together.

From Psalm 127

Leader: People of God, enter the house of the Lord!

People: We will enter the house he has built with his own hands.

Leader: Citizens of Zion, assemble together as the city of the Lord.

People: We are his city, and he has guards us and watches over us night and day.

Leader: Children of God, enter into the rest that your Lord has won for you!

People: We leave behind our toil, our vain early mornings, and our sleepless late nights, and we rest in him!

Leader: Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Invocation

Having called one another to God's praise, we turn to God and ask for his presence and power.

From Psalm 127

Father, we are gathered as your people to be formed into a community for your mission, as children in whom you delight. Watch over us now. Build us up. Place us, living stone upon living stone, upon the chief cornerstone that is our dear Lord Jesus Christ. None of your work is in vain, so please— do your good work among us as we gather in your presence. Teach us about your work and your rest. Give us delight and refreshment, by your Spirit, in one another, and in you. Claim us as your own heritage, and equip us to enter more fully into the family business: bringing honor to your name, and blessing the nations of the earth as we bear your name with joy and holy fear. We worship in Jesus' name, and pray also in his name. Amen.

*Song of Praise

With our Song of Praise, we begin our worship by exalting God for who he is and what he has done.

Sing, All Souls, With Joy and Wonder (The Ten Commandments)

Text: Andy Stager (2020)

Tune: BEECHER by John Zundel (1870).

Ewa Soluch (piano), Ellie Stager (vocals), and Andy Stager (various).

[\(Musical Notation for the tune BEECHER \[PDF\]\)](#)

Sing, all souls, with joy and wonder
Sing your Father's very heart
Echo back his love and thunder
Never from his words depart
Sing! Your Lord for freedom saved you
From the Pharaoh of your sin
Sing! A way his grace has paved you
His own Promised Land to win

Sing the song of none but Jesus
He's the Father's chosen King
No one like our Lord has freed us

To no other praises bring
Sing! And serve no graven idol
Deaf and dumb: how can they save?
Sing! And serve alone your Sovereign
You're his child and not a slave!

Sing his name with holy reverence
On your tongues its sweetness taste
Taste and savor all his goodness
Not a honeyed morsel waste
Sing each day as dawn is breaking
Sing from morn to eventide
Sing, the Sabbath not forsaking
In his house all day abide

Sing, all souls, with joy and wonder
Sing your Father's very heart
Echo back his love and thunder
Never from his words depart
Sing! Your Lord for freedom saved you
From the Pharaoh of your sin
Sing! A way his grace has paved you
His own Promised Land to win

Hearing God's Word
Prayer for Illumination

We ask God to make the Scripture fresh, encouraging, and convicting to us as we sit under its ministry.

From Psalm 127

Loving Father, we sit at your feet as your beloved children. We quiet our hearts now, and open our ears and our minds to your instruction. Impart your wisdom to our souls, so that our lives might become your own heritage of faithfulness and care, and so that our work and our rest might sing together in harmony of your truth and grace, which are ours together in Jesus, your Son and our true Wisdom from above. Amen.

Examination

We reflect on the Psalm of the Day and use it to examine our hearts and minds, leading us to confession of our sin.

Our psalm today is considered a wisdom psalm. It teaches us how to avoid being fools and to shape our lives according to God's world and God's Word.

What's the foolishness we're meant to avoid? Verse 2: anxious work. Agricultural societies worried about whether they'd have enough food to eat. They were tempted to *force* a plentiful harvest by overworking and underresting. We typically don't have

food shortages. But we have significance-shortages, especially in our work. And we foolishly think we can work our way toward significance. Instead, we burn out. The psalmist says that it's vain: which means it's both pointless and it's an indication that we are self-absorbed.

We need to repent of our foolishness—our sin of trying to *do do do* more in order to *be* more.

Let's pause for a moment to ask the Lord to search our hearts, and to bring to light the ways in which we have toiled anxiously for a significance that can only be found in his loving care.

Confession of Sin

We confess our sins together and ask God's forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

We confess, O Lord, that we are absorbed with ourselves and our significance both in our own eyes, and in the eyes of others. We scramble to secure the approval of our bosses, our co-workers, our spouses, our peers, and our children by anxiously striving to become worthy through the work we do. This is foolishness and sin, and we repent. Help us remember that you build us a house and a home by your grace; that you watch over our lives and guard our steps. In your love and grace, forgive us, and permit us to enter into your rest, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Pardon

Children of the Living God: Good news! Though you have added to your anxiety the guilt of your foolish sin, the Lord is prepared to release you from both! By his love and grace alone, in Jesus Christ, you may enter into his rest, forgiven and refreshed. Because of his tender care and watchful eye, you can sleep secure in his grace. Go forth with your burdens lifted off your shoulders! In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Ruth Pfister, Organ

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!

New Testament Lesson

During our current series, our New Testament lessons are selected to complement the study of the Ten Commandments.

Mark 2:23-28

²³ One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

²⁵ He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶ In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."

²⁷ Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Let the Children Come to Him!

Children's Sermon

Pastor Sam E. Gyorfi

Children's Resources

[Sermon Notes](#) | [Children's Booklet](#) (includes coloring and activity pages)

Preaching of the Word

Meditation

Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe

Dmitri Stepanowitsch Bortnjanski (1751-1825)

Harry White, saxophone

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 20: 1-2; 8-11; 18-21

²⁰ And God spoke all these words:

² "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

18 When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance 19 and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."

20 Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

21 The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.

Sermon

The Fourth Word: "Treasure My Rest" (Part 1)| The Father's Ten Good Words

The Fourth Word: "Treasure My Rest" (Part 2)| The Father's Ten Good Words

(For Pastor Sam's Evening Service sermon and other IPC sermons, check out the [IPC Sermons page](#).)

Responding to God's Word

*Song of Response

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1862)

Tune: LANCASHIRE, Thomas Henry Smart (1836)

[Musical notation \(PDF\)](#)

O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright;
on thee the high and lowly
through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, holy, holy"
to the great God Triune.

On thee, at the creation,
the light first had its birth;
on thee, for our salvation,
Christ rose from depths of earth;
on thee, our Lord victorious,
the Spirit sent from heav'n;
and thus on thee, most glorious,
a triple light was giv'n.

Today on weary nations
the heav'nly manna falls;
to holy convocations

the silver trumpet calls,
where gospel light is glowing
with pure and radiant beams,
and living water flowing
with soul refreshing streams.

New graces ever gaining
from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining
to spirits of the blest.
To Holy Ghost be praises,
to Father, and to Son;
the church her voice upraises
to thee, blest Three in One.

Prayer for Our Tithes and Offerings

Please consider taking this time to make a contribution to the ministry of our church through an online bank transfer, PayPal, or Twint. For more, [click here](#).

Reception of New Members

The Introduction of New Members

Jeff Anhut, Elder for Membership and Nominations

Andi Huber

Veronica and Daniel Chocoano

Dorothea and Nicholas Edmonds

Agnetha Pruum

Armin Zurburg

Introduction to the Vows of Membership

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ. "You did not choose me, but I chose you that you should go and bear fruit. Everyone who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my father who is in heaven." Friends, Jesus Christ has chosen you, and in baptism has joined you to himself. He has called you, together with us, into the church, which is his body. Now he has brought you to this time and place, so you may confess his name before others, and go out to serve him as faithful disciples.

State then your purpose here by answering the following questions.

The Vows of New Members

Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God and without hope for your salvation except in his great mercy?

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, the Son of God, and the Savior of sinners, and do you receive and depend upon him alone for your salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?

Do you now promise and resolve, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live in a way that is fitting for followers of Christ?

Do you promise to serve the Lord in his church by supporting and participating with this congregation as it exalts Jesus Christ and serves others in his name, to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourselves in a spirit of love to the government and discipline of this church, and to the spiritual oversight of this church Council, and do you promise to promote the unity, purity, and peace of the Church?

The Vows of the Congregation

Do you, the people of this church, promise to work together with these brothers and sisters to spread the good news of the gospel, to help them know all that Christ commands, and by your faith, love, and fellowship, to strengthen their family ties with the household of God? If so, please indicate your commitment to these new members by standing (if you are able).

The Prayer for New Members

Gracious God, we praise you for calling us from the East and West and North and South to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number brothers and sisters in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Reception of New Members

*Doxology

Ruth Pfister, organ

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!

Calling on the Name of the Lord

Prayers of the People

We join together in prayer. We praise God; we pray for our world, for the church, for ourselves, and we pray the Lord's Prayer.

At the end of each petition, the leader will say:

Lord, in your mercy ...

And the congregation may respond:

Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Now we pray together the prayer our Lord taught us, saying:

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Going with God's Mission and Blessing

Welcome of Guests

Announcements

Minute for Mission

Pastor Ramil, Church of God, Philippines

*Sending Song

We Are God's People

Text: Bryan Jeffery Leech (1976)

Music: SYMPHONY, Johannas Brahms (1877)

Arranged: Fred Brock (1976)

Ruth Pfister, organ

[Musical notation with text \(PDF\)](#)

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,
And strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently
And walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,

For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return
The gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care,
And live with a zeal that pleases Heaven.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family,
Diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God,
And so shall his work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own
Each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns on
To give warmth and light, and to inspire.

*Commissioning and Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The LORD lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen!

Postlude

Fantasy in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ruth Pfister, organ