

ORDER OF WORSHIP | 24 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.

Jude 1-2

To those who have been called, who are loved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance!

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

Prelude in C Major (BWV 545)

Johann Sebastian Bach

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Text: Reginald Heber

Tune: John Dykes

Recording: Gordon Schultz (Piano) and Ellie Stager.

(Musical Notation [PDF])

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty

Early in the morning

our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy,

merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons,

blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!

All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns

around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim
falling down before Thee,
Who wert and art and
ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy;
there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power,
in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy;
merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons,
blessed Trinity!

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.

Matthew 15:1-11

15 Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ² “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don’t wash their hands before they eat!”

³ Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴ For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’ ⁵ But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is ‘devoted to God,’ ⁶ they are not to ‘honor their father or mother’ with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. ⁷ You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

⁸ “These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

⁹ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.”

¹⁰ Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen and understand. ¹¹ What goes into someone’s mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.”

Let the Children Come to Him!

Children’s Sermon
Pastor Sam E. Gyorfí

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; 12; Deuteronomy 5:16

Exodus 20:1 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.

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the

land the Lord your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 5:16 “Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.”

Sermon

The Fourth Word: “Treasure My Rule” | 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

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.

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

*Sending Song
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.

*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

Fugue in C Major (BWV 545)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ruth Pfister, organ