

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

...it is a great matter to lay hold upon Christ by faith, bearing the sin of the world. And this faith alone is counted for righteousness. Faith takes hold of Christ..., and holds him enclosed, as the ring does the precious stone. - Martin Luther

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship:

Psalms 98:1-3

Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
For he has done marvelous things!

**People: His right hand and his holy arm
Have worked salvation for him.**

Leader: The Lord has made known his salvation;
He has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**People: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
To the house of Israel.**

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, / join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen, how thy desires e'er have been / granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew what the Almighty will do, / if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief, / spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;/ gladly fore'er we adore him.

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel:

Galatians 3:1-6

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel:

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving:

Not in Me

No list of sins I have not done, / No list of virtues I pursue,
No list of those I am not like / Can earn myself a place with You.

Refrain

O God, be merciful to me— I am a sinner through and through!
My only hope of righteousness / Is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer, / No lifted hands, no tearful song,
No recitation of the truth / Can justify a single wrong.
My righteousness is Jesus' life / My debt was paid by Jesus' death,
My weary load was borne by Him / And He alone can give me rest.

Refrain

No separation from the world, / No work I do, no gift I give
Can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands; / I cannot cause my soul to live.
But Jesus died and rose again— The power of death is overthrown!
My God is merciful to me / And merciful in Christ alone.

Refrain

My righteousness is Jesus' life, / My debt was paid by Jesus' death,
My weary load was borne by Him / And He alone can give me rest.

Prayer of Intercession:

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.

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God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading:

Luke 18:9-14

Sermon:

Sola Fide

** Children dismissed for Little Church*

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Profession of Faith:

Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 21. What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything God reveals in his Word is true; it is also a deep-rooted assurance, created in me by the Holy Spirit through the gospel, that, out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ, not only others, but I too, have had my sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation.

Hymn of Response:

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death? / Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence? / That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand? / What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end? / The love of Christ, in which we stand.

Refrain

O sing hallelujah! / Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah! / Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? / God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known? / In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise? / Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh / Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Refrain

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? / “Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!”

And what reward will heaven bring? / Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord, / Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy, / When Christ is ours forevermore.

Refrain

Benediction:

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.