

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*When anxiety was great within me,
Your consolation brought joy to my soul. (Psalm 94.19)*

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship:

Psalm 124.8; 125.2

Leader: Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

People: **As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
So the LORD surrounds his people,
From this time forth and forevermore.**

Leader: Let's worship the LORD!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise:

***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!
Trinity #296***

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel:

Galatians 6.9-10

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel:

Galatians 4.4-5

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving:

***Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Trinity #32***

Prayer of Intercession:

The Valley of Vision

O LORD,

Length of days does not profit me except the days are passed

In thy presence, in thy service, to thy glory.

Give me grace that precedes, follows, guides, sustains, sanctifies, aids every hour,

That I may not be one moment apart from thee, but may rely on thy Spirit

To supply every thought, speak every word, direct every step,

Prosper every work, build up every mote of faith, and give me a desire

To show forth thy praise, testify thy love, advance thy kingdom.

I launch my bark on the unknown waters of this year,

With thee, O Father, as my harbor,

thee, O Son, at my helm,

thee, O Holy Spirit, filling my sails.

Guide me to heaven with

My loins girt, my lamp burning, my ear open to thy calls,

My heart full of love, my soul free.

Give me thy grace to sanctify me, thy comforts to cheer, thy wisdom to teach,

Thy right hand to guide, thy counsel to instruct, thy law to judge,

Thy presence to stabilize.

May thy fear be my awe, thy triumphs my joy. Amen.

**Children dismissed to Little Church*

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading:

Luke 2.21-40

Prayer of Illumination:

Chalmers' Collects

Blessed Lord, which hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant us that we may in such wise hear them, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our savior Jesus Christ.

Sermon:

Testimonies of Jesus

God Communes with Us in the Sacrament

Creed:

The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Hymn of Preparation:

***Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
Trinity #500***

Sursum Corda:

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

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.

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Hymn of Response:

***Be Thou My Vision
Trinity Hymnal #642***

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.