

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
By his love and power controlling all I do and say.

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: Psalm 146.1-8

Leader: Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
People: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Leader: Put not your trust in princes,
In a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
People: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
On that very day his plans perish.
Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the LORD his God,
Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
People: Who keeps faith forever;
Who executes justice for the oppressed,
Who gives food to the hungry.
Leader: The LORD sets the prisoners free;
The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
People: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
The LORD loves the righteous.
All: Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: O Worship the King

O worship the King all-glorious above,
/ O gratefully sing his pow’r and his love;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
/ pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
/ whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
/ and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
/ Almighty, your pow’r has founded of old;
Has ‘stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
/ and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
/ It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
/ and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
/ in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
/ our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
/ While angels delight to hymn you above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
/ with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: Hebrews 10.23-25

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,
for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love
and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some,
but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing
near.

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel: Hebrews 2.17-18

Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers in every respect,
so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God,
to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered
when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving: Psalm 23

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Refrain
And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights. Refrain

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know. Refrain

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.

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading: Exodus 18.13-27

Sermon: Jethro’s Wisdom

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Profession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 49. How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us?

First, he pleads our cause in heaven in the presence of the Father. Second,
we have our own flesh in heaven—a guarantee that Christ our head will
take us, his members, to himself in heaven. Third, he sends his Spirit to us
on earth as a further guarantee. By the Spirit’s power we make the goal of
our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at
God’s right hand.

Hymn of Response: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy pow’rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliv’rer, strong Deliv’rer,
Be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell’s Destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan’s side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

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.