



# PSALMS OF ASCENT

BLESSING

PSALM 128



TRINITY  
Presbyterian Church

## ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, March 8, 2020

*Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.*

*Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.*

### SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Once And For All

### CALL TO WORSHIP | Revelation 5:11-13 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

### PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON | 2 Corinthians 9:8-11 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

### PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

Beautiful

Great Are You Lord

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 10. What does God require in the fourth and fifth commandments?

A. Fourth, that on the Sabbath day we spend time in public and private worship of God, rest from routine employment, serve the Lord and others, and so anticipate the eternal Sabbath. Fifth, that we love and honor our father and our mother, submitting to their godly discipline and direction.

## KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS DISMISSAL

Infants - Fifth Grade are dismissed. Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.

## GREETING

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

### PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | *Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting*

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

## SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

Build My Life

## BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
both now and forevermore. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

### Proclamation of God's Word

**Text:** Psalm 128 (ESV)

**Title:** Psalms of Ascent - Blessing

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! <sup>2</sup> You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. <sup>3</sup> Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. <sup>4</sup> Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. <sup>5</sup> The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! <sup>6</sup> May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

**Intro:** What does it say that “Have a blessed day” has gained traction?

### GOD'S GIFT OF BLESSING

What does it mean that the LORD *blesses* His people?

## FROM BLESSING TO A CURSE

What happens when we lose that blessing?

## BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ...

How has Jesus worked to recover that blessing, *and* in a way that we can no longer lose it?

## YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD who blesses His people immeasurably! Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for how He works to provide us with every foundation for wholeness, joy and purpose *under His good design*.
2. How have you lived seeking blessing apart from Him, as if that could ever be found? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to bear the curse you deserve and to restore you to His Father.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for how He is the most blessed person because He is the most giving. Thank Him for leaving the place of greatest blessing to willingly go into the place of the greatest curse, to save us.
4. Who do you know that eagerly seeks to gain blessings but rarely (if ever) shares what they gain? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them see His greater purpose for His blessings, that they would be transformed.
5. Read 2 Corinthians 9:8-11, and ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of generosity. Pray that He would help you believe that He is “able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.”

