
Order of Worship

October 20, 2024

Reflection

When I look at myself, I don't see how I can be saved. But when I look at Christ, I don't see how I can be lost.

– Martin Luther

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Psalm 40

Leader: I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

People: He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

Leader: He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

People: Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

Song

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;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,
Who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings,
Yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen
How all your longings 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 can do,
If with His love He befriend 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 for aye we adore Him.

Prayer of Adoration

Oh, great God, our Redeemer and our King, we adore you and raise our voices in praise of your holy name. You are gracious and we ask you to lift the burdens we carry so we may be free to proclaim your goodness to all the earth; you are mighty and we ask you to break

the chains that bind us so we may reflect your glory; you are loving and we ask you to breathe life into our hearts so we may echo ten thousand saints in singing of your majesty! Amen, and Amen!

Affirmation of Faith

Romans 8

Minister: All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption as children, by whom we cry “Abba! Father!”

All: The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.

Minister: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

All: For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Minister: What then shall we say to these things?

All: If God is for us, who can be against us?...For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Doxology

Old Hundredth

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.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we believe that you are coming again in power to judge the earth. But we confess that we have not lived as those who daily expect your kingdom. We have spoken harsh words, thought impure thoughts, and lived casual lives. We have ignored your promised judgment by not loving you with our whole hearts or our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us and forgive us for all our offenses. In your tender kindness, embrace us with your fatherly love and fill our hearts with the joyful expectation of seeing you, face to face. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Private Confession

Song

Not What My Hands Have Done

Not what my hands have done
Can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers,
And sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.

Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin
Thy blood alone O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.
Thy love to me O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee
Can rid me of
This dark unrest,
And set my spirit free!

Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy power alone O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.
No other work, save Thine,
No other blood will do,
No strength save that,
Which is divine,
Can bear me safely through.

I bless the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
And with unfaltering lip and heart,
I call this Savior mine.
His cross dispels each doubt,
I bury in His tomb
My unbelief,
And all my fear,
Each lingering shade of gloom.

I praise the God of grace,
I trust His truth and might
He calls me His, I call Him mine,
My God, my joy, my light
Tis He Who saveth me,
And freely pardon gives
I love because
He loveth me,
I live because He lives!

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God,
for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has
covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks
himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns
herself with her jewels.

Song

Help Us See Christ

Holy Spirit breath of God
Witness to all that Christ has done
Great Revealer radiant light
One with the Father and the Son

Chorus:

Open our eyes help us see Christ
May we behold His majesty
Open our eyes Spirit we cry
Show us the glory of our King
Help us see Christ

Holy Spirit voice of truth
Speaking the Word of God to us
Sent from heaven to our hearts
That we might know the Father's love (Chorus)

Holy Spirit guarantee
Of the redemption Christ has won
Promised helper be our strength
Until this race on earth is run (Chorus)

*(Children through Kindergarten are dismissed for Children's
Church; they will return for Communion.)*

Prayer of Intercession *Concluded by the 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.**

High Desert Highlights

See 'Church Life' on p. 17

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

If you have a financial gift, you may place it in the offering plate, located on the information table. Donations can also be given electronically; see highdesertpca.com for more information.

Scripture

Acts 13:1-12

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

*“The Sending of Paul and Barnabas”
You Will Be My Witnesses: The Book of Acts*

Song

Father, Long Before Creation

Father, long before creation
Thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving,
Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us.
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant
Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children
Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story,
Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing

Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us
That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee
We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing
‘Til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory
To our God and to the Lamb.
Giving glory, giving glory
To our God and to the Lamb.

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, the Lord’s Supper (also called Communion or The Eucharist, which means ‘thanksgiving’) is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by Him as they eat the bread and drink the elements. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate.

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer (see Prayers on page 16) and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ.

We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from partaking until doing so. Both wine (red)

and grape juice (white) are offered. Gluten-free bread is also available.

Words of Institution

Memorial Acclamation

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Minister: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Song

Just as I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee Whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;

Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Song

The Power of the Cross

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day,
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

Chorus:

This the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath.
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow. (Chorus)

Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life.

Finished the vict'ry cry. (Chorus)

Oh to see my name written in the wounds.
For through Your suff'ring I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love!

This the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost.
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, O God, that through Word and sacrament you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life. Strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

“Man of sorrows!” what a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude
In my place condemned He stood
Sealed my pardon with His blood

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we
Spotless Lamb of God was He
Full atonement! Can it be?
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was He to die
“It is finished!” was His cry
Now in Heav’n exalted high
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When He comes, our glorious King
All His ransomed home to bring
Then anew His song we’ll sing
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Benediction

Postlude

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Prayers

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.