
Order of Worship

October 27, 2024

Reflection

Many aspects of life are necessarily meritocracies. Faith is not one of them. Authentic spirituality begins with mercy, not achievement. Even the faith we profess is a grace we've been given.

– David Cassidy

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Psalm 33

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous, it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

People: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully and shout for joy!

Leader: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

People: The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Song

O God Beyond All Praising

O God beyond all praising
We worship You today
And sing the love amazing
That songs cannot repay

For we can only wonder

At every gift You send
At blessings without number
And mercies without end

We lift our hearts before You
And wait upon Your word
We honor and adore You
Our great and mighty Lord

Then hear O gracious Savior
Accept the love we bring
That we who know Your favor
May serve You as our king

And whether our tomorrows
Be filled with good or ill
We'll triumph through our sorrows
And rise to bless You still

To marvel at Your beauty
And glory in Your ways
And make a joyful duty
Our sacrifice of praise

Prayer of Adoration

All glory and honor be unto you, Lord God Almighty, for in your sovereign and gracious design you have not left us to ourselves but have adopted us as your own and called us to be a new people for your service that we, the church, for whom Christ died, might be a

holy nation. So work within us this day that we might genuinely declare in our words and deeds the praise of your glorious grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 21

Minister: What is true faith?

All: 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.

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

Lord of Mercy,

You call us to hunger and thirst after righteousness,

To give ourselves as living sacrifices,

And to share the burdens of others.

Yet too often we hunger after the pleasures of the world,

The lust of the flesh,

And the greed of our own desires.

We confess these and other sins in our memory.

**Forgive us in Your mercy,
Demonstrated in the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
Who died to remove these sins from Your face.
Help us now to live our days in Your service,
Free from guilt and joyful in obedience. Amen.**

Private Confession

Song

Hide Away in the Love of Jesus

Come weary saints, though tired and weak;
Hide away in the love of Jesus.
Your strength will return by His quiet streams,
Hide away in the love of Jesus.

Come wand'ring souls and find your home,
Hide away in the love of Jesus.
He offers the rest that you yearn to know,
Hide away in the love of Jesus.

Chorus:

Hear Him calling your name;
See the depths of His love
In the wounds of His grace.
Hide away. Hide away.

Come guilty ones weighed down with sin,
Hide away in the love of Jesus.
The freedom you long for is found in Him,

Hide away in the love of Jesus. (Chorus)

Come hopeless hearts do not despair,
Hide away in the love of Jesus.
For ten thousand joys await you there,
Hide away in the love of Jesus. (Chorus)

Hide away in the love of Jesus.

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Song

Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed (At the Cross)

Alas and did my Savior bleed
And did my Sov'reign die
Would He devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I

Was it for crimes that I have done
He groaned upon the tree
Amazing pity grace unknown
And love beyond degree

Chorus:

At the cross at the cross
Where I first saw the light

And the burden of my heart rolled away
It was there by faith I received my sight
And now I am happy all the day

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut His glories in
When Christ the mighty Maker died
For man the creature's sin

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While Calvary's cross appears
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness
And melt mine eyes to tears (Chorus)

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe
Here Lord I give myself away
'Tis all that I can do (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. 16

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 13:13-25

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

*"Paul's First Sermon (Part One)"
You Will Be My Witnesses: The Book of Acts*

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)

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 15) 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

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Savior, he will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, his power is displayed

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome

Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price, it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I but through Christ in me

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Song

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,

The shadow of a mighty rock
 Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
 A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
 And the burden of the day.

 Upon that cross of Jesus
 Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One
 Who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears
 Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love
 And my unworthiness.

 I take, O cross, thy shadow
 For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
 The sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by,
 To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame,
 My glory all 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

Joy Unspeakable

I have found His grace is all complete
He supplieth ev'ry need
While I sit and learn at Jesus' feet
I am free yes free indeed

Chorus:

It is joy unspeakable and full of glory
Full of glory full of glory
It is joy unspeakable and full of glory
Oh the half has never yet been told

I have found the pleasure I once craved
It is joy and peace within
What a wondrous blessing I am saved
From the awful gulf of sin (Chorus)

I have found that hope so bright and clear
Living in the realm of grace
Oh the Saviour's presence is so near
I can see His smiling face (Chorus)

I have found the joy no tongue can tell
How its waves of glory roll
It is like a great o'erflowing well
Springing up within my soul (Chorus)

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.