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## Order of Worship

November 10, 2024

### Reflection

The Reformation doctrine of *Sola Scriptura* does not mean each individual interprets the Bible for himself. "For that would mean," said Luther, "each man would go to hell in his own way." Rather, the Reformation included the whole Church—laity and clergy—in the discussion.

– Michael Horton

### Prelude

*As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.*

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 113*

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise him, O servants of the LORD!

**People: Let our tongues praise the name of the LORD!**

Leader: Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!

**People: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

### Song

*Great Things*

Come let us worship our King  
Come let us bow at His feet  
He has done great things  
See what our Savior has done  
See how His love overcomes  
He has done great things

He has done great things

Chorus:

O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave  
You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things  
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive  
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high  
O God You have done great things

You've been faithful through every storm

You'll be faithful forevermore

You have done great things

And I know You will do it again

For Your promise is yes and amen

You will do great things

God You do great things (Chorus)

Hallelujah God above it all

Hallelujah God unshakable

Hallelujah You have done great things

Hallelujah God above it all

Hallelujah God unshakable

Hallelujah You have done great things

You've done great things (Chorus)

You have done great things

O God You do great things

### Prayer of Adoration

Our Father, rich in mercy, splendid in grace, wisdom and justice go before you; peace and righteousness are at your right hand. Lord of heaven above, you are God and you alone. Give ear to our prayers in the name of Jesus, for we would worship you in him. He is our great high priest; He is our intercessor and mediator. Give ear to our prayers that we might serve you as a royal priesthood, your own people, for you are our God and you alone. To you be all honor, all praise and glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God for all eternity. Amen.

### Affirmation of Faith

*The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 31*

Minister: Why is Jesus called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**All: Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.**

### Doxology

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Let all things their creator bless,  
And worship him with humbleness!  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,

O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

**Heavenly Father, we confess that at many times, and in many ways this week, we have sinned, by failing to love others, and by failing to follow you. We acknowledge that we are far more in need of your grace than we know. Forgive us again, dear Father, in the grace of your Son. And empower us, in that same grace, to walk more closely with Jesus. We ask these things in His name, Amen.**

Private Confession

Song

*Here is Love*

Here is love, vast as the ocean,  
Loving-kindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of Life, our ransom,  
Shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember?  
Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten  
Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion  
Fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.

Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
Poured incessant from above;  
Heaven's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all Thy love accepting,  
Love Thee ever all my days;  
Let me seek Thy kingdom only  
And my life be to Thy praise;  
Thou alone shall be my glory,  
Nothing in this world I see.  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me,  
Thou Thyself hast set me free.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me  
By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;  
And Thy grace my need is meeting  
as I trust in Thee, my Lord.  
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring  
Thy great love and pow'r on me,  
Without measure, full and boundless,  
Drawing out my heart to Thee.

Words of Pardon and Comfort

*Psalm 145:13-14*

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.  
The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are  
bowed down.

Missions Spotlight

*Reformed University Fellowship at the University of New Mexico:  
Charlie Fiorillo, Campus Minister*

Song

*Jesus, Strong and Kind*

Jesus said  
That if I thirst  
I should come to him  
No one else can satisfy  
I should come to him  
Jesus said  
If I am weak  
I should come to him  
No one else can be my strength  
I should come to him

Chorus:  
For the Lord is good and faithful  
He will keep us day and night  
We can always run to Jesus  
Jesus strong and kind

Jesus said  
That if I fear  
I should come to him  
No one else can be my shield  
I should come to him (Chorus)

Jesus said  
If I am lost

He will come to me  
And he showed me on that cross  
He will come to me (Chorus x2)

*(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](http://highdesertpca.com) for more information.*

Scripture

*1 John 3:11-24*

Sermon

*Rev. Charlie Fiorillo*

*“Children of Love”*

Song

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!  
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,  
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.

Refrain:

Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee!

Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, my rest a stone.  
Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God to Thee. (Refrain)

There let the way appear, steps unto Heav'n;  
All that Thou sendest me, in mercy given;  
Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to Thee. (Refrain)

Then, with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to Thee. (Refrain)

Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I'll fly,  
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee. (Refrain)  
There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,  
There in my Savior's love, perfectly blest;



Age after age to be, nearer my God to Thee. (Refrain)

### 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

*The Goodness of Jesus*

Come you weary heart now to Jesus  
Come you anxious soul now and see  
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears  
Rest here in His wondrous peace

Chorus:

Oh the Goodness, the Goodness of Jesus  
Satisfied he is all that I need  
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days  
In the Goodness of Jesus

Come find what this world cannot offer  
Come and find your joy here complete  
Taste the living water, never thirst again  
Rest here in His wondrous peace (Chorus)

Come and find your hope now in Jesus  
He is all he said he would be  
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart  
Rest here in His wondrous peace (Chorus)

Song

*Abide with Me*

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day

Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away  
Change and decay in all around I see  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?  
Who, like Thyself, my Guide and Stay can be  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Eternal God, Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. You have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song

*Before the Throne*

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea;  
A great High Priest whose name is love,  
Whoever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands;  
My name is written on His heart.  
I know that while in heav'n He stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died,  
My sinful soul is counted free.  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb,  
My perfect, spotless, righteousness.  
The great unchangeable I Am,  
The King of Glory and of grace.  
One with Himself; I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by His blood.  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ my Savior and my God,  
With Christ my Savior and my God.

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.