
Order of Worship

February 18, 2024

Reflection

If you are a Christian, then you are a saint. Our saintliness goes up and down. But our sainthood doesn't. It's fixed. Every Christian is, 100%, categorically, irreversibly, a saint.

- Dane Ortlund

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Revelation 5

Minister: 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,

All: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Minister: 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,

All: “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

Song

10,000 Reasons

Chorus:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (Chorus)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (Chorus)

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore! (Chorus)

Worship Your holy name; worship Your holy name.

Prayer of Adoration

O merciful Lord, you are our refuge and strength: by your power you protect us from the ways of this world, by your grace you sustain us through all adversity and temptation, and for your glory you will bring us into everlasting peace. To you be all honor, all praise and dominion, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God for all eternity.
Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

Minister: Who is Jesus and why did he come?

All: We believe Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Gloria Patri

Meineke

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost!
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be:
World without end,
Amen, Amen!

Prayer of Confession

Most gracious and most merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that time after time we have entered your presence with countless prayers but with hearts that have been closed to your grace.

We have lifted our voices to you in praise, but we have used those same voices to speak ill of others. We have rehearsed your commandments but have refused to see your call in the needs of our neighbor.

We pray, Lord, that you forgive our lack of faith and pardon our acts of injustice. Grant us the healing that comes from your presence and the cleansing of your all-powerful Word, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Private Confession

Song

Higher Ground

I'm pressing on the upward way
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day
Still praying as I'm onward bound
Lord plant my feet on higher ground

Chorus:

Lord lift me up and let me stand
By faith on heaven's tableland
A higher plane than I have found
Lord plant my feet on higher ground

My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay
Tho' some may dwell where these abound
My pray'r my aim is higher ground (Chorus)

I want to live above the world
Tho' Satan's darts at me are hurled
For faith has caught the joyful sound
The song of saints on higher ground (Chorus)

I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found
Lord lead me on to higher ground (Chorus)

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Ezekiel 36:25-26

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Song

Holiness

Holiness, holiness is what I long for
Holiness is what I need
Holiness, holiness is what You want from me

Chorus:

So, take my heart and form it
Take my mind and transform it
Take my will and conform it
To Yours, to Yours, O Lord

Faithfulness, faithfulness is what I long for

Faithfulness is what I need
Faithfulness, faithfulness is what You want from me (Chorus)

Brokenness, brokenness is what I long for
Brokenness is what I need
Brokenness, brokenness is what You want from me (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 page 15

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

James 3:13-18

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

*“Two Kinds of Wisdom”
A Faith That Works: The Book of James*

Song

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish - but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

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 14) 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

Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?

Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing, this my plea,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

Nothing can for sin atone,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

Song

There is a Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;

And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away:
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God
Be saved to sin no more.

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

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Chorus:

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up (Chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength (Chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom. (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.