
Order of Worship

February 4, 2024

Reflection

If there is no laughter, Jesus has gone somewhere else. If there is no joy and freedom, it is not a church: it is simply a crowd of melancholy people basking in a religious neurosis. If there's no celebration there's no real church.

- Steve Brown

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Revelation 15

Leader: Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty!

People: Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.

Leader: Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name?

People: For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you!

Song

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy,
merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons,
Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim
falling down before Thee,
Who wert and art and
ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy;
there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power,
in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy;
merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons,
Blessed Trinity!

Prayer of Adoration

Our glorious God, we gather this morning to worship you, our God, who brought us out of darkness and into the light of your Son. Be pleased with our worship this morning, as we worship in Spirit and in truth, knowing that we have been set free from sin through your great love for us. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:6-11

Minister: Whom do we worship as our Lord and King?

All: We worship Jesus Christ as our Lord and King, “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

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

Holy and merciful God, we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, for Jesus has conquered sin and death. 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

Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, let us reason together” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

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)

*(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 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

James 2:14-26

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

"False Faith"

A Faith That Works: The Book of James

Song

Desert Song

This is my prayer in the desert
When all that's within me feels dry
This is my prayer in my hunger and need
My God is the God who provides

This is my prayer in the fire
In weakness or trial or pain
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold
So refine me, Lord, through the flame

Chorus:

I will bring praise, I will bring praise
No weapon formed against me shall remain
I will rejoice, I will declare
God is my victory and He is here

This is my prayer in the battle
When triumph is still on its way
I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ
So firm on His promise I'll stand (Chorus)

All of my life, in every season
You are still God
I have a reason to sing
I have a reason to worship (Repeat) (Chorus)

This is my prayer in the harvest
When favor and providence flow
I know I'm filled to be emptied again
The seed I've received I will sow

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

Good and Gracious King

I approach the throne of glory
Nothing in my hands I bring
But the promise of acceptance
From a good and gracious King

I will give to You my burden
As You give to me Your strength

Come and fill me with Your Spirit
As I sing to You this praise

Chorus:

You deserve the greater glory
Overcome, I lift my voice
To the King in need of nothing
Empty handed I rejoice
You deserve the greater glory
Overcome with joy I sing
By Your love I am accepted
You're a good and gracious King

O what grace that You would see me
As Your child and as Your friend
Safe, secure in You forever
I pour out my praise again

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious
Good and gracious
Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious King (Chorus)

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)

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

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation,

Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou art worthy Lamb of 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.