
Order of Worship

March 17, 2024

Reflection

We must remember that the Bible simultaneously pictures God as utterly sovereign, and as a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God. Unless we perceive this, and learn how to act on these simultaneous truths, not only will our views of God be distorted, but our praying is likely to wobble back and forth between a resigned fatalism that asks for nothing and a badgering desperation that exhibits little real trust.

- D.A. Carson

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Psalm 89

Leader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever.

People: With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever.

People: Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens! Praise the Lord!

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

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

O God of all grace, we confess that we are sinners, but in Christ you have given us a Savior. Produce in us a faith to live by him, to make him our desire, our hope, our glory. Preserve us by his

grace from this present evil world, so that its smiles never allure us, its frowns never terrify us, its vices never defile us, its errors never delude us. Cause us to live as strangers and pilgrims in the cities of this earth, knowing that our true citizenship is in the city of heaven, so that all we do may be done to the Savior's glory; in whose name we pray. Amen.

Private Confession

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)

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Psalm 32:3,5

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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.

*(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 5:13-20*

Sermon *Rev. Dan Rose*

*"Praise, Prayer, and Pursuit"
A Faith That Works: The Book of James*

Song *Have Your Way*

Have Your way with me, O God
In the temple of my heart
Let reverent love and holy awe

Be lifted unto You
The truth my inmost being claim
Til sin and shadows flee away
Teach my feet to love Your ways
And run the way You choose

Have Your way with me, O Lord
Sin's pleasures I cannot afford
They left me destitute and poor
Now all I want is Christ
A passion for the gospel burns
To love Your bride, the holy church
Wash me with Your blood and Word
Til I am sanctified

Holy Spirit, have Your way
I look to You for strength and faith
I need Your presence and Your grace
To persevere this hour
Complete in me what You've begun
Keep me by Your sovereign love
In my weakness, Spirit, come
And fill me with Your power

Jesus, have Your way with me
You bled for all who would believe
Let my life become a seed
And give me grace to die
Display through my surrendered life

Your selfless love and sacrifice
Until Your glory fills the sky
Be praised and glorified

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

Christ is Mine Forevermore

Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings

But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore

Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good

But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me

Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name

But mine is armor for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

Come rejoice now O my soul
For His love is my reward
Fear is gone and hope is sure
Christ is mine forevermore

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

It is Well with My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul”

Chorus:
It is well (it is well)
with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blessed assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (Chorus)

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Chorus)

And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with 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.