
Order of Worship

March 2, 2025

Reflection

When the Lord 'blesses' us, he reviews our needs and responds to them; when we 'bless' the Lord, we review his excellencies and respond to them.

- Alec Motyer

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

1 Chronicles 29

Leader: Blessed are you, O Lord God, forever and ever.

People: All that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.

Leader: In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

People: We thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

Song

A Mighty Fortress

Our God is a consuming fire
A burning, holy flame with glory and freedom
Our God is the only righteous judge
Ruling over us with kindness and wisdom

Pre-Chorus:
And we will keep our eyes on You
We will keep our eyes on You

Chorus:
A mighty fortress is our God
A sacred refuge is Your name
Your Kingdom is unshakable
And with You forever we will reign

Our God is jealous for His own
None could comprehend His love and His mercy
Our God is exalted on His throne
High above the heavens, forever He is worthy (Pre-
Chorus)

We will keep our eyes on You
We will keep our eyes on You
So we can set our hearts on You
Lord, we will set our hearts on You (Chorus)

With You forever we will reign
With You forever we will reign

Prayer of Adoration

Our Father in heaven, we gather today to declare your
praises, to proclaim the salvation that you have wrought.
Work in our hearts today by the power of the Holy Spirit;

may we worship you, love you, glorify you, and honor you.
We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

1 Corinthians 15:3-7; Romans 1:16-17

Minister: What is the Gospel we preach, that which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved?

All: Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. We are not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

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

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. We confess that we have been foolish and strayed from you and have wandered on our own way. Have mercy on us and forgive our sin. Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness keep us from doing it; that in your light we may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Private Confession

Song

Thy Mercy My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Words of Pardon and Comfort *Isaiah 61:10*

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in
my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of
salvation; He has covered me with the robe of
righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest
with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself
with her jewels.

Song

Let Your Kingdom Come

Worthy is the
Lamb Who was slain
Holy, holy is He
Sing a new song
To Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat (Repeat)

Chorus:
Holy, holy, holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my everything
And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows
Of living color
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor, strength and
Glory and power be
To You the only wise King (Chorus)

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water
Such a marvelous mystery (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 14*

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

Romans 9:1-26

Sermon

Rev. Brandon Terry

"Who is God and Who are We?"

Song

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

Chorus:

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more (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 13) 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 Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. (Refrain)

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me. (Refrain)

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where his glory forever I'll share. (Refrain)

Song

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

O sacred Head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down;
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory,
What bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered
Was all for sinners' gain:
Mine, mine was the transgression,
But thine the deadly pain.

Lo, here I fall, my Saviour!
'Tis I deserve thy place;
Look on me with thy favor,
Vouchsafe to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow
To thank thee, dearest Friend,
For this thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me thine for ever;
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
Outlive my love to thee.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**O amazing God, You come into our ordinary lives
and set a holy table among us, filling our plates
with the bread of life and our cups with salvation.
Send us out, Lord Jesus, with tenderheartedness
to touch a beautiful yet broken world with the
promise of your Kingdom. 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.