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## Order of Worship

March 23, 2025

### Reflection

A Christian is not somebody who is perfect; a Christian is somebody who has realized the center of their orbit has been their own self-centeredness.

- Tim Keller

### Prelude

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

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 145*

Leader: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

**People: There is no end to his greatness.**

Leader: One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

**People: All your works praise you, Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.**

### Song

*Glorious Christ*

The radiance of the Father  
Before the dawn of time  
You spoke and all creation came to be  
The molecules and planets  
Reveal Your great design  
And every one was made so we could see  
So we could see

Chorus:  
You are the glorious Christ  
The greatest of all delights  
Your power is unequaled  
Your love beyond all heights  
No greater sacrifice  
Than when You laid down Your life  
We join the song of angels  
Who praise You day and night  
Glorious Christ

You left the air of heaven  
To breathe the dust of earth  
And dwell among the outcast and the poor  
You came to be forsaken  
And died to take our curse  
So You could be our joy forevermore  
Forevermore (Chorus 2x)

### Prayer of Adoration

God of majesty and light, you hold the whole world in your hand, so we give you our great praise that in Jesus Christ all people may see your glory. We thank you for revealing Jesus to be your Son and for claiming our lives in baptism to be his glad disciples. By your Spirit, may peace descend upon us, that we may follow him with grateful hearts. Take us and all we have to be useful in your service. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

*Romans 8*

Minister: All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption as children, by whom we cry “Abba! Father!”

**All: The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.**

Minister: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

**All: For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.**

Minister: What then shall we say to these things?

**All: If God is for us, who can be against us?...For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

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

**Father in heaven, we need to be forgiven. Instead of trusting in Your love and grace, we try to make atonement for ourselves. We attempt to pile up good deeds that outweigh our sins. When this inevitably fails, we quickly turn to denial and distraction. Instead of trusting in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we seek to change our hearts through sheer willpower. In doing so we cheapen Your grace, we shrink our sin, and we make a mockery of Your holiness. Forgive us for rejecting You. Forgive us for neglecting Your grace. Forgive us and heal us, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Private Confession

Song

*Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!  
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,  
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled.

Chorus:  
Grace, grace, God's grace  
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within  
Grace, grace, God's grace  
Grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,  
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;  
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,  
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross. (Chorus)

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.  
What can avail to wash it away?  
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,  
Whiter than snow you may be today. (Chorus)

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,  
Freely bestowed on all who believe!  
You that are longing to see His face,  
Will you this moment His grace receive? (Chorus)

Words of Pardon and Comfort      *2 Corinthians 5:21*  
God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in  
him we might become the righteousness of God.

Song      *Help Us See Christ*  
Holy Spirit breath of God  
Witness to all that Christ has done

Great Revealer radiant light  
One with the Father and the Son

Chorus:

Open our eyes help us see Christ  
May we behold His majesty  
Open our eyes Spirit we cry  
Show us the glory of our King  
Help us see Christ

Holy Spirit voice of truth  
Speaking the Word of God to us  
Sent from heaven to our hearts  
That we might know the Father's love (Chorus)

Holy Spirit guarantee  
Of the redemption Christ has won  
Promised helper be our strength  
Until this race on earth is run (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](http://highdesertpca.com) for more information.*

Scripture

*Acts 18:18-19:10*

Sermon

*Rev. Dan Rose*

*“An Incomplete Gospel”*

*You Will Be My Witnesses: The Book of Acts*

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)

### 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

*For the Bread*

For the bread which you have broken,  
For the wine which you have poured,  
For the words, which you have spoken,  
Now we give you thanks O Lord.

By this pledge that you do love us,  
By your gift of peace restored,  
By your call to heaven before us,  
Sanctify our lives O Lord.

With our sainted ones in glory,  
Seated at our Father's board,  
May the Church that waits now for Thee,  
Keep love's tie unbroken Lord.

In your service Lord defend us.  
In our hearts keep watch and ward.  
In the world where'r you send us,  
May your kingdom come O Lord

Song

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Wonderful, merciful Savior  
Precious Redeemer and Friend  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men

Chorus:

You are the One that we praise  
You are the One we adore  
You give the healing and grace our  
Hearts always hunger for  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
Hopelessly lost our way  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way (Chorus)

Almighty, infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne (Chorus)

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

*Our Song from Age to Age*

Oh God of power living Word  
The One who made the stars  
Who with Your glory filled the earth  
From dust made beating hearts  
You loved us when we fell away  
Poured mercy on our souls  
And promised grace would come to save  
To loose death's iron hold

You are our song from age to age  
Our voices unite to recount Your praise  
Again and again

Oh God of promises fulfilled  
The God who took on flesh  
Who did all that the Father willed  
Was humbled unto death  
You bore our cross of sin and shame  
Endured our agony  
With gladness we now bear Your name  
And worship at Your feet

Chorus:

You are our song from age to age  
Our voices unite to recount Your praise  
Again and again  
You are our song from age to age  
We will proclaim Your power to save  
Again and again

Oh God who surely guides our steps  
Through tempests and through trials  
Our Shepherd King Your way is best  
Though tears now veil our eyes  
Your steadfast love our perfect hope  
Our eyes are fixed on grace  
We have no doubt You'll lead us home  
To finally see Your face (Chorus)

Oh God of all of history  
Enthroned in realms of light  
What eyes of faith have strained to see  
Will one day fill our sight  
With all the saints we'll lay our crowns  
Before the Savior's feet  
And sing as all the heav'ns resound  
For all eternity (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.