
Order of Worship

March 30, 2025

Reflection

We are nowhere safer than in His hand. For when we cast ourselves upon His providence, we are sure to be preserved by His power, governed by His wisdom, and protected by His goodness.

- John Calvin

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call to Worship

Psalm 33

Leader: Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous, it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

People: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully and shout for joy!

Leader: For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

People: The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Song

Forever

Give thanks to the Lord,
Our God and King;
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand,
And outstretched arm:
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn:
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus:
Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong;
Forever God is with us,
Forever! Forever!

From the rising to the setting sun,
His love endures forever;
By the grace of God
We will carry on:
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise (Chorus)

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 *The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 1*

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

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

Almighty God, we believe that you are coming again in power to judge the earth. But we confess that we have not lived as those who daily expect your kingdom. We have spoken harsh words, thought impure thoughts, and lived casual lives. We have ignored your promised judgment by not loving you with our whole hearts or our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us and forgive us for all our offenses. In your tender kindness, embrace us with your fatherly love and fill our hearts with the joyful expectation of seeing you, face to face. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Private Confession

Song

O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Greatest treasure of my longing soul
My God like You there is no other
True delight is found in You alone

Your grace a well too deep to fathom
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach
Your truth a fount of perfect wisdom
My highest good and my unending need

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
And my shield against his hateful darts

My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise
My joy when trials are abounding
Your faithfulness my refuge in the night

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Gracious Savior of my ruined life
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders
In my place You suffered bled and died

You rose! The grave and death are conquered
You broke my bonds of sin and shame
O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
May all my days bring glory to Your Name

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

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law, in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death, the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord, He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes (Repeat)

*(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 highdeserttpca.com for more information.

Scripture

Acts 19:11-41

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

*“A Sovereign God & an Impotent Idol”
You Will Be My Witnesses: The Book of Acts*

Song

The Power of the Cross

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day,
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

Chorus:

This the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath.
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow. (Chorus)

Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life.
Finished the vict'ry cry. (Chorus)

Oh to see my name written in the wounds.
For through Your suff'ring I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love!

This the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost.
We stand forgiven at the cross.

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

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

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.

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

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 unequalled
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)

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.