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## Order of Worship

April 13, 2025

### Reflection

I could never myself believe in God, if it were not for the cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?

- John Stott

### Prelude

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

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 113*

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise him, O servants of the LORD!

**People: Let our tongues praise the name of the LORD!**

Leader: Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!

**People: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

### Song

*Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You, we turn to You

Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You,

we long for You

'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day

In Your Presence all our fears are washed away,

washed away

Chorus:  
Hosanna, hosanna  
You are the God Who saves us, worthy of all our praises  
Hosanna, hosanna  
Come have Your way among us  
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You  
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new,  
You make us new  
'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day  
In Your Presence all our fears are washed away,  
washed away (Chorus)

### Prayer of Adoration

O Lord Jesus Christ, on this day you received the worship of those who hailed you as their King: Accept our praise and adoration, our worship and love; and grant that we, who now confess you with our lips, may never fail to give you the service of our lives, for the honor of your holy name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

### Affirmation of Faith

*The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 31*

Minister: Why is Jesus called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**All: Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.**

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

**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, I My Cross Have Taken*

Jesus, I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition,  
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,  
They have left my Savior too.  
Human hearts and looks deceive me,  
Thou art not like them, untrue.  
O while Thou dost smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love, and might,  
Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
Twill but drive me to Thy breast.  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh, tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me.  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;  
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station,  
Something still to do or bear.  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine,  
Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Words of Pardon and Comfort

*Titus 3:4-5*

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

Song

*Shout to the Lord*

My Jesus, my Savior  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days, I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my Shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You!

Shout to the Lord  
All the earth let us sing;  
Power and majesty  
Praise to the King!  
Mountains bow down  
And the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name!

I sing for joy  
At the work of Your hands;  
Forever I'll love You,  
Forever I'll stand;  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You!

*(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](http://highdeserttpca.com) for more information.*

### Scripture

*Acts 20:17-38*

### Sermon

*Rev. Dan Rose*

*“Paul Says Goodbye”*

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

### Song

*Nothing But the Blood*

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:

Oh! Precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.



For my pardon, this I see,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my cleansing, this my plea,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

Nothing can for sin atone,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Naught of good that I have done,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus. (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

### *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.

Song

*Were You There?*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there when He rose up from the dead?  
Were you there when He rose up from the dead?  
O! Sometimes I feel like shouting glory, glory, glory!  
Were you there when He rose up from the dead?

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Lord God, in deep gratitude for this meal, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Lord, may we live to your glory, both as sojourners on earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.**

Song

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Hosanna loud hosanna the little children sang  
Through pillared court and temple  
The lovely anthem rang  
To Jesus Who had blessed them  
Close folded to His breast  
The children sang their praises  
The simplest and the best

From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd  
The victor palm branch waving  
And chanting clear and loud  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state  
Nor scorned that little children  
Should on His bidding wait

Hosanna in the highest that ancient song we sing  
For Christ is our Redeemer  
The Lord of heaven our King  
O may we ever praise Him  
With heart and life and voice  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice

### 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.