
Order of Worship

May 31, 2026

Reflection

If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.

- C.S. Lewis

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

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

God of light and truth, you are beyond our grasp or
conceiving. Before the brightness of your presence the
angels veil their faces. With lowly reverence and adoring
love we acclaim your glory and sing your praise, for you
have shown us your truth and love in Jesus Christ, our
Savior. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:6-11

Minister: Whom do we worship as our Lord and King?

All: We worship Jesus Christ as our Lord and King, “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Doxology

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Let all things their creator bless,
And worship him with humbleness!

O praise him, Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and to humbly confess to you our unbelief. While we know and believe that Jesus died for us on the cross and that he was raised for us from the dead, we admit it often makes little difference in our lives. Forgive us, we pray. Enable us to fully embrace the truth of the gospel: that our love for you may flourish, that our obedience may be wholehearted and joyful, and that our witness may be more courageous. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and triumphant Lord. Amen.

Private Confession

Song

God Be Merciful to Me

God, be merciful to me;
On Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou,
Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within;
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess;
Grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace,
And provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgement just;
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin;
Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art,
Teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow,
Wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust
By Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice,
And in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face,
Blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew,
Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee,
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart,
Steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me,
And return, O God, to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove,
And my tongue shall sing Thy love
Touch my silent lips, O Lord,
And my mouth shall praise accord.

Words of Pardon and Comfort *Isaiah 43:1-3a*

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Song *Hallelujah for the Cross*

I would be hopeless without Your goodness
I would be desp'rate without Your love
Slave to the darkness
If it wasn't for the cross

You have won me with Your kindness
Chased me down when I was lost
Where would I be
If it wasn't for the cross

Chorus:
Hallelujah thank You Jesus
I was a pris'ner now I'm not
With Your blood You bought my freedom
Hallelujah for the cross

All my shame was met with mercy
Now Your mercy will be my song
And oh the glory
Oh the power of the cross (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 for more information.

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 2:1-28

Sermon

Rev. Dan Rose

“Qoheleth’s Quest”

Same Old, Same Old? The Book of Ecclesiastes

Song

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (Refrain)

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 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

I Will Boast

I will boast only in the cross
Where my Savior died for me
Nothing else no other love
Goes so far and runs so deep

I will boast only in the cross
See His head His hands and feet
Scars of grace the scars that heal
He broke the curse and set me free

Chorus:

Only One took the nails
Only One tore the veil
Only One spotless Lamb
I will boast only in the cross

I will boast only in the cross
The Father's love at Calvary
My sin erased my debt He paid
This is my hope the song I sing
This is my hope the song I sing (Chorus)

I will boast only in the cross

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)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, Jesus is the center point of history, and his presence is our new beginning. Center our lives on your lavish grace that not only saves but renews us to be like Jesus. May our godly living be a fitting testimony of thanksgiving that draws others to the joyful reign of Christ the King. Amen.

Song

All Glory Be to Christ

Should nothing of our efforts stand,
No legacy survive;
Unless the Lord does raise the house,
In vain its builders strive.

To you who boast tomorrow's gain,
Tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn;
All glory be to Christ!

Chorus:

All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!

His will be done, His kingdom come
On earth as is above,
Who is Himself our daily bread;
Praise Him, the Lord of love.

Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price;
We'll take a cup of kindness yet;
All glory be to Christ! (Chorus)

When on the day the great I Am,
The faithful and the true,
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new.

Behold, our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light.
And we shall e're His people be;
All glory be to Christ! (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.