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## Order of Worship

August 16, 2026

### Reflection

Grant, O Lord, that we may live in thy fear,  
Die in thy favor, rest in thy peace,  
Rise in thy power, reign in thy glory;  
For thine own beloved Son's sake,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

- William Laud

### Prelude

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

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 46*

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help  
in trouble.

**People: Therefore we will not fear though the earth  
gives way, though the mountains be moved into the  
heart of the sea.**

Leader: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted  
among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

**People: The LORD of Hosts is with us; the God of  
Jacob is our fortress.**

### Song

*Rejoice The Lord is King*

Rejoice the Lord is King  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,  
And triumph evermore

Refrain:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns,  
The God of truth and love;  
When He had purged our stains  
He took His seat above (Refrain)

His kingdom cannot fail,  
He rules o'er earth and heaven;  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus giv'n: (Refrain)

Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Our Lord and Judge shall come  
And take His servants up  
To their eternal home: (Refrain)

### 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    *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

*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

**Lord Jesus, we are guilty, but pardoned, lost, but saved, wandering but found, sinning, but cleansed. Grant us to hear your voice assuring us: that by your stripes we are healed, that you were**

**bruised for our iniquities, that you have been  
made sin for us that we might be righteous in you,  
that our grievous sins, our manifold sins, are all  
forgiven, buried in the ocean of your concealing  
blood. 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

*Micah 7:18-19*

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance?  
He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot.  
You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Song

*The Wonderful Cross*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God.  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

Chorus:

O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross!  
Bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.  
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross,  
All who gather here by grace draw near  
and bless Your name!

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? (Chorus)

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all! (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

*Ecclesiastes 12:1-14*

Sermon

*Rev. Dan Rose*

*"The End of the Matter"*

*Same Old, Same Old? Summer Studies in Ecclesiastes*

Song

*Ancient of Days*

Though the nations rage  
Kingdoms rise and fall  
There is still one King  
Reigning over all  
So I will not fear  
For this truth remains  
That my God is the Ancient of Days

Chorus:

None above Him none before Him  
All of time in His hands  
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power all the glory  
I will trust in His name  
For my God is the Ancient of days

Though the dread of night  
Overwhelms my soul  
He is here with me  
I am not alone  
O His love is sure  
And He knows my name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days (Chorus)

Though I may not see  
What the future brings  
I will watch and wait  
For the Savior king  
Then my joy complete  
Standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days (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 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

*Lead Me to Calvary*

King of my life I crown Thee now  
Thine shall the glory be  
Lest I forget Thy thorn crowned brow  
Lead me to Calvary

Refrain:

Lest I forget Gethsemane  
Lest I forget Thine agony  
Lest I forget Thy love for me  
Lead me to Calvary

Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid  
Tenderly mourned and wept  
Angels in robes of light arrayed  
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept (Refrain)

Let me like Mary through the gloom  
Come with a gift to Thee  
Show to me now the empty tomb  
Lead me to Calvary (Refrain)

May I be willing Lord to bear  
Daily my cross for Thee  
Even Thy cup of grief to share  
Thou hast borne all for me (Refrain)

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

*Living Hope*

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished, the end is written  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Chorus:

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me (Repeat)

Jesus, Yours is the victory! (Chorus)

Jesus Christ, my living hope  
Oh God, You are my living hope

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.