



MARCH 24, 2024

The Order of Worship

11:15 A.M.

We worship God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who is worthy of praise for who he is and what he has done as our Creator and Savior. When we worship together, God is present with us, his people, and meets with us here! Because of that, our worship takes the form of a dialogue between God and us, as he speaks to us from his word and as we respond to him. We only do what God specifically commands in the Scriptures in our worship because God said about how he is to be worshiped, "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it."

Prelude

Announcements: Pastor Zach Siggins

Silent Preparation

As the service begins, we remember that we worship God at his gracious initiative and invitation to us in Jesus Christ. Every worship service begins with God's greeting of grace and call to worship from his word, which we respond to with praise and prayer.

God's Greeting

God's Call to Worship Psalm 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn: #325 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Prayer for God's Blessing

Psalm: #118A *O Thank the Lord for All His Goodness* (vv. 1-2, 5-8)

Because we worship God together as one body, we confess our faith in unison, using a statement of faith from one of the creeds, confessions of faith, or catechisms used in the history of the church.

Confession of Faith (in unison): The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary;
He suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

In all the parts of our worship where God speaks to us, he does so through his Word, the Scriptures. God commands, "the public reading of Scripture," so that we may know God, what he has done for us, and what he requires of us.

Scripture Reading Zechariah 9:9-17 (Bible p.797)

We respond to hearing God's word by acknowledging our sins, both the ways we fail to do what God requires and the ways we do what he forbids, with a prayer of confession said in union. After confessing our sins, God assures us of his forgiveness and acceptance of us with a promise from his Word for those who turn from their sins in repentance and rely upon Jesus for forgiveness and acceptance with God. We respond to his grace and acts of redemption with thanks and praise in song.

Prayer of Confession (in unison): Dutch Psalter (1566)

O eternal God and merciful Father, we humble ourselves before Your great Majesty against which we have frequently and grievously sinned. We acknowledge that we deserve nothing less than eternal death. We are unclean before Your commandments; failing to do what You have commanded us, and doing that which You have expressly forbidden. We all like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. We acknowledge our waywardness, and are heartily sorry for all our sins. We confess to our humiliation and to the praise of Your mercy that our transgressions are innumerable, and that our debt is so great that we cannot even begin to repay. We are not worthy to be called Your children, nor to lift our eyes heavenward to You in prayer.

Nevertheless, O Lord God and gracious Father, we know that You do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he should turn to You and live; we know that your mercy toward those who turn to You is infinite; and so we take courage to call upon You from the depths of our hearts, trusting in our Mediator Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. Forgive all our sins for Christ's sake. Have compassion upon us in our infirmities. Wash us in the pure fountain of His blood, so that we may become clean and white as snow. Cover us with His innocence and righteousness, for the glory of Your Name. Deliver our understanding from all blindness, and our hearts from all willfulness and rebellion. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hymn #352 *Man of Sorrows! What a Name*

Next, we come before God in prayer, to praise him, give thanks for his many blessings, ask him to provide for our needs, and to intercede for the needs of others in the church and the world.

Prayer for God's People

God's people have always worshiped God by giving to him from all that he gives to us. In the Old Testament, God's people were commanded to bring offerings, which provided for the sacrifices. In the New Testament, Jesus gave himself the final sacrificial offering and Christians are called to give generously, cheerfully, and sacrificially.

Offering

At the heart of our worship service is hearing God through preaching from his Word. In the sermon, God's Word is read, explained, and applied to our lives so that we repent, turning back to God from our sins, and renew our faith in Jesus and what he has done to deliver us from our sins. Before the sermon, we ask for the help of the Holy Spirit so that we may hear God's word with understanding.

Sermon: Pastor Zach Siggins

Text: John 12:12-36 (Bible p.899)

Title: The Point of Palm Sunday and Christ's Passion

We respond to what God has done for us in Jesus by joyfully expressing our thanks and praise in song.

Hymn #418 *Arise, O God*

God's Blessing

Worship Leader and Preacher: Pastor Zach Siggins

Accompanist: Sara Meilahn Tyson

Sound: Franklin Ha