



A Congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

APRIL 14, 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 Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Hymn: #242 *Father, Long before Creation*

Prayer for God's Blessing

Psalm: #103C *Come, My Soul, And Bless the Lord* (vv.1-4)

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): Westminster Shorter Catechism 84-87

Q. 84. *What does every sin deserve?*

A. Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.

Q. 85. *What does God require of us that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us for sin?*

A. To escape the wrath and curse of God due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption.

Q. 86. *What is faith in Jesus Christ?*

A. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Q. 87. *What is repentance unto life?*

A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

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 1 John 1 (Bible p.1021)

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 unison. 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) Samuel Johnson, from *Minister's Prayer Book*.

O merciful God, full of compassion, longsuffering, and of great pity, who spares when we deserve punishment, and in your wrath thinks upon mercy: Make me earnestly to repent, and to be heartily sorry for all my misdoings; make the remembrance so burdensome and painful, that I may flee to you with a troubled spirit and contrite heart; and, O merciful Lord, visit, comfort, and relieve me; cast me not out from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me, but excite in me true repentance; give me in this world knowledge of your truth, and confidence in your mercy, and in the world to come life everlasting, for the sake of our Lord and Savior, your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Psalm 103:10-12

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Psalm: #32A *What Blessedness Belongs to Him*

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: Rev. Jeremiah Montgomery

Text: Psalm 32 (Bible p.462)

Title: Life Without Pretending

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

Hymn #446 *Be Thou My Vision*

God's Blessing

Worship Leader: Pastor Zach Siggins

Preacher: Rev. Jeremiah Montgomery, General Secretary for the Committee on Home Missions

Accompanist: Bethany Currie

Sound: Nathan Hanko