

The Worship of God

July 12, 2009

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus! If you are a guest with us, please be sure to sign our Registry when it is passed during the service. Children are welcome in our worship. We have a nursery available for children 3 and under. Children not yet in kindergarten will be dismissed prior to the sermon. Thank you for joining us today and may the Lord richly bless you.

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

“Adoption makes us full members of God's family, not second-class children. It provides us all the privileges of sonship, with obligations as well. What are these privileges? First, we have a relationship with God as our Father; we come to him familiarly, calling him Father, with open access to his presence. Second, we have God's care and provision, materially and spiritually through the Holy Spirit. Third, we have the privilege of God's fatherly discipline as he works in us for a harvest of righteousness and peace. Fourth, we become heirs of all our Father's goods. . . . With these privileges come responsibilities; they include bearing God's name nobly in this world, doing his will, obeying him as our Father and sovereign Lord, defending and advancing the cause of his household and reign.” – Rick Phillips, *Chosen in Christ*

Call to Worship¹

Psalm 66:1-4

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise! Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies come cringing to You. All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

Hymn of Praise²

All Creatures of Our God and King Francis of Assisi

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise Him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in 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!

¹ We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with his invitation and command to us to gather in his name.

² All songs used by permission or covered under CCLI license # 391165.

Confession of Faith

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. God is in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us.

Like a River Glorious

Like a river glorious, is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious in its bright increase,
Perfect yet it floweth fuller every day
Perfect yet it groweth deeper all the way.

(Chorus)

Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest;
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.

Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there.

Ev'ry joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the Son of Love.
We may trust Him fully all for us to do;
They who trust Him wholly, find Him wholly true.

Call to Confession of Sin

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against You and against our fellow men, In thought and word and deed, In the evil we have done, and in the good we have not done, Through ignorance, through weakness, Through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent from all our sins. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, Forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve You in newness of life. To the glory of Your name. Amen

Assurance of Pardon in Christ

Ephesians 1:7-8

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord

Brown/Riley

Our God You reign forever,
Our hope our strong Deliv'rer

You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God
You do not faint,
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak,
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

Lord for Your Glory

Hampton

Lord for your glory we sing Your praises.
We magnify Your holy name.
All for Your glory, Lord we bring blessing.
We seek to honor You all of our days.

We lift our hands, we lift our praise to You.
We worship all You are in spirit and truth.
We give our hearts, we give our lives to You
We offer all we are for the glory of You.

Almighty Father, we are Your children.
You have been faithful to Your own.
Lord, for Your glory we have been chosen.
We lay down all we have here at Your throne!

We lift our hands, we lift our praise to You.
We worship all You are in spirit and truth.
We give our hearts, we give our lives to You.
We offer all we are, we offer all we have,
We offer all our lives for the glory of You.
For the glory of You!

I Need Thee Every Hour

Hawks

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.
I need Thee every hour, stay Thou nearby;
Temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh.

I need Thee, O I need Thee;
O I need Thee every hour;
I need you Lord, O bless me now,
My Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide, or life is vain
I need Thee every hour, teach me Thy will;
And Thy rich promises in me fulfill

I need Thee every hour, most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son

I need Thee every hour, I need Thee every hour,
I need Thee every hour, I need Thee every hour.

Corporate Prayer

Greg Smith

Offering

Sermon³

Luke 8:40-56

Rev. Tommy Lee

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

A Word About Communion – The bread and juice you see on the Communion table may not look like much to the casual observer. In fact, it is merely bread and juice. What makes this meal special is that the Lord Jesus Christ is spiritually present in a unique way. This sacrament is not something to be taken lightly but neither is it a time to be somber; rather, we should be filled with thankfulness and joy. Our Savior, out of His great mercy, bids His people to come to this meal. If you are a member of a church who embraces the Gospel of Jesus Christ and are at peace with your fellow Christians, we welcome you to this table. Come and consider with us our Lord's body and shed blood symbolized in the bread and juice. Rejoice with us in our union with Him and with each other as His Covenant people. For those not taking Communion today, we encourage you to carefully think on the prayers found in the section entitled: "Prayers for Those Not Communing", and we look forward to the day when you may join us in this meal.

The Gospel Is True

Hampton

We have a hope that is living and love that never will end.

We have a God who's forgiven us while we were yet in sin.

We have a grace that's amazing; a free gift to know Him by faith,
To live for His praise and long for the day, when we see Him face to face.

*Thank you, Jesus, Oh how we worship You.
Thank You, Jesus. Hallelujah, the gospel is true.
Hallelujah, the gospel is true.*

We have been crucified with Him, buried and risen to life.
Now justified, soon glorified, we shall be made like Christ.

Benediction⁴

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Communing

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 to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Heavenly Father, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through Your Son Jesus, I can be more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You that He lived the life I should have lived, and paid the debt and punishment I owed. Receive me now for His sake. I turn from my sins and receive Him as Savior. 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.

³ 4, 5, & 6 year-old children may be dismissed before the sermon to Godly Play in room 173.

⁴ Just as God has the first word in worship, he also has the last word. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing. We look up and extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.