

The Worship of God

November 8, 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 4 to 6 years of age may be dismissed to Godly Play prior to the sermon. Thank you for joining us today and may the Lord richly bless you.

Song of Assembly¹

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

Founds

You came from Heaven to earth to show the way;
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on High.

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

“What God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.” - Peter, Acts 3

“Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.” - Acts 11:18

“When we truly comprehend our own nature, repentance is no dry doctrine, no frightening message, no morbid form of self-flagellation. It is, as the early church fathers said, a gift God grants which leads to life.” - Charles Colson

Call to Worship²

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

Hymn of Praise

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne,
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Bridges

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Confession of Faith

Jesus died in my place, the righteous for the unrighteous. God counted him, who was sinless, to be a sinner, so that in him I, who am a sinner, could be counted righteous. He opened the blind eyes of my heart and brought me to faith and repentance. By his Spirit he has come to live in my heart through faith, and is slowly working his character into my stubborn will.

Not only that, but this Jesus Christ created the world, including me, and holds it in being by the word of his power. Every breath I take, every beat of my heart, every moment of seeing and hearing, every movement of my mind, is owing to the sustaining grace and creative power of Jesus. All other acknowledgments and thanks are secondary and dependent on this one.

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.

Smith

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”
Let the poor say, “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Call to Confession of Sin

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Corporate Confession of Sin

Father, as we come before your throne and see your glory and majesty, we are tempted to despair as we look upon the frailty, sin and weakness that fill our hearts. As we come before your throne and see your holiness and justice, we are eternally grateful that we do not stand alone, for on our own we would rightly face judgment and death. Help us daily to renew our trust in Jesus Christ who pleads for us. Help us daily to refresh ourselves with the blood of Christ that covers our sin and gives us the right to stand, not as slaves facing conviction, but as sons and daughters basking in your delight. Help us to see you, Father, rejoicing over us with singing: may this reality move us towards holiness in our lives as we joyfully offer ourselves to you as an act of thanksgiving for your amazing grace toward us. We pray this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon in Christ

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

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.

Mighty to Save

Feilding/Morgan

Everyone needs compassion, a love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness the kindness of a Saviour,
The Hope of nations.

Saviour, He can move the mountains;
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save
Forever, Author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave;
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures;
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow everything I believe in,
Now I surrender.

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King. Jesus!
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Rock of Ages

Toplady

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death;
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

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² We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with his invitation and command to us to gather in His name.

Prayer of Petitions & Thanksgivings

Offering

Sermon³

Pastor Tommy Lee

Series: “Come to me... and I will give you rest.” (Matt. 11:28)

XXXVII. Regarding the Thickness of Blood

Matthew 12:46-50

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.

Fairest Lord Jesus

#87

Fairest Lord Jesus; ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son.
Thee will I cherish; Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows; fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine; fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Benediction⁴

Isaiah 33:17; Hebrews 11:10

May your eyes see the king in his beauty that you might view a land that stretches afar; like Abraham, who looked to a city, whose architect and builder is God.

Behold, Bless the Lord

Unknown

May the Lord bless you out of Zion,
He who made heaven and earth.

*Lift up (lift up) your hands (your hands)
In the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.*

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 called us into His presence at the beginning, so now He commands His blessing upon us as we depart. We look up and extend our hands in a posture of thanksgiving as we receive this great gift. Our final response to God’s assurance of His peace and presence upon those who are in Christ is a chorus of joyful song.