

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 22, 2020

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

**Acts 17:24-25**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

### Greeting and Blessing

### Responsive Reading

Psalm 23 (p. 791)

A PSALM OF DAVID.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he restores my soul.**

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

**You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

**and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 714

#### *We Plow the Fields*

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;  
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

He only is the Maker of all things near and far;  
He paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;  
The winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;  
Much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

We thank you, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,  
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;  
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,  
But that which you desire now: our humble, thankful hearts.

*All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love. Amen.*

## Congregational Confession of Sin

**Leader:** Our God and Father, thank you for the loving kindness you have shown us in Jesus Christ. While we were still sinners, he died for us.

**All:** We thank you also for your daily provision of food and drink. We give you praise for the bounty of your gifts and the ability we have to diligently work with our hands.

**Leader:** We confess that we have sinned and been ungrateful. Forgive us for often desiring more than what it has pleased you to provide. Forgive us for our jealousy and covetousness, and for the anxiety we feel when we forget your fatherly goodness toward us.

**All:** As we consider your good gifts to us this morning, cause us to have a renewed thankfulness for our spiritual and earthly blessings. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

## Private Confession of Our Sins

### Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

### First Reading

Isaiah 6

### Congregational Response

Hymn 116

### *For the Beauty of the Earth*

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely giv'n,  
Graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,  
*Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. Amen.*

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 98.** *What is prayer?*

**A.** Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

**Q. 99.** *What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?*

**A.** The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is the form of prayer that Christ taught his disciples, commonly called “the Lord’s Prayer.”

**Q. 100.** *What does the Preface of the Lord’s Prayer teach us?*

**A.** The Preface of the Lord’s Prayer, which is, “Our Father in heaven,” teaches us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

### Doxology

Hymn 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### 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.

## THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 100]; Sung to Hymn 295)

### *Shout to the LORD, All Earth*

Shout to the LORD, all earth,  
And make a joyful noise!  
With gladness serve the LORD your God;  
Before him lift your voice!  
Now know the LORD is God.  
He made us, we are his—  
His people and his sheep,  
Who safely in his pasture graze.

Enter his gates with thanks,  
And fill his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him, and bless his name;  
To God your voices raise.  
Because the LORD is good,  
His steadfast love endures;  
From age to age, forevermore,  
His faithfulness is sure. Amen.

Professions of Faith

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Repent and Believe in Christ!”  
John 12:36-43

1. Repent and Believe in Christ for the Forgiveness of Your Sins (vv. 36b-40)  
Isaiah 53:1  
Psalm 136:12  
Isaiah 6:10  
Ephesians 2:5
2. Repent and Believe in Christ Because He Is God (v. 41)  
Isaiah 6:1-6  
Isaiah 53:10
3. Repent and Believe in Christ Because His Praise Is the Most Important (vv. 42-43)  
Philippians 3:3, 7-11

## GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Hymn 521

### *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;  
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand. Amen.*

### **Benediction**

#### **Congregational Benediction Response**

(Hymn 115, verse 5))

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! Amen.

## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

Though Jesus' earthly ministry of preaching and miracles was awesome, not everyone who heard him preach and witnessed his miracles believed in him. There was a mixed response to Jesus as there is today. While it is heartbreaking to see people refuse to put their faith in Christ, we must remember that the only way a person can believe in Christ is by the grace of God in election and the effectual (effective) call that comes from the Spirit. "The natural person," says the Apostle Paul, "does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14). In order for a person to embrace Christ rather than reject him, God must regenerate that person and make him willing and able to believe. If we are among those who believe, it is not because we are smarter or more deserving, but only because God in his grace has given us eyes to see and ears to hear. God has powerfully and pleasantly drawn us to himself. All praise and glory be to him!

1. Whose "glory" did the prophet Isaiah see according to John 12:41? Read Isaiah 6 and Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12. What is glorious about the one described in these passages?
2. Read the following question and answer from the Westminster Larger Catechism. How does it highlight God's sovereign work of grace?

*What is effectual calling?*

Effectual calling is the work of God's almighty power and grace, by which (out of his free and special love to his elect, and from nothing in them moving him to do so) he does in his accepted time invite and draw them to Jesus Christ, by his Word and Spirit; savingly enlightening their minds, renewing and powerfully determining their wills, so as they (although in themselves dead in sin) are hereby made willing and able, freely to answer his call, and to accept and embrace the grace offered and conveyed in it. (WLC Q/A 67)

3. Read John 11:1-44. How does this miracle illustrate God's effectual call?
4. How should the doctrine of effectual calling influence how we pray for our unbelieving friends and family members? How should it affect our gratitude and assurance?

## Shout to the LORD, All Earth

100A

1. <sup>1</sup>Shout to the LORD, all earth, and make a joy - ful noise!  
2. <sup>4</sup>En - ter his gates with thanks, and fill his courts with praise.

<sup>2</sup>With glad - ness serve the LORD your God; be - fore him lift your voice!  
Give thanks to him, and bless his name; to God your voic - es raise.

<sup>3</sup>Now know the LORD is God. He made us, we are his—  
<sup>5</sup>Be - cause the LORD is good, his stead - fast love en - dures;

his peo - ple and his sheep, who safe - ly in his pas - ture graze.  
from age to age, for - ev - er - more, his faith - ful - ness is sure.

# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

*The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.  
Use our church directory to pray for an individual or family each day.*

## **Monday, November 23**

Scripture: Ezekiel 45:13 - 46:24; 1 Peter 1:13 - 2:10; Psalm 119:33-48; Proverbs 28:11

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 30

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

## **Tuesday, November 24**

Scripture: Ezekiel 47:1 - 48:35; 1 Peter 2:11 - 3:7; Psalm 119:49-64; Proverbs 28:12-13

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 51

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

## **Wednesday, November 25**

Scripture: Daniel 1:1 - 2:23; 1 Peter 3:8 - 4:6; Psalm 119:65-80; Proverbs 28:14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 52

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.  
The churches in American Samoa and persecuted Christians.

## **Thursday, November 26**

Scripture: Daniel 2:24 - 3:30; 1 Peter 4:7 - 5:14; Psalm 119:81-96; Proverbs 28:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 53

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

## **Friday, November 27**

Scripture: Daniel 4:1-37; 2 Peter 1:1-21; Psalm 119:97-112; Proverbs 28:17-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 54

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

## **Saturday, November 28**

Scripture: Daniel 5:1-31; 2 Peter 2:1-22; Psalm 119:113-128; Proverbs 28:19-20

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 55

Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

## **Sunday, November 29**

Scripture: Daniel 6:1-28; 2 Peter 3:1-18; Psalm 119:129-152; Proverbs 28:21-22

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 56

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

# MISSIONS CORNER

*Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain  
and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.*

**Ray & Michele Call | Presbyterian Church in Belize**

rcall@mtwsa.org; mcall@mtwsa.org

**Karl & Sun Dahlfred | OMF International in Thailand**

dahlfred@gmail.com

**Dave & Darlene Eby | Africa Reformation Theol. Seminary Uganda**

ebyuganda@gmail.com