

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 27, 2020

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!

Let your glory be over all the earth!

**Psalm 108:5**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

**Greeting and Blessing\***

**Responsive Reading\***

Psalm 56 (p. 805)

Be merciful to me, O God, for men hotly pursue me; all day long they press their attack.

**My slanderers pursue me all day long; many are attacking me in their pride.**

When I am afraid, I will trust in you.

**In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?**

All day long they twist my words; they are always plotting to harm me.

**They conspire, they lurk, they watch my steps, eager to take my life.**

On no account let them escape; in your anger, O God, bring down the nations.

**Record my lament; list my tears on your scroll—are they not in your record?**

Then my enemies will turn back when I call for help. By this I will know that God is for me.

**In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise—in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?**

I am under vows to you, O God; I will present my thank offerings to you.

**For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.**

\* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

***Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise***

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee! Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sins.

**All:** For we know our transgressions, and our sins are always before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

**Leader:** Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time we were conceived. Cleanse us, and we will be clean; wash us, and we will be whiter than snow. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and grant us steadfast obedience.

**All:** Restore to us the joy of your salvation and grant to each of us a willing spirit, to sustain us. Then we will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. You are God our Savior, and we will sing of your righteousness. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Colossians 1:17-20

And Christ is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Psalm 27

Congregational Response

Hymn 693

### *Blessed Assurance*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;*

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;*

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;*

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. Amen.*

## Confession of Faith

*The Nicene Creed* (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## 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\*

Matthew 7:15-29

Congregational Response

Hymn 585

### *Take My Life, and Let It Be*

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose,  
Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,  
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
Ever, only, all for thee. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Jesus’ Urgent Call to Believe in Him”  
John 12:44-50

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

Hymn of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn 441

### *Jesus Shall Reign*

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun  
Does his successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,  
And praises throng to crown his head;  
His name, like sweet perfume,  
Shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue  
Dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where’er he reigns;  
The pris’ner leaps to lose his chains,  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring  
Peculiar honors to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud amen! Amen.

**Benediction\***

**Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

May the grace of Christ our Savior  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favor,  
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord,  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.





# EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

## Prelude

### Greeting and Call to Worship\*

Psalm 66:1-7

**Leader:** 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.”

**All:** Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man. He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

### Hymn\*

“O Worship the King” Hymn 2

### Congregational Confession of Sin

Our Father, we acknowledge and believe that you are holy, holy, holy and that the whole earth is full of your glory. As we examine ourselves in the light of your law, we are reminded of how we fall short of your glory. We have offended you with our thoughts, words, and deeds. Rather than seeking to conform ourselves to your law, we have all too eagerly conformed to the pattern of this passing evil age. Forgive us, we pray. Apart from Christ there is nothing in us that gives us reason for hope, yet in him we have forgiveness. Help us to rejoice in your assurance of pardon and to live godly, righteous, and devout lives as we await our Savior’s return, in whose Name we pray. Amen.

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

### Hymn

“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place” Hymn 468

### Scripture Reading\*

John 5:19-29

### Hymn

“O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage” (from Psalm 2) Hymn 314

### Prayer

### Sermon

“A Warning to the Nations”  
Psalm 2

Pastor Clayton Willis

### Hymn\*

“The Church’s One Foundation” Hymn 347

### Benediction\*

### Congregational Benediction Response\*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit, be to God and God alone!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One in Three and Three in One. Amen.

# 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, December 28**

Scripture: Zechariah 12:1 - 13:9; Revelation 19:1-21; Psalm 147:1-20; Proverbs 31:1-7

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 2

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

## **Tuesday, December 29**

Scripture: Zechariah 14:1-21; Revelation 20:1-15; Psalm 148:1-14; Proverbs 31:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 81

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

## **Wednesday, December 30**

Scripture: Malachi 1:1 - 2:17; Revelation 21:1-27; Psalm 149:1-9; Proverbs 31:10-24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 82

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

## **Thursday, December 31**

Scripture: Malachi 3:1 - 4:6; Revelation 22:1-21; Psalm 150:1-6; Proverbs 31:25-31

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 83

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

## **Friday, January 1**

Scripture: Genesis 1:1 - 2:25; Matthew 1:1 - 2:12; Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 1:1-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 84

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

## **Saturday, January 2**

Scripture: Genesis 3:1 - 4:26; Matthew 2:13 - 3:6; Psalm 2:1-12; Proverbs 1:7-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 85

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

## **Sunday, January 3**

Scripture: Genesis 5:1 - 7:24; Matthew 3:7 - 4:11; Psalm 3:1-8; Proverbs 1:10-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 86

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.*

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