

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, June 7, 2020

For in Christ the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,  
and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

**Colossians 2:9**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

## Greeting and Blessing

## Responsive Reading

Psalm 9:1-11 (not printed in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO MUTH-LABBen. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;  
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.
- <sup>2</sup> **I will be glad and exult in you;  
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**
- <sup>3</sup> When my enemies turn back,  
they stumble and perish before your presence.
- <sup>4</sup> **For you have maintained my just cause;  
you have sat on the throne, giving righteous judgment.**
- <sup>5</sup> You have rebuked the nations; you have made the wicked perish;  
you have blotted out their name forever and ever.
- <sup>6</sup> **The enemy came to an end in everlasting ruins;  
their cities you rooted out; the very memory of them has perished.**
- <sup>7</sup> But the LORD sits enthroned forever;  
he has established his throne for justice,
- <sup>8</sup> **and he judges the world with righteousness;  
he judges the peoples with uprightness.**
- <sup>9</sup> The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of trouble.
- <sup>10</sup> **And those who know your name put their trust in you,  
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.**
- <sup>11</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion!  
Tell among the peoples his deeds!

## Hymn of Preparation

Hymn 21

### ***Sing Praise to the Lord!***

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him in the height; rejoice in his Word, you angels of light.  
You heavens, adore him by whom you were made, and worship before him in brightness arrayed.

Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him on the earth in tuneful accord, you saints of new birth.  
Praise him who has brought you his grace from above; praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.

Sing praise to the Lord! All things that give sound, each jubilant chord, re-echo around.  
Loud organs, his glory tell forth in deep tone, and trumpets, the story of what he has done.

Sing praise to the Lord! Thanksgiving and song to him be outpoured all ages along!  
For love in creation, for heaven restored, for grace of salvation, sing praise to the Lord! Amen.

## Congregational Confession of Sin

**Leader:** We praise you, our God and King, because you are holy and good. Your unfailing love is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.

**All:** As we enter into worship, we feel the vast difference between who we are as creatures and who you are as our Creator. We are painfully aware of how we have sinned and fall short of your glory.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray. Help us not to grow weary in doing good, but instead fill us with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.

**All:** We ask all this through the merit and mediation of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

## Private Confession of Our Sins

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Acts 10:42-43

And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

### First Reading

Deuteronomy 5:6-21; Matthew 22:34-40

### Congregational Response

Hymn 355

#### *We Are God's People*

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
Born of his Spirit, established by his Word;  
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,  
And strong in him we stand:  
O let us live transparently  
And walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;  
Now let us learn how to return  
The gift of love once giv'n:  
O let us share each joy and care,  
And live with a zeal that pleases heav'n.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family,  
Diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God,  
And so shall his work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
We die alone, for on its own  
Each ember loses fire:  
Yet joined in one the flame burns on  
To give warmth and light, and to inspire. Amen.

## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 37.** *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?*

**A.** The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves until the resurrection.

**Q. 38.** *What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?*

**A.** At the resurrection, believers, being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the Day of Judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

### Gloria Patri\*

Hymn 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, 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

Hebrews 11:1-19

### Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 9:1-2, 7-11])

Hymn 48

#### *O Lord Most High, with All My Heart*

O Lord Most High, with all my heart your wondrous works I will proclaim;  
I will be glad and give you thanks and sing the praises of your name.

The Lord, the everlasting King, is seated on his judgment throne;  
The righteous Judge of all the world will make his perfect justice known.

Jehovah will a refuge prove, a refuge strong for all oppressed,  
A safe retreat, where weary souls in troubled times may surely rest.

All they, O Lord, that know your Name their confidence in you will place,  
For you have ne'er forsaken them who earnestly have sought your face.

Sing praises to the Lord Most High, to him who does in Zion dwell;  
Declare his mighty deeds abroad, his deeds among the nations tell. Amen.

**Pastoral Prayer** (based on James 4:13-17)

**Sermon**

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Before Abraham Was, I AM”  
John 8:48-59

Galatians 3:7-9  
Hebrews 12:1-2

**Jesus is greater than Abraham because:**

1. Jesus is uniquely glorified by the Father (John 8:48-50, 54-55).  
John 13:31-32  
Those who worship the Father will worship the Son (John 8:42).
2. Jesus gives eternal life (John 8:51-53).  
John 11:25-26
3. Jesus is God (John 8:56-59).  
Exodus 3:14  
Isaiah 43:11, 25

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

**Hymn of Thanksgiving**

Hymn 299

*Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious*

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious:  
See the Man of Sorrows now;  
From the fight returned victorious,  
Ev’ry knee to him shall bow.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Crowns become the Victor’s brow.

Crown the Savior, angels, crown him;  
Rich the trophies Jesus brings;  
In the seat of pow’r enthrone him,  
While the vault of heaven rings.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Crown the Savior King of kings.

Sinners in derision crowned him,  
Mocking thus the Savior’s claim;  
Saints and angels crowd around him,  
Own his title, praise his Name.  
Crown him! Crown him!  
Spread abroad the Victor’s fame!

Hark! those bursts of acclamation!  
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!  
Jesus takes the highest station;  
O what joy the sight affords!  
Crown him! Crown him!  
King of kings, and Lord of lords. 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

John 8:58 is one of the clearest verses in the New Testament in which Jesus declares his divinity. While he does not say, "I am God," he does use the phrase "I am" in referring to his eternal glory: "Before Abraham was, I am." The Jews who heard him knew exactly what he was saying, because they wanted to kill him immediately after he spoke those words. There was no mistaking his divine claim. The only right response for us, then, is to bow and worship him. Jesus is "God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God" (Nicene Creed). We should not isolate our worship of him to one hour on a Sunday morning but instead devote every moment of our lives to living for his glory.

1. For review, read John 8:31-47. What is "the truth" that will set people free? In what sense do we need to be set free?
2. Read Galatians 3:7-9 and Hebrews 12:1-2. How do these passages describe the faith of Old Covenant believers? Were they saved in a different way than we are?
3. Read Matthew 3:13-17 and Matthew 17:1-13? How was Jesus glorified by the Father in these passages? How was Jesus glorified by the Father in his death, resurrection, and ascension according to Ephesians 1:15-23?
4. Read John 11:25-26. What is the context of these verses and how does the context reveal the power that Jesus has over death?
5. Read John 8:56-59. What does Jesus mean when he says, "Before Abraham was, I am"? Why did those who heard Jesus say this want to kill him? What did their reaction reveal about their hearts?
6. In preparation for next week, read John 9. What do you think is the significance of this healing miracle? Do you notice any irony in the passage?

# 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, June 8

Scripture: 1 Kings 3:3 - 4:34; Acts 6:1-15; Psalm 126:1-6; Proverbs 16:26-27  
Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 6  
Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

## Tuesday, June 9

Scripture: 1 Kings 5:1 - 6:38; Acts 7:1-29; Psalm 127:1-5; Proverbs 16:28-30  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 14  
Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

## Wednesday, June 10

Scripture: 1 Kings 7:1-50; Acts 7:30-50; Psalm 128:1-6; Proverbs 16:31-33  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 15  
Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.  
The churches in Tunisia and persecuted Christians.

## Thursday, June 11

Scripture: 1 Kings 8:1-66; Acts 7:51 - 8:13; Psalm 129:1-8; Proverbs 17:1  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 16  
Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

## Friday, June 12

Scripture: 1 Kings 9:1 - 10:29; Acts 8:14-40; Psalm 130:1-8; Proverbs 17:2-3  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 17  
Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health needs.

## Saturday, June 13

Scripture: 1 Kings 11:1 - 12:19; Acts 9:1-25; Psalm 131:1-3; Proverbs 17:4-5  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 18  
Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

## Sunday, June 14

Scripture: 1 Kings 12:20 - 13:34; Acts 9:26-43; Psalm 132:1-18; Proverbs 17:6  
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 19  
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