

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

It is not the bee’s touching of the flower that gathers honey,  
But her abiding for a time upon the flower that draws out the sweet.  
It is not he that reads most, but he that meditates most,  
That will prove the choicest, sweetest, wisest, and strongest Christian. (Thomas Brooks)

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: Psalm 138.1-3

Leader: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
Before the gods I sing your praise;  
People: I bow down toward your holy temple  
And give thanks to your name  
For your steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
Leader: For you have exalted above all things  
Your name and your word.  
People: On the day I called, you answered me;  
My strength of soul you increased.  
Leader: Let’s worship the LORD!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: How Firm a Foundation  
Trinity Hymnal #94

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: James 1.21-25

Therefore, put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel: 1 John 2.1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if any-one does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Songs of Thanksgiving: Christ, the True and Better

Christ the true and better Adam  
Son of God and Son of man  
Who when tempted in the garden  
Never yielded never sinned  
He who makes the many righteous  
Brings us back to life again  
Dying He reversed the curse then  
Rising crushed the serpent’s head

Christ the true and better Issac  
Humble son of sacrifice  
Who would climb the fearful mountain  
There to offer up his life  
Laid with faith upon the altar  
Father’s joy and only son  
There salvation was provided  
Oh what full and boundless love

Chorus  
Amen amen / From beginning to end  
Christ the story, His the glory / Alleluia, amen

Christ the true and better Moses  
Called to lead a people home  
Standing bold to earthly powers  
God’s great glory to be known  
With his arms stretched wide to heaven  
See the waters part in two  
See the veil is torn forever  
Cleansed with blood we pass now through Chorus

Christ the true and better David  
Lowly shepherd mighty King  
He the champion in the battle  
Where O death is now thy sting?  
In our place He bled and conquered  
Crown Him Lord of majesty  
His shall be the throne forever  
We shall e’er His people be Chorus x2

Christ the story, His the glory / Alleluia, amen

Prayer of Intercession: The 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings: Speak, O Lord  
\*Children dismissed to Little Church

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You / To receive the food of Your Holy Word  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us / Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today / In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us / All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord, full obedience / Holy reverence, true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes / In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see / Your majestic love and authority  
Words of pow’r that can never fail / Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds / Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time / That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises / And by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built / And the earth is filled with Your glory

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 8.4-15

Prayer of Illumination

Blessed Lord, who has caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant us that we may hear, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by the patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, that you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Sermon: The Parable of the Soils

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Creed: Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 1. What is required of those that hear the word preached?

It is required of those that hear the word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the word of God; meditate, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.

Hymn of Response: My Faith Looks Up to Thee  
Trinity Hymnal #528

Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26