

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 60:1-3

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

People: For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples.

Leader: But the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

People: And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Chorus

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!

2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest!"
Chorus

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
Chorus
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord!

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

1. Come Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the saints Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

2. Joy to those who long to see thee
Dayspring from on high appear
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse
Of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing
News, Glad tidings of a birth
"Go to him, your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

3. Come to earth to taste our sadness
He whose glories knew no end
By His life He brings us gladness
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend
Leaving riches without number
Born within a cattle stall
This the everlasting wonder
Christ was born the Lord of all

4. Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 3:27-31

²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

CONGREGATIONAL READING

Romans 6:1-4

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

SERMON “Faith’s Impact on Boasting, Fellowship, & the Law” - Rusty Smith

CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER

Who is This?

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| 1. Who is this, so weak and helpless,
Child of lowly Hebrew maid;
Rudely in a stable shelter,
Coldly in a manger laid?
'Tis the Lord of all creation
Who this wondrous path has trod;
He is Lord from everlasting,
And to everlasting God. | 3. Who is this? Behold Him shedding
Drops of blood upon the ground!
Who is this, despised, rejected,
Mocked, insulted, beaten, bound?
'Tis our God, who gifts and graces
On His church is pouring down;
Who shall smite in holy vengeance
All His foes beneath His throne. |
| 2. Who is this, a Man of Sorrows,
Walking sadly life's hard way;
Homeless, weary, sighing, weeping
Over sin and Satan's sway?
'Tis our God, our glorious Savior,
Who above the starry sky
Is for us a place preparing
Where no tear can dim the eye. | 4. Who is this that hangs there dying
While the rude world scoffs and scorns;
Numbered with the malefactors,
Torn with nails and crowned with
thorns?
'Tis our God who lives forever
'Mid the shining ones on high,
In the glorious golden city,
Reigning everlastingly. |

Authors: Christopher Miner and William Walsham How © 1998 Christopher Miner

What Child is This?

1. What Child is this who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping;
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, This is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, Haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

2. Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and cattle are feeding?
Good Christian fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, Hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come peasant king to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, Raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, Joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Raise, Raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, Joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Author: William Chatterton Dix © Public Domain

Christ the True and Better

1. 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.

2. Christ the true and better Isaac,
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

3. 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

4. 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 (2x)

Christ the story, His the glory,
Alleluia, amen.

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Keith Getty, and Matt Papa

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DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!