
ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 17, 2024

CALL TO WORSHIP

Romans 12:1-2

Leader: I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

People: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

Leader: That by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SONG OF PRAISE

My Soul Will Wait (Psalm 62)

1. When the enemy surrounds and my heart grows faint within,
When the darkness overwhelms and my fears are pressing in
I will trust in You, O Lord, in the silence I will wait;
I will stand upon Your Word.

Chorus 1

You're my solid rock and my salvation,
My steadfast hope that won't be shaken.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.

2. You're my stronghold and my shield, in the midst of every threat.
Though the wicked never yield, they will vanish like a breath.
Yes, I know the outcome's sure, Satan's evil plans will fail;
In Your power I'm secure.

Chorus 2

You're my solid rock and my salvation,
My steadfast hope that won't be shaken.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.
You're my comfort when I feel forsaken,
My refuge, and my sure foundation.
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.

3. This is love I can't explain, this is mercy unreserved.
Through Your sacrifice so great, I have peace that's undeserved.
For the battle has been won, and I fear no shame or loss;
Now the sting of death is gone.

Chorus 2 (2x)

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²“Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. ⁴The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. ⁵So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. My sheep were scattered; ⁶they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.

⁷“Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸As I live, declares the Lord God, surely because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild beasts, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep, ⁹therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep. No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.

¹¹“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. ...

²⁵“I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. ²⁶And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. ²⁷And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them. ²⁸They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid. ²⁹And I will provide for them renowned plantations so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in the land, and no longer suffer the reproach of the nations. ³⁰And they shall know that I am the Lord their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord God. ³¹And you are my sheep, human sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Lord God.”

SONG OF PETITION

1. Lord I come, I confess;
Bowing here, I find my rest.
Without You, I fall apart;
You're the one that guides my heart.

Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,
Ev'ry hour I need You;
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God, how I need You.

2. Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more,
Where grace is found is where You are;
Where You are, Lord, I am free,
Holiness is Christ in me.
Chorus

Lord I Need You

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way.
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You;
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

Ending Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,
Ev'ry hour I need You;
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God, how I need You.
You're my one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God how I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh, God how I need You.

*Authors: Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson
Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher
© 2011 sixsteps Music*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, your ways are higher than our ways, and your thoughts than our thoughts, as the heavens are higher than the earth. Deep and rich is your wisdom and your knowledge, O God. And yet, rather than responding in awe with worship, we question and doubt. Forgive us for demanding answers from you, when it is you who will justly require an account from us. For from you and through you and to you are all things. Increase our faith, that we may live according to what we profess to believe. To you be the glory forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 25:7-8a, 9

And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that has been cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever. It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

SONG OF ASSURANCE

The Lord's Become Our Salvation

1. Out of my distress I called out for help;
And the Lord came quickly to save me.
Praise our God most high; He is on my side,
For the Lord's become my salvation!

2. Open up the gate where the righteous wait;
To behold the face of their Savior.
I am welcomed in by my Lord and friend,
And the Lord's become my salvation!

Author: Wendell Kimbrough © 2022 Wendell Kimbrough

Chorus

Oh give thanks to the Lord,
For his never-ending love!
We will celebrate what He's done this day.
For the Lord's become our salvation!
For the Lord's become our salvation!

3. Now the stone ignored by the strong and proud
Has become the Church's foundation.
Let the weak give praise for this gift of grace,
For the Lord's become our salvation!
Chorus 2X

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:1-18

¹“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. ¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

SERMON “I Lay Down My Life” - Rev. Bryan Rigg

SERMON NOTES

Sunday, March 17, 2024 | Bryan Rigg
“I Lay Down My Life” | John 10:1-18

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

1. What wondrous love is this
O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse
For my soul, for my soul?
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

2. When I was sinking down
Sinking down, sinking down
When I was sinking down, sinking down
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown
For my soul, for my soul
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

Arrangement: Indelible Grace © Public Domain

What Wondrous Love is This

3. To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

4. And when from death I'm free
I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on
And through eternity, I'll sing on.

SONG OF RESPONSE

1. In tenderness He sought me
Weary and sick with sin,
And on His shoulders brought me
Back to His fold again,
While angels in His presence sang
Until the courts of heaven rang.

Chorus

O - o - oh the love that sought me
O - o - oh the blood that bought me
Oh the grace that brought me to the fold of God
Grace that brought me to the fold of God.

Words public domain/Nate Garvey

Arrangement by Citizens © 2011 Citizens.

It's All About Jesus Music

In Tenderness

2. He died for me while I was sinning
Needy and poor and blind.
He whispered to assure me
"I've found thee; thou art Mine."
I never heard a sweeter voice.
It made my aching heart rejoice.
Chorus

3. Upon His grace I'll daily ponder
And sing anew His praise
With all adoring wonder
His blessings I'll retrace.
It seems as if eternal days
Are far too short to sing His praise.
Chorus x2

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!

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946

Bryan Rigg, Pastor • 434-907-0711 (m) • bryan.rigg@mercypres.org
101 D Northwynd Circle, Lynchburg, VA 24502 • Website: www.mercypres.org