
ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

When the musical prelude begins, the congregation is invited to spend time preparing their hearts for corporate worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE

1. Father long before creation
Thou hadst chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving,
Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

2. Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant
Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children
Must forever praise His name.

3. God's compassion is my story
Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing
Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us,
That His only Son He gave.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, we have continued in the ways of our first parents. Though made after your image, placed in the garden, and provided for abundantly, they looked away from you for life, and found only death. We also foolishly look away from you for life: to possessions, relationships, accomplishments, applause. Such things bring only fleeting pleasure. But you promise life eternal in Christ Jesus our Savior, that in seeking your kingdom all things will be added unto us. Deepen our faith, we pray, that we might long for the fullness of our salvation and the abundance of life that you have promised.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Father Long Before Creation

4. Loving Father now before Thee
We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing
'Til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory,
To our God and to the Lamb;

Giving glory, giving glory,
To our God and to the Lamb.

*Words from Chinese Hymn,
Translated by Francis Jones
Chorus and music by Andrew Osenga
© 2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings
(ASCAP) admin. by The Loving Company.*

Lamentation 3:22-23

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Made Alive

1. I once was dead in sin, alone and hopeless.
A child of wrath, I walked condemned in darkness.
But Your mercy brought new life, and in your love and kindness,
Raised me up with Christ and made me righteous.

Chorus

You have bought me back with the riches of
Your amazing grace and relentless love.
I'm made alive forever with you – life forever.
By your grace I'm saved.

2. Lord you are the light, that broke the darkness.
You satisfy my soul, when I am heartless.
If ever I forget my true identity,
Show me who I am and help me to believe.
Chorus

Bridge

My sin has been erased.
I'll never be the same.
My sin has been erased.
I'll never be the same.

Chorus 2x

Zach Bolen and Brian Eichelberger © 2013 Thirsty Moon River Publishing and It's All About Jesus Music

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

CONGREGATIONAL READING

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:28-30

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

SERMON **“Predestined”**
 - Rev. Bryan Rigg

SERMON NOTES

Sunday, September 1, 2024 | Bryan Rigg
"Predestined" | Romans 8:28-30

Westminster Confession, Chapter 5

1. God, the great Creator of all things, doth uphold, direct, dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things, from the greatest even to the least, by his most wise and holy providence, according to his infallible foreknowledge and the free and immutable counsel of his own will, to the praise of the glory of his wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and mercy.
2. Although in relation to the foreknowledge and decree of God, the first cause, all things come to pass immutably and infallibly, yet by the same providence he ordereth them to fall out, according to the nature of second causes, either necessarily, freely, or contingently.
3. God, in his ordinary providence, maketh use of means, yet is free to work without, above, and against them, at his pleasure.
4. The almighty power, unsearchable wisdom, and infinite goodness of God so far manifest themselves in his providence that it extendeth itself even to the first fall, and all other sins of angels and men, and that not by a bare permission, but such as hath joined with it a most wise and powerful bounding, and otherwise ordering and governing of them, in a manifold dispensation, to his own holy ends; yet so as the sinfulness thereof proceedeth only from the creature, and not from God; who, being most holy and righteous, neither is nor can be the author or approver of sin.
5. The most wise, righteous, and gracious God doth oftentimes leave for a season his own children to manifold temptations and the corruption of their own hearts, to chastise them for their former sins, or to discover unto them the hidden strength of corruption and deceitfulness of their hearts, that they be humbled; and to raise them to a more close and constant dependence for their support unto himself, and to make them more watchful against all future occasions of sin, and for sundry other just and holy ends.
6. As for those wicked and ungodly men whom God, as a righteous judge, for former sins, doth blind and harden, from them he not only withholdeth his grace, whereby they might have been enlightened in their understandings and wrought upon in their hearts, but sometimes also withdraweth the gifts which they had, and exposeth them to such objects as their corruption makes occasion of sin; and withal, gives them over to their own lusts, the temptations of the world, and the power of Satan; whereby it comes to pass that they harden themselves, even under those means which God useth for the softening of others.
7. As the providence of God doth, in general, reach to all creatures, so, after a most special manner, it taketh care of his Church, and disposeth all things to the good thereof.

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

1. Come you weary heart now to Jesus,
Come you anxious soul now and see.
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears;
Rest here in His wondrous peace.

Chorus

Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus
Satisfied, He is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

2. Come find what this world cannot offer,
Come and find your joy here complete.
Taste the living water, never thirst again;
Rest here in His wondrous peace.

Chorus

The Goodness of Jesus

3. Come and find your hope now in Jesus;
He is all He said He would be.
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart;
Rest here in His wondrous peace.
Chorus (2x)

May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

*Rich Thompson, Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Jaywan Maxwell,
Fiona Aghajanian, Harrison Druery
© 2018 CityAlight Music*

Before the Throne of God Above

1. Before the throne of God, above,
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands.
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free.
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

3. Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb!
My perfect spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I Am,
The King of Glory and of grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.
One with Himself, I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

*Authors: Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft;
Music by Vikki Cook
© 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship
(Admin. by Integrity's Hosanna! Music)*

Man of Sorrows, What a Name

1. Man of Sorrows, what a name
For the Son of God who came,
Ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

2. Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place, condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood;
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

3. Guilty, vile, and helpless, we,
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
Full atonement, can it be?
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

4. Lifted up was He to die;
"It is finished!" was His cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high;
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Savior!
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

5. When He comes, our glorious King,
All His ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing:
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Authors: Words & Music - Philip Bliss; © Public Domain

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!

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946

Bryan Rigg, Pastor • bryan.rigg@mercypres.org
1997 Thomas Jefferson Road, Forest, VA 24551 • Website: www.mercypres.org