



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

April 8, 2018
Season of Eastertide



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are worshipping with us today.

In contrast to the somber starkness of Holy Week, last Sunday's Easter service was bright and celebratory! It was marked with music and songs that reflect the full joy of the victorious Christian faith because of Christ's resurrection. However, because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of the 50-day season we call "Eastertide," which leads up to Pentecost.

This season is designed for extended celebration, for exploring the implications of Easter for the redemption of all creation, and for joyful Christian living.

Let us then begin this season with joyful worship as we together reflect on Him in whom we have redemption, victory, and everlasting life!

PRAISE OUR RISEN KING

ORGAN PRELUDE:

"Indigo" from *Five Short Pieces for Koto*. Katsutoshi Nagasawa, arr. R. Lowther
Roger W. Lowther, guest organist, Mission to Japan (MTW)

A WORD ON WORSHIP George W. Robertson

CALL TO WORSHIP Dan G. Burns

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 286 "Worship Christ, the Risen King!" REGENT SQUARE

♠INVOCATION (*Please lift hands*)

♠APOCALYPTIC LESSON: Revelation 1:12-20. Betty Eubank (8:15)
Blanche Tosh (11:00)

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me,
and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands,
and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man,
clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

**The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow.
His eyes were like a flame of fire,
his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace,
and his voice was like the roar of many waters.**

In his right hand he held seven stars,
from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword,
and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

**When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.
But he laid his right hand on me, saying,
"Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one.**

I died, and behold I am alive forevermore,
and I have the keys of Death and Hades.
Write therefore the things that you have seen,
those that are and those that are to take place after this.

**As for the mystery of the seven stars
that you saw in my right hand,
and the seven golden lampstands,
the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches,
and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."**

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAISE OUR REDEEMING LORD

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,
You have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned Him Lord of all.
Yet we confess that we have not bowed before Him
or acknowledged His rule in our lives.
We have gone along with the way of the world
and failed to give Him glory.
Forgive us for our arrogant hearts,
our misplaced affections, and our love for the world.
Raise us from sin, transform our hearts,
and strengthen our wills
so that the power of Christ’s resurrection will make us new people,
rejoicing in nothing but the glorious freedom of Christ.
We pray in His matchless name.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON Colossians 1:13-14

*He has delivered us from the domain of darkness
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS. Michael G. Stokke

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERTORY:

“Lapis Lazuli” from *Five Short Pieces for Koto*. . . Katsutoshi Nagasawa, arr. R. Lowther

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15)

PRAISE OUR ETERNAL KING

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (*please stand*)

**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.**

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 457 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” . . .NETTLETON

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON..... Acts 9:1-31
(page 917 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

SERMON *How to Conquer An Enemy of the Gospel* George W. Robertson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 580 "Lead On, O King Eternal" LANCASHIRE

✦BENEDICTION (please raise hands)

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

"Amber" from *Five Short Pieces for Koto*.Katsutoshi Nagasawa, arr. R. Lowther

✦Indicates congregation standing

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How to Conquer an Enemy of the Gospel | George Robertson April 8, 2018

I. Courageous Supporters (Acts 9:20-31)

A. Defense (vv. 20-25)

B. Encouragement (vv. 26-31)

II. Courageous Disciplers (Acts 9:9-19)

A. Gospel Ministry (vv. 9, 17-19)

B. Jesus' Ministry (vv. 11-16)

III. Conquering Christ (Acts 9:1-8)

A. Man's Plans (vv. 1-2)

B. God's Plan (vv. 3-8)