



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

September 7, 2014



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

For any relationship to flourish, dialogue must occur. This is why the dialogical principle permeates our worship services at Second. What do we specifically mean by this? In worship, God speaks to us and, then, God listens to us. By the power of the Holy Spirit, God challenges, comforts, and awakens us. Then, by the prompting of the Holy Spirit, we listen and respond with praise, confession, petition, testimony, and dedication.

A healthy life with God maintains a balance of attentive listening and honest speech. So does healthy worship. You can observe this dialogical principle in our services by noting the times when we listen to God and the times when we respond to God.

Why is this so important? Our words matter in worship — they are used by God to speak to us, and they carry our praise and prayer to God.

Adapted from John D. Witvliet, "Towards a Theology of Worship"

PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Aria" Andrew Carter
"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" arr. by Robert Hobby
Samuel Metzger, organ

CHORAL INTROIT: "Praise to the Lord" arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O my soul praise Him for He is my strength and salvation.
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.
Yea, let the amen sound from His people again, gladly for e'er we adore Him!

*Laudis Domini Vocal Ensemble
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP Richard G. Cain

♠HYMN OF ADORATION: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" AUSTRIAN HYMN



1. Com- fort, com- fort ye my peo- ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
2. Yea, her sins our God will par- don, blot- ting out each dark mis- deed;
3. For the her- ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,



com- fort those who sit in dark- ness, mourn- ing 'neath their sor- row's load.
all that well de- served his an - ger he no more will see or heed.
bid- ding all men to re - pen- tance, since the king - dom now is here.



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
She hath suf - fered man - y days, now her griefs have passed a - way;
O that warn- ing cry o - bey! Now pre- pare for God a way;



tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war- fare now is done.
God will change her pin - ing sad - ness in - to e - ver - spring - ing joy.
let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to him.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

**Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her that her warfare is ended,**

that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord’s hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

**“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

**the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.**

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

♠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AUSTRIAN HYMN



4. Make ye straight what long was crook-ed, make the rough-er plac-es plain;



let your hearts be true and hum-ble, as be-fits his ho-ly reign.



For the glo-ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a-broad;



and all flesh shall see the to-ken, that his word is ev-er sure.

♠PRAYER OF ADORATION

RECEIVE THE COMFORT OF THE LORD

CHORAL MEDITATION: “To Thee, O Lord, Do I Lift Up My Soul” .. Sergei Rachmaninoff
Text from Psalm 25

To Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul,
My God, I trust in Thee.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all comfort and Father of tender mercies,
grant us to truly mourn over our sin,
knowing that You never fail to comfort us.
Make our hearts a suitable home for Your Son, our Savior.
Clear away all the obstacles in us that hinder His reign.
We ask Your forgiveness for the unbelief, unforgiveness, and pride
that inflict spiritual havoc in our lives and relationships.
Take us by the hand and lead us to Jesus
for He bore all our sin in His body when He died on the tree
so that we might know Your everlasting comfort.
We ask this for Your glory and our good in Jesus’ name, Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♠HYMN OF CHRIST’S GLORYDIX



1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2. Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac-com - pa - nied by Thee;



Sun of Right-eous- ness, a - rise, Tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
Joy - less is the day's re - turn Till Thy mer-cy's beams I see;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
Till they in-ward light im-part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “A Better Resurrection”..... Craig Courtney
Text by Christina Rossetti

I have no wit, no words, no tears; my heart within me like a stone
Is numb'd too much for hopes or fears; look right, look left, I dwell alone;
I lift my eyes, but dimm'd with grief no everlasting hills I see;
My life is in the falling leaf: O Jesus, quicken me.

My life is like a faded leaf, my harvest dwindled to a husk:
Truly my life is void and brief and tedious in the barren dusk;
My life is like a frozen thing, no bud nor greenness can I see:
Yet it shall rise — the sap of spring; O Jesus, rise in me.

My life is like a broken bowl, a broken bowl that cannot hold
One drop of water for my soul or cordial in the searching cold;
Cast in the fire this perish'd thing; melt and remould it for my King.
O Jesus, drink of me.

♠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DIX

**Visit, then, this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiance divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.**

♠PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

♠GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) Lee M. Taylor

HEED THE VOICE OF THE LORD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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.**

GOSPEL LESSON John 1:19-28
(page 886 in the church 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

Who Are You?

Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦SENDING HYMN: No. 296 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"CORONATION

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Toccata in Seven" John Rutter

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Sunday Night Worship

We gather each Sunday at 6:00 p.m. for a service of prayer, praise, and teaching from God's Word. In our fall sermon series, "The Normal Christian Walk," we are exploring how the Lord becomes our first love, the ways in which the Church is our family, and how God's Mission is our purpose. Tonight, we'll contemplate our personal time with the Lord, as explained in Psalm 119:9-16. We invite you to worship with us.

Getting Connected

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Todd Erickson at (901) 531-8895 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.