



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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November 23, 2014



## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

For many of us, Thanksgiving is our favorite holiday. Yet a thankful heart often eludes us in daily life. As we prepare for worship, let us specifically count the blessings for which we should give thanks. The Psalmist describes worship as entering into the Lord's gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise.

Here is one question from the pen of the Apostle Paul that helps to foster thankfulness: "What do you have that you did not receive?" (I Corinthians 4:7). If we repeatedly ask this of ourselves, it will produce deep humility and thanksgiving. May the Lord cause us to see all that God is for us and all that God has done for us in our Lord Jesus Christ. As a result, may our hearts be filled with thankfulness.

### A Prayer of Preparation:

*Most loving Father, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things,  
to fear nothing but the loss of You, and to cast all our care on You who cares for us.  
Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties,  
that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us  
the light of that love which is immortal, and which You have revealed to us in Your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## GIVE US THANKFUL HEARTS TO PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God" ..... Noel Rawsthorne  
*Samuel Metzger, organ*

ORCHESTRAL PRELUDE:  
"Morning Has Broken" and "This Is My Father's World" ..... arr. Mack Wilberg

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... T. Barton Kimbro

✦ HYMN OF THANKSGIVING:  
No. 715 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" ..... ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

✦ PSALM OF THANKSGIVING: Psalm 92:1-5, 12-15. .... Grace J. Knight (8:15)  
Brandon G. Morrison (11:00)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,**

to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

**For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!

**The righteous flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.**

They are planted in the house of the Lord;

**they flourish in the courts of our God.**

They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,  
to declare that the Lord is upright;

**he is my rock,  
and there is no unrighteousness in him.**

**Glory be to God on high, and to Christ His only Son;  
Praise we too the Holy Ghost, binding all the church as one.  
Thankful people worship Thee, and our grateful hearts resound  
To our God and Savior who offers blessings all around.**

♣ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CHORAL PRAISE: "O Clap Your Hands" . . . . . John Rutter  
*Text based on Psalm 47*

O clap your hands together, all ye people;  
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.  
For the Lord is high and to be feared;  
He is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us;  
And the nations under our feet.  
He shall choose out an heritage for us;  
Even the worship of Jacob whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise;  
And the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God;  
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.  
For God is the King of all the earth;  
Sing ye praises with understanding.

*The Chancel, Youth, and Children's Choirs  
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM (11:00)

*Andrew Harrison Sadlow, born December 23, 2013, son of Emily and John Sadlow  
Inez Meriwether Ruleman, born June 17, 2014, daughter of Melissa and Kurt Ruleman  
Samuel Parker Graham, born August 8, 2014, son of Kimberley and Howard Graham  
Adeline Louise Lee, born January 6, 2014, daughter of Kandice and Steven Lee*

PARENTAL VOWS

Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?

Do you unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the sacred Scriptures, and that you will strive, by all the means that God provides you, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you undertake the responsibility to assist these parents in the Christian nurture of their child?

CHORAL RESPONSE: "Children of the Heavenly Father" . TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

*The Youth Choir*

# GIVE US THANKFUL HEARTS TO SEE

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, our heavenly Father,  
 You are our creator, redeemer, and sustainer.  
 Every good and perfect gift comes from You.  
 Yet we confess that we have received Your gifts with a thankless heart  
 and have doubted Your generous heart  
 that delights to give what is good to Your children.  
 We ask Your forgiveness for our thanklessness and unbelief,  
 knowing that they are an affront and insult to You.  
 Fill us anew with Your Holy Spirit  
 so that He might rekindle a fire of thankfulness in our hearts.  
 For we pray in the name of the One  
 Who is Your indescribable gift, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*A special Thanksgiving offering will be received today for Servant Group International, Calvary Rescue Mission, and Memphis Union Mission. If you wish to participate, please mark your checks "for Thanksgiving Offering" or use the special Thanksgiving Offering envelopes in the pew racks.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "This Is the Day" ..... John Rutter  
*Text from Psalms 118, 148, 91, and 27*

This is the day which the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
 O praise the Lord of heav'n, praise Him in the height.

Praise Him, all ye angels of His: praise Him, all His host.  
 Praise Him, sun and moon: praise Him, all ye stars and light.  
 Let them praise the Name of the Lord.

For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.  
 The Lord Himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand;  
 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even He that shall keep thy soul.  
 The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in  
 From this time forth for evermore.  
 He shall defend thee under His wings.

Be strong, and He shall comfort thine heart,  
 And put thou thy trust in the Lord.

✦DOXOLOGY..... LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION..... Michael G. Stokke

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) ..... J. Ronald Hickman

GIVE US THANKFUL HEARTS TO HEAR

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 3:22-36  
(page 888 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 *He Must Increase, We Decrease* Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: No. 98 “Now Thank We All Our God” ..NUN DANKET

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Now Thank We All Our God” . . . . . J.S. Bach; arr. Fox

✦Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778

*We are led in worship today by a mass choir including our Children’s Choirs,  
directed by Terri Theil, the Youth Choir, directed by Ginger Statom,  
and our Chancel Choir, directed by Gabriel Statom. The Choir is joined by a chamber orchestra  
comprised of our church members and guests from the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.*