**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

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

Our Hymn of Preparation, “Out of My Bondage, Sorrow, and Night” is a well-loved hymn set to a newer tune by Indelible Grace. William T. Sleeper, a missionary from Maine, originally penned it in 1886. While serving as evangelists in Worcester, MA, Sleeper and composer George Coles Stebbins saw a need to develop Gospel Hymns that highlighted the hope of Christ and the necessity of being born again. Our hymn, as well as many others, is a result of their collaboration.

Aside from being a fine song and a skillful piece of poetry, this hymn is often used as an encouragement for people to surrender to Jesus as Savior as well as a reminder that deliverance and freedom are found in Christ alone.

The Old Testament prophesied that the Messiah would come to preach good tidings to the poor and proclaim liberty to the captives: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound…” (Isaiah 61:1).

The New Testament then unfolds the plan of God in Christ to save sinful mankind by His mercy: “For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures … but when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy…” (Titus 3:3-5).

If you find yourself lost in sin, burdened by shame and guilt, or overcome by life’s struggles, may your response to God’s wonderful call be, “Jesus, I Come.”

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**OUR GOD LOVES US**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** “Sicilienne” .......................... Maria Theresia von Paradis

*Paul Roberts, organ*

**INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION:** “I Need Thee Every Hour” .......................... arr. Mary McDonald

*Kathy Priestly, piano*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** .......................... Brett Powell

†**HYMN OF PRAISE:** No. 342 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” .......................... REGENT SQUARE

†**INVOCATION** (Please lift hands)

†**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 1 .......................... Ethan Knight (8:15)

*Blanche Tosh (11:00)*

What is the chief end of man?

**Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.**

*This catechism will be the topic of the sermon this evening.*

†**DOXOLOGY** .......................... OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

**SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM** (8:15)

*Mae Carol Harris, born September 19, 2018, daughter of Helene and Watson Harris*

**SONG OF ENCOURAGEMENT:** “Jesus Loves You” .......................... JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so;
Little ones to Him belong, you are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you!
Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so.
Our God Delivers Us

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, merciful Father, every time we rebel against Your just rule in our lives we enslave ourselves to the tyranny of guilt and sin. We exchange freedom for bondage and health for sickness of soul. We are left miserable. Forgive us, we pray. We have not lived out the new reality of life in Christ. We have not understood the power of the gospel that brings forgiveness and transformation. We pray that You enlighten our minds, soften our hearts, and strengthen our wills so the power of Christ’s resurrection will make us new people, enslaved to nothing but the glorious freedom of Christ. It is in His mighty name we pray.

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.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ........................ Gilbert M. Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood. See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; Love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING .......................... David Bowen

♦ GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15)

A WORD ON WORLD MISSIONS STEWARDSHIP ............... Kim and Drew Willson
Stewardship Chairs

Our God Commissions Us

♦ 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.
DOXOLOGY

STATEMENT OF FAITH: Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 1

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Sicilienne"

SONG OF ENCOURAGEMENT: "Jesus Loves You"

Aside from being a fine song and a skillful piece of poetry, this hymn is often quoted as a classic of Christian literature. It was penned in 1886 by a missionary from Maine. While serving as a missionary in India, the author was inspired to write this hymn. The words were later set to music by Sleeper and composer George Coles Stebbins.

The Old Testament prophesied that the Messiah would come to preach good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the recovery of the sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

If you find yourself lost in sin, burdened by shame and guilt, or overcome by despair, take comfort in the words of this hymn. Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so. He is our Emmanuel, our God with us.

Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so.

Little ones to Him belong, you are weak but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

(please lift hands)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

and silence your mobile devices.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We pray that You enlighten our minds, so the power of Christ's resurrection will make us new people, who have not understood the power of the gospel and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Our Father who art in heaven,

Give us this day our daily bread.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Consecrated are Your hands,

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!

The Chancel Choir

(please stand)

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Jesus, I Come"

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 6:6-8

The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)
PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

HYMN OF COMMITMENT: “By Faith” ...................... Keith and Kristyn Getty

1. By faith we see the hand of God
2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth
3. By faith the prophets saw a day
4. By faith the church was called to go
5. By faith the mountain shall be moved

in the light of creation’s grand design,
with the pow’r of His promise in their hearts,
when the longed for Messiah would appear
in the pow’r of the Spirit to the lost
and the pow’r of the gospel shall prevail,

in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
with the pow’r to break the chains of sin and death
to deliver captives and to preach good news
for we know in Christ all things are possible

who walk by faith and not by sight,
and rise triumph from the grave.
in every corner of the earth.
for all who call upon His name.

We will stand as children of the promise; we will fix our eyes on him our soul’s reward. Till the race is finished and the work is done, we’ll walk by faith and not by sight.

BENEDICTION (please raise hands)

CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals”... Sigfri...