



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

February 9, 2020
Season of Epiphany


Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Our opening hymn, “Lead On, O King Eternal,” was written in 1887 by a minister-to-be and an already published poet named Ernest Shurtleff.

Upon graduating from seminary in 1905, Ernest and his wife Helen moved to Europe, where he planted a church in Germany and became the director of student activities at the Academy Vitti, serving American students in Paris, France. After World War I started, Ernest and his wife led those in their ministry to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the many thousands ravaged by the war. In 1917, Ernest passed away during the influenza epidemic as he was again serving the needs of those afflicted.

Although Ernest wrote “Lead On, O King Eternal” while still in seminary, it was his experiences during the war that gave new meaning to the text. This hymn is really a prayer for God’s guidance. It speaks of “fields of conquest” and “battle song,” not because it celebrates war, but because it acknowledges the daily struggle in which Christian people must engage against evil. It looks forward to the celebration of victory—not with clashing swords and stirring drums, but with “deeds of love and mercy”—acknowledging that Christ calls us to conquer the world by demonstrating love and showing mercy rather than by using force.

This hymn acknowledges the difficulties of the Christian life, standing armed only with holiness against “sin’s fierce war.” It acknowledges the reality of the cross, but celebrates the reality of the crown—the reward of those who are faithful—and closes, “Lead on, O God of might!”

Brothers and sisters, let us follow Him together!

ALMIGHTY FATHER, DRAW NEAR TO US

ORGAN PRELUDE: “Come, Thou Almighty King” Douglas Wagner

Kathy Priestley, organ

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION:

“Sicilienne in E Flat Major” Maria Theresia von Paradis

Kenneth Coca, cello; Brad Jones, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Tim Russell

✦HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 463 “Lead On, O King Eternal” LANCASHIRE

Words: Ernest Shurtleff / Music: Henry Smart / Isaiah 48:17

✦INVOCATION (*Please lift hands*)

CHORAL PRAISE: “From All That Dwell Below the Skies” Michael Burkhardt

Words: Isaac Watts / Music: Michael Burkhardt / Psalm 117:1

From all that dwell below the skies let the creator’s praise arise;
Let the redeemer’s name be sung through every land by every tongue.

Eternal are your mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends your Word;
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore till sun shall rise and set no more.

Let every creature rise and bring praise and thanksgiving to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

All praise to God the Father be, all praise, eternal Son, to thee;
Whom with the Spirit we adore forever and forevermore.

*Spirit & Song Children’s Choir
Christy Young, director
Mary Lawrence Flinn, accompanist*

What benefits in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

The benefits that in this life go with or come from justification, adoption, and sanctification are: the assurance of God’s love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Spirit, and growing and persevering in grace to the end of our lives.

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

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LASST UNS EFREUEN

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav’n and earth adore, Alleluia, alleluia!
From men and from the angel host, be praise and glory evermore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

MERCIFUL SAVIOR, CLEANSE US

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,
it is Your will that we should love You
with all of our heart, soul, and mind
and our neighbor as ourselves,
but we confess we are not sufficient for these things.
We confess that our affections continually turn away from You:
from fidelity to idolatry, from freedom to slavery,
from compassion to indifference.
We have not sought the freedom of the oppressed as You have freed us.
We have not bound up the broken hearted as You have healed us.
We have not forgiven others as You have forgiven us.
We are without excuse, but we are not without hope.
Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness,
but on the the ground of Your great mercy
in the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
For it is in His matchless name we hope and pray.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON Lamentations 3:22-23

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

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

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To give to World Missions, text WORLD followed by an amount to the same number.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: “To Love Our God” Mark Hayes

Where does the wind come from? Where does it go?
Blowing north then south, how does it know?
The rain flows gently to the sea, yet the sea is never full.
How can these things be? How can they be?
Humanity works hard to make a name, toiling in the sun, yet nothing gained.
We all return to dust from whence we came. All is empty, all is vain.
To love our God, the reason we live; to love our God, the highest call.
Nothing satisfies our soul, gives life meaning, makes us whole.
For this purpose we were made to love our God!

*The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

✦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.**

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING. Jon McGuirt

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN. Peggy Stephens

HOLY SPIRIT, DESCEND UPON 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.**

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION:

No. 290 “Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God” LIVING BREATH OF GOD

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stewart Townend / John 20:22

Stanza 1: Jauna Ellis, soloist

Stanzas 2-3: Congregation joins

SCRIPTURE LESSON. Exodus 12:43-51; 13:3-10
(page 54 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

The Embrace of God

George Robertson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 568 “Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”ADELAIDE

Words: Adelaide Pollard / Music: George Stebbins / Romans 9:21

✦BENEDICTION *(please lift hands)*

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fanfare on “How Firm a Foundation”. Albin Whitworth

✦Indicates congregation standing

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I. Sacrament

II. Sign

III. Seal



**THIS IS MY
FATHER'S
WORLD**

World Missions Conference

February 20-23, 2020

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Stephen Um

The World Missions Conference is our annual celebration of the progress King Jesus is making on His promise to bring into His family those from every tribe, tongue, people and nation.

Dr. Stephen Um's unique insights into God's word, his pastoral concern for cities, and his experience in cross-cultural leadership training will encourage us to answer whatever call the Lord will have for each of us.

Visit 2pc.org/wmc to view the conference schedule, learn more about our speaker, and purchase tickets online. Tickets are also on sale today in the Connector.