



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

January 17, 2016



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

The Psalms play a crucial role in our corporate worship because we believe the richness of God's Word ought to determine our prayers. This morning we read and pray through Psalm 34 where King David's fear of the Lord eventually conquers his other fears.

Why do we avail ourselves of the Psalms? The Psalms help us to know more intimately, love more fervently, and treasure more deeply our Lord. They are absolutely necessary for the cultivation of our spiritual lives. It is often said: "He that would be wise, let him read the Proverbs; he that would be holy, let him read the Psalms."

Eugene Peterson explains: "The Psalms teach us how to answer God. They are God's gift to train us in prayer that is comprehensive and honest... What is essential in prayer is not that we learn to express ourselves, but that we learn to answer God. The Psalms show us how to answer God."

Everything we ask for in prayer is in response to what God has spoken in His Word. King David underscores this pattern in 2 Samuel 7:27: "You have made this revelation to your servant... Therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you." Let us prepare to worship God by praising Him for speaking to us in His Word and bidding us to answer Him in believing prayer!

MAGNIFY THE LORD'S GOODNESS

ORGAN PRELUDE:

"Andante larghetto et staccato (Concerto G Minor)" G. F. Handel; arr Dupré
"The Peace May Be Exchanged (from Rubrics)" Dan Locklair
Samuel Metzger, organ

CHORAL INTROIT: "Eternal Light" Leo Sowerby
Text by Alcuin of York (1st Century)

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,
Eternal Power, be our support,
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00)
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP. Michael C. Davis

✦HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 700 "Come, We That Love the Lord" ST THOMAS
stanzas 1-4

✦PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 34:1-14 Bill Jorgensen (8:15)
Ryan Williams (11:00)

I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

**I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**

Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

**The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**What man is there who desires life
and loves many days, that he may see good?**

Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.

**Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ST THOMAS

**Then let our songs abound,
And ev'ry tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's ground
To fairer worlds on high.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM (8:15)

Joshua Graham Knight, born June 12, 2015, son of Grace and Ethan Knight

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?

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.**

EXPERIENCE THE LORD'S PEACE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good and gracious Father,
You promise to deliver us from all of our fears
Yet we confess that our lives remain dominated by fear —
fear of failure, rejection, inadequacy, and death.
Forgive us for seeking security in our own schemes of happiness
rather than trusting in You, the one, true sovereign joy.
Instead of fearing You, the immortal, eternal God,
we have feared mere mortals and their disapproval.
We confess not feasting on Your goodness
due to a complaining, critical, and discontented spirit.
Forgive us O Lord and embolden us to trust You,
the One who can do more than we can ask or imagine.
For we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

PRAYER RESPONSE: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" WHELPTON

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;

in - cline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

✦HYMN OF ASSURANCE (11:00): No. 691 "It Is Well with My Soul" ... VILLE DU HAVRE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Blessed Are the Men Who Fear Him" ... Felix Mendelssohn
from *Elijah*

Blessed are the men who fear Him, they ever walk in the ways of peace.
Through darkness riseth light to the upright.
He is gracious, compassionate; He is righteous.

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE EVERLASTING LOVE

Loved with everlasting love, drawn by grace that love to know,
Spirit sent from Christ above, thou dost witness it is so.
O this full and precious peace from His presence all divine;
In a love that cannot cease, I am His and He is mine.

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION Richard G. Cain

TRUST THE LORD'S PROMISE

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) Will Nease

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.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 13:36-14:11
(page 900 in 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 *Life with the Father* Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF CHRIST: No. 181: "We Come, O Christ, to You" DARWALL

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Toccata" John Weaver

✦Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778