

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

August 30, 2015



A Word on Worship

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

Have you ever wondered why Christians gather to worship God? Here is one answer: To re-present and respond to the great story of what God has done in Jesus Christ to save sinners like us. The one word that summarizes this story is "gospel" which means good news. Notice that there is a distinct gospel structure to every part of our worship service:

Adoration: We adore and praise God for His greatness and grace. Today we praise our Lord for being our Shepherd.

Confession: We acknowledge our sin and need for the Lord's grace. Like Isaiah says, "All of us like sheep have gone astray..." (Isaiah 53:6).

Assurance: We experience anew God's provision of grace found in "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

Thanksgiving: We respond with thanksgiving for God's grace by offering to Him all that we are and have (II Corinthians 9:7).

Intercession: We express our dependence upon the Lord and His grace by prayer (I Timothy 2:1-2).

Instruction: We hear the Word read and preached so that we might "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (II Peter 3:18).

Communion: We celebrate communion weekly in worship (during at least one service each Sunday). This helps us to remember the costly grace of the cross that unites us with Jesus Christ and His people (I Corinthians 11:23-26).

Charge and Benediction: We are challenged to live in light of God's grace and are sent forth to serve in the strength of that grace (Hebrews 13:20-21).

May our time together in worship today honor our Lord and strengthen us to live as His faithful flock!

THE SHEPHERD GATHERS HIS FLOCK

ORGAN PRELUDE: "God of Grace and God of Glory"
INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Come, Christian Join to Sing" arr. Jeremy Strong Long Long Kang, violin
CHORAL INTROIT: "Praise the Lord"
Praise, praise, praise the Lord, praise God's holy name, alleluia!
The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00) Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music; Orgeny Carroll, percussion
CALL TO WORSHIP
PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 173 "Praise Him! Praise Him!"JOYFUL SONG
*PROPHETIC LESSON: Isaiah 40:9-11; 27-31.Jennifer Thompson (8:15)Alyssa Champion (11:00)

Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms;

he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.



†PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE SHEPHERD LOVES HIS FLOCK

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good Shepherd,
forgive our wandering hearts
and make us lie down in the pastures of Your grace.
Pardon our restless hearts
and lead us to the quiet waters of Your love.
For we are those who have clung to worthless idols
and have forfeited the grace that could be ours.
Fear, anxiety, and discouragement have gripped our hearts
and have caused us not to live in line with Your gospel.
Have mercy upon us and grant us grace to return to You,
the Guardian and Shepherd of our souls.
For we pray in Your tender and tenacious name, Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON



The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears;

Before the throne my Surety stands; my name is written on His hands.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;

They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me:

"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry! "Nor let that ransomed sinner die."

My God is reconciled, His pard'ning voice I hear;

He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear;

With confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba Father!" cry.

♦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE LENOX

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears; Before the throne my Surety stands, Before the throne my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

†GREETINGS

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

THE SHEPHERD RESCUES HIS FLOCK

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 10:11-15 (page 896 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 The Good Shepherd Sanders L. Willson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

†HYMN OF COMMITMENT:

No. 192 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" WEIL ICH JESU SCHAFLEIN BIN

†BENEDICTION

†CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Sinfonia "We Praise Thee O God" J.S. Bach, arr. Dupré

♦ Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778