



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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August 6, 2017  
*Trinity Season*



## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

This morning we conclude our series on the “I AM” sayings from the Gospel of John. In John 15, Jesus claims to be the true vine. *The Gospel Transformation Bible* sums up this metaphor:

“The metaphor of vine and branches underscores how our salvation, from beginning to end, is all of grace. Jesus is the faithful remnant of Israel—the true Vine and fruitful Vineyard. By the Spirit’s presence in our lives, we have entered into an organic union with him—a union of branches to Vine. We are, as the New Testament puts it time and again, ‘in Christ.’ Our lives are hidden with Christ in God.”

From branches of a vine we look for grapes, and from a Christian we look for a Christ-like temper, disposition, and life. Our Lord often prunes our lives by using trials and challenges to shape His character in us.

“Our trials are not meant to do us harm, but good. God chastens us ‘for our profit, that we might share His holiness’ (Hebrews 12:10). Fruit is the thing that our Master desires to see in us, and He will not spare the pruning knife if He sees we need it. In the last day we shall see that all was well done.” – *J.C. Ryle*

## A SUPREME, DIVINE LOVE

ORGAN PRELUDE: “Festive Alleluias” . . . . . Dan Miller  
*Samuel Metzger, organ*

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: Prelude from “Suite No. 1” . . . . . J. S. Bach  
*Quinn Peebles, guitar*

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . David A. Bowen

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 498 “Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!” . . . . . HYFRYDOL  
*stanzas 1-4*

♠OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 7:6-11. . . . . Amanda Coop (8:15)  
Annie Mahrt (11:00)

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God.

**The Lord your God has chosen you  
to be a people for his treasured possession,  
out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.**

It was not because you were more in number than any other people  
that the Lord set his love on you and chose you,  
for you were the fewest of all peoples,

**but it is because the Lord loves you  
and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers,**

that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

**Know therefore that the Lord your God is God,  
the faithful God who keeps covenant  
and steadfast love with those who love him  
and keep his commandments,**

to a thousand generations,  
and repays to their face those who hate him,  
by destroying them.

**He will not be slack with one who hates him.  
He will repay him to his face.  
You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment  
and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ..... HYFRYDOL

**Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

## A DESPERATE, DEPENDENT TRUST

### CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father, You call us into a relationship of trust, love,  
prayer, obedience, and joy with Your Son.  
We confess that we have not trusted  
or rested in Your promises.  
Pardon us for our unwillingness to sacrifice  
in loving others who are different from ourselves.  
Liberate us from a practical atheism and prayerlessness  
that lead us into the grip of paralyzing fear.  
Forgive us our half-hearted resistance to temptation.  
Transform us so that we gladly do what You command.  
We acknowledge that we have rejoiced more  
in Your earthly gifts than in You, the Giver of those gifts.  
Restore to us the joy of our salvation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

### INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

✦ HYMN OF ASSURANCE: "Abide with Me" ..... Henry Lyte, Justin Smith



1. A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide;  
2. Thou on my head in ear - ly youth didst smile;  
3. I need Thy pres - ence, ev - 'ry pass - ing hour.  
4. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
5. Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord with me a - bide.  
and, though re - bel - lious and per - verse mean - while,  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?  
ills have no weight; tears lose their bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts  
 Thou hast not left me, oft as I left  
 Who, like Thy - self, my guide and stay can  
 Where is thy sting, death? Where, grave, thy vic - to -  
 Heav'n's morn-ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows



flee, help of the help - less, a - bide with me.  
 thee, on to the close Lord, a - bide with me.  
 be? Through cloud and sun - shine, a - bide with me.  
 ry? I tri - umph still, a - bide with me.  
 flee; in life, in death, Lord, a - bide with me.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Fairest Lord Jesus" . . . . . Derek Hakes; arr. Courtney

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nations,  
 O thou of God and man the Son,  
 Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
 Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  
 Robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer  
 Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,  
 And all the twinkling starry host;  
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
 Than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!  
 Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
 Now and forevermore be Thine! Amen.

*The Chancel Choir  
 Samuel Metzger, Conductor*

◆ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . NEED

**I need Thee ev'ry hour; teach me Thy will,  
 And Thy rich promises in me fulfill.**

*I need Thee, O I need Thee, ev'ry hour I need Thee;  
 O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.*

**I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most Holy One;  
 O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.**

◆ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

# A VITAL, LIFE-GIVING CONNECTION

## ✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) ..... Peggy Stephens

## 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 15:1-11  
*(page 901 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 *I AM the True Vine* T. Barton Kimbro

## PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT:  
No. 644 "May the Mind of Christ My Savior" ..... ST. LEONARDS

## ✦BENEDICTION

## ✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Amazing Grace" ..... Christopher Pardini

✦Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778