



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

November 17, 2013



Longing for God's Love

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please assume a quiet and respectful attitude of worship.
Please silence your mobile devices.*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

You are invited to pray, perhaps including the following prayer, as you prepare for worship.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning;
Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

ORGAN MEDITATION: "I Travel On in the Will of God" J.S. Bach
Lenora Morrow, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Cantabile" Josef Rheinberger
Shelley Sublett, oboe

CHORAL MEDITATION: "My Eyes for Beauty Pine" Herbert Howells
Text by Robert Bridges

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for God's grace:
No other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.

One splendor thence is shed from all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart that burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP Ronald G. Sadlow

✦HYMN OF PRAISE: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" HYFRYDOL

**Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down:
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest:
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee, without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.**

**Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be:
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

✦GOSPEL LESSON: John 14:15-21 Albert Throckmorton (8:15)
Jay Cofield (11:00)

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.
And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper,
to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth,
whom the world cannot receive,
because it neither sees him nor knows him.

**You know him,
for he dwells with you and will be in you.**

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.
Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me.

Because I live, you also will live.

In that day you will know that I am in my Father,
and you in me, and I in you.

**Whoever has my commandments and keeps them,
he it is who loves me.
And he who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love him and manifest myself to him."**

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYFRYDOL

**All the way my Savior leads me—O the fulness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father’s house above:
When my spirit, clothed, immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

Walking in God’s Perfect Love

CHORAL MEDITATION: "Ubi Caritas" Becky Mayo

Ubi caritas, deus ibi est.

Where there is charity and love, God is there. God is always there.

*Memphis Children’s Choir
Justin Pepper and Terri Theil, Directors
Scott Sturtevant, Accompanist*

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In Your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your Holy Name.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

✦HYMN OF LOVE: No. 597 "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire" GIFT OF LOVE

Trusting God's Will in Perfect Love

✦NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Ephesians 5:17 Michael G. Stokke
(page 978 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)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*A special Thanksgiving offering will be received through December 1
to benefit typhoon recovery efforts in the Philippines.
To contribute to this special offering, please note "Thanksgiving" on your check.*

CHORAL OFFERTORY: "Trust God's Will" Johannes Brahms

Let no sad thought oppress thee, distress thee;
Fear nothing, trust God's own will, and be thou still, my spirit.
Heed not with care and sorrow the morrow:
Our Father who all doth see shall give to thee thy portion.
From righteous paths range not, and change not;
Be steadfast, for God is just; give Him thy trust forever. Amen.

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE FINLANDIA

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15)

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.**

SERMON *Knowing the Lord's Will* T. Barton Kimbro

✦HYMN OF TRUST: No. 689 "Be Still, My Soul" FINLANDIA
stanzas 2 & 4

✦BENEDICTION

✦BENEDICTION RESPONSE. Johannes Brahms

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and give you peace. Amen.
Numbers 6:24

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Concerto in D minor by Antonio Vivaldi" arr. Bach

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778