

# ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

February 12, 2017, 11:00 a.m. *Epiphany Season* 



#### Preparation for Worship

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

The people of God gather on the Lord's Day to worship Him. We do this in the power of the Holy Spirit, out of gratitude to our Almighty God who has revealed Himself in the person and work of Jesus Christ. We humble ourselves before Him by declaring His worth, confessing His lordship, and rendering to Him honor and glory according to His Word.

There are many reasons to do this. None is more compelling than grace. God's grace is unmerited favor from an unobligated giver. God owes us nothing yet gives us His all — the indescribable gift of His Son.

John Newton, whose beloved hymn "Amazing Grace" we sing today, summarized the essence of grace in his simple yet profound testimony in his latter years:

My memory is nearly gone; but I remember two things: That I am a great sinner and that Christ is a great Savior!

May we embrace Newton's testimony as our own and delight to praise our God for "his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:6b).

Magnify the Greatness of Our Glorious Lord ..... David N. Johnson "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ... . . . . . . . . . . . . arr. Dan Miller Samuel Metzger, organ . . . . . . . . . . . . Shirley McRae God our loving Father, let us now adore You. All the earth keep silence before You. Love we bring. Praise we sing. We, who come confessing, ask Your holy blessing. Presbyterian Day School Choir Dawn Southerland, Director CALL TO WORSHIP..... ..... Tate Abernathy Farmer ♦HYMN OF PRAISE: "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People" ...... HYFRYDOL Com fort, com fort now my ple; speak of peo 2. For the ald's voice is her cry ing in the 3. Make ye straight what long was crook ed. make the peace: so says our God. Com - fort those who sit in call - ing and near, all des - ert far true re to rough - er plac - es plain: let your hearts be true and ness, mourn ing der row's load. un sor pen tance, since the king dom now is here. hum ble, be fits His ho ly reign, as

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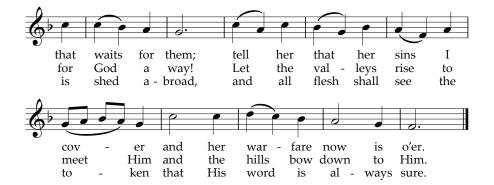
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♦PROPHETIC LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11...... Carter Fontaine Campbell, Jr.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

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.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain; Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;

And all flesh shall see the token, that His word is never broken. Amen.

♦PRAYER OF ADORATION ......Taylor Goodloe Patteson

### RECEIVE THE GRACE OF OUR LOVING LORD

We look down on others and are absorbed with ourselves. Level, O Lord, the mountains of our pride and self-sufficiency. Forgive us and free us from our self-centeredness so that we imitate the One who was gentle and humble of heart. We confess also how often we wallow in the valleys of condemnation, guilt, shame and despair. Bring us up into the freedom and gladness

that belong to those who rest and trust in your gospel grace. For we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♦HYMN OF ASSURANCE: No. 460 "Amazing Grace!"........... AMAZING GRACE

Praise Him, O Praise Him,

O come ye people, praise the Lord forever.

Sing praises to His holy name.

To the God of Glory, loudest praise now bring,

Source of our salvation, our Eternal King. Praise Him, praise Him, praise the Lord forever,

Come and praise Him, come and praise the Lord.

To God be the glory, great things he has done; So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life an atonement for sin, And opened the lifegate that we may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

And give him the glory; great things he has done.

♦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION . . . . . . . Arthur Doty Rawson

A WORD FROM THE PDS HEADMASTER......Steve Hancock

## Enjoy the Peace of Our Reconciling Father

#### 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.

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** 

It's All You Really Need

D. Todd Erickson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

 $\phi$ HYMN OF GRACE: No. 457 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"NETTLETON

**†BENEDICTION** 

*†***CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN** 

♦ Indicates congregation standing

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Greeters: John Goodwin Billions, Stephen Barrett Sexton, Richard Kemp Conrad, Raymond Spencer Clift, William Howard Watkins, Wyatt Manning Solberg, James Lauderdale Alexander III, Samuel Brown Nickey, James Mason Cousins, Jr., James Thomas Knowlton