

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

October 15, 2017, 11:00 a.m. Trinity Season



Preparation for Worship

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

A church with its back against the wall fighting for survival needs a fresh encounter with the living Lord Jesus Christ. Our Apocalyptic reading (Revelation 1:12-18) explains why we are devoted to worshipping our risen King:

- We hear His voice. (1:10, 15)
 God speaks to us as we hear His Word read and preached. Pray and ask the Lord to speak personally and powerfully to you in our corporate worship service.
- We behold His beauty. (1:12-16)

 The Apostle John sees in a vision the glorified, exalted Jesus. As a result of his encounter, he falls prostrate on the ground. Pray for the Lord to open your eyes to behold and adore the living Christ... to receive a glimpse of the majesty and glory of the One who holds the church, the world, and you in His hands.
- We feel His hand. (1:17-18)
 The risen Lord puts His "right hand" on a terrified John. The Lord's touch banishes fear from his heart. Pray for God's hand to be upon you and our church.

What happened to the Apostle John as a result of his worship encounter? He received a renewed capacity to persevere through tribulation (v. 9). He was liberated from paralyzing fear (v. 17). He received a fresh summons to serve Jesus and His church (vv. 11, 19). Our Lord stands ready to do the same for you!

THE RISEN CHRIST RECEIVES OUR PRAISES

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Allegro" from *Concerto in A Minor* . . . Antonio Vivaldi; arr. Bach Samuel Metzger, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Have Thine Own Way Lord" arr. Diane Bish Marian Shaffer, harp

CHORAL INTROIT: "Morning Has Broken"...... arr. John Rutter

Morning has broken like the first morning, Blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, Like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, Born of the one light Eden saw play. Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning, God's recreation of the new day!

> Women's Ensemble Christy Young, Director

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIPTimothy M. Johnson

♦HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 286 "Worship Christ, the Risen King!"..... REGENT SQUARE

♦APOCALYPTIC READING: Revelation 1:10-18 Blanche Tosh

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet

saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands,

and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.

But he laid his right hand on me, saying,

"Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one.

I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

 *CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE
 REGENT SQUARE

Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, Worship Christ, the risen King! Amen.

†INVOCATION (Please lift hands)

THE RISEN CHRIST PARDONS OUR SINS

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious heavenly Father,
You have shown us the way of life through Your Son, Jesus Christ.
We confess with grieving hearts
our slowness to learn of Him, our reluctance to take up the cross,
and our failure to follow Him.
Pardon us for the poverty of our worship,
our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace,
our hesitating witness for Christ,
our evasion of Your great call to sacrificially serve others,
and our imperfect stewardship of Your gifts.
Have mercy upon us and forgive us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♦HYMN OF ASSURANCE: No. 528 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee".....OLIVET

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Be Thou My Vision" arr. John Rutter Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art; Be Thou my best thought in the day and the night, Both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light. Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word, Be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord; Be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son; Be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one. Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; Be Thou my whole armor, be Thou my true might; Be Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my strong tower: O raise Thou me heavenward, great power of my power. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise: Be Thou mine inheritance now and always; Be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart: O Sov'reign of heaven, my treasure Thou art. High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun, O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won; Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all. The Chancel Choir
 POXOLOGY
 OLD HUNDREDTH
 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. **†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION** THE RISEN CHRIST CHOOSES HIS LEADERS *†GREETINGS* 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. SECOND NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 1:12-26 (page 909 in the 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** Servant Leadership George W. Robertson PRAYER OF COMMITMENT ♦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 447 "Christ for the World We Sing"... ITALIAN HYMN **†**BENEDICTION (Please lift hands) **†CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Allegro Giocoso" Denis Bédard

♦ Indicates congregation standing

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