

# ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

September 24, 2017 Trinity Season



## Preparation for Worship

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

Corporate worship contains four basic movements: glory, guilt, grace, and gratitude. Our hymn of praise "God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory" beautifully illustrates this.

**Glory:** The radiant beauty of our God is seen in all that He has made, especially the pinnacle of His creation – man. The only fitting response is to worship this God of glory as a lifestyle. "Music, art, the fruitful garden, all the labor of his days, are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise."

**Guilt:** However, we have a problem. "Our sins have spoiled Thine image; nature, conscience only serve as unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve." Ligon Duncan reminds us: "From time to time our guilty conscience drags us before the throne of God to sit before the One who will judge us." Knowing our spiritual peril, we refuse to make excuses and instead run for safety to the foot of the cross where we find an all-sufficient Savior.

**Grace:** The only cure for true guilt is real grace – the unmerited favor from an unobligated Giver. "Yet Thy grace and saving mercy in Thy Word of truth revealed claim the praise of all who know Thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed."

**Gratitude:** In response to this grace, we resolve to heed God's Word from a heart full of gratitude. "Saved to magnify Thy goodness, grant us strength to do Thy will; with our acts as with our voices Thy commandments to fulfill." Why not embrace this four-fold pattern in your daily walk with the Lord?

## GOD'S GLORY

ORGAN PRELUDE: "All Creatures of Our God and King"	. Rebecca Te Velde
Samuel Metzger, organ	

 $\label{eq:clay-def} \textbf{INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Blessed Assurance"} \dots \\ \textbf{Duane Funderburk} \\ \textbf{Clay Hancock, violin}$ 

CHORAL INTROIT: "Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing"...... Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; That we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing alleluia!

> The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00) Christy Young, Director

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 122 "God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory" . . . . . . ODE TO JOYstanzas 1-3

PAPOCALYPTIC LESSON: Select verses from Revelation 4 and 5 . . Rusty Shappley (8:15) Blanche Tosh (11:00)

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,

for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice,

"Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?"

I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

God of glory, power, and mercy, all creation praises Thee; We, Thy creatures, would adore Thee now and through eternity. Saved to magnify Thy goodness, grant us strength to do Thy will; With our acts as with our voices Thy commandments to fulfill. Amen.

**†**INVOCATION (Please lift hands)

## Our Guilt

#### CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Father,
forgive us for the ways
that we have doubted Your goodness and care,
especially in our times of affliction.
Pardon us for living to make our names great instead of Yours.
We confess that we have lived
to accomplish our will more than Yours.
We are consumed more with our kingdoms than building Yours.

May Jesus' shed blood make us more thankful for Your mercies; more humble under Your correction; more zealous in Your service; more watchful against temptation; more contented in our circumstances; and more useful in Your service, for Jesus' sake, Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

## GOD'S GRACE

Ruling in the fear of God.
And he shall be as the light of the morning,
When the sun riseth,
Even a morning without clouds;
As the tender grass springing out of the earth
By clear shining after rain. Alleluia. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE	INLANDIA
Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening on	

When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

### **†PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

#### *<del>†</del>GREETINGS*

A WORD ON CITYSERVE..... Ethan Knight

## 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.

## Our Gratitude

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 In Love In Memphis D. Todd Erickson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

 \*HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 441 "Jesus Shall Reign"
 DUKE STREET

**†**BENEDICTION (Please lift hands)

**†CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN** 

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "The People Respond – Amen!" from  $\textit{Rubrics} \ldots$ . Dan Locklair

♦Indicates congregation standing

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## Gathering on the Grounds

Grab your lawn chairs and picnic baskets and join our church family on the Poplar football field this afternoon at 5:00 for our bi-annual time of fellowship and live music, followed by evening worship. Don't feel like packing a picnic? No worries! We'll have food trucks — Memphis Dawgs and Stanley's Sweet Street Treats — that will begin serving at 4:30. See you there!