

# The Lord's Service

December 1, 2019

*\*Standing together is our ordinary practice,  
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

Evangeline Wykoff and Alayne Griffin

\*Song of Praise and Greeting

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus:

You are the One that we praise; You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for.  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;  
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,  
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way. (Chorus)

Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. (Chorus)

(1989 Word Music)

Welcome and Announcements

# God Calls Us

*In silent meditation, let us prepare to meet God in worship.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle      The Tom Runkle Family

\*Call to Worship      Psalm 68.32-35

LEADER: O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;

PEOPLE: **Behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

LEADER: Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies. Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel -

PEOPLE: **He is the one who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!**

\*Hymn      No. 197 (vs. 1-2)  
*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

\*Invocation      Elder John Wykoff

## God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession      Ephesians 5.15-17

LEADER: Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

PEOPLE: **Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.**

### Call to Worship

We are called into worship by God Himself. He sets the terms for worship because He makes worship possible through Jesus Christ.

### Invocation

This prayer addresses God in three persons, asking Him to be present with us in worship to help us worship Him according to His will.

### Call to Confession

As we see God in His invitation and our praise, we cannot help but see how we have fallen short of His glory. God's Holy Scripture has the authority to reveal us to ourselves and transition our hearts to confession.

*Whether seated or kneeling,  
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

**Corporate  
Confession of Sin**

We sin in thought, word,  
and deed every week. Our  
prayer includes time not  
only for individual silent  
confession, but also  
confession that unites our  
voices as a body of people  
equally and desperately in  
need of God's grace.

**Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)**

**Merciful God,  
we acknowledge and confess before You  
our many sins.  
We have transgressed Your holy laws;  
we have neglected Your Word;  
we have walked in our own ways  
and fulfilled the desires of our own hearts.  
We have injured others, hurt our own souls,  
and grieved Your Holy Spirit.**

**Gracious God,  
Who pardons all that repent  
and believe Your Gospel;  
show Your mercy upon us,  
and for the sake of Your beloved Son,  
our only Mediator, forgive us of our sins.  
Increase in us the grace of repentance,  
that we may not only confess our sins,  
but forsake them with our whole heart,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

God's Holy Scripture  
reminds us not only of who  
we are as sinners, but also  
assures us of who we are as  
Christians united to Jesus in  
His death and resurrection.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Psalm 130.7**

**LEADER:** Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:  
“O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord  
there is steadfast love, and with him is  
plentiful redemption.”

The peace of the Lord be with you!

**PEOPLE:** And also with you!

\*Hymn

No. 221 (vs. 1, 4-5)

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

## God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

Elder Ken Henry

Isaiah 40.1-11 (p. 599)

**LEADER:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Choral Worship

*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth,  
Ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon!

Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all.

(Manz 1987 Birnamwood Publication)

\*Doxology

No. 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Mullinax

\*Hymn

No. 198 (vs. 1-2, 4)

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!*

### Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. This lesson, or reading, helps prepare us for the Scripture lesson that will be preached from later.

### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The tithe is our regular, worshipful setting apart of a portion of our resources for the purpose of God, while an offering is an additional portion we return to God for His glory. Both are a display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than our money.

### Doxology

A *doxology* is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

### Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands pastors to pray with and for God's people, not just in corporate worship, but privately, as well.

## Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service, but this lesson, or reading, prepares us for the sermon text.

## Sermon

A preacher is commanded to faithfully steward God's Holy Scripture by submitting to it, studying it, and expositing it (holding it forth), bearing witness to Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Confession of Faith

By confessing our faith together using statements believed by Christians over the ages, we join in the sweep of Christian history even as we await the return of Jesus.

† "catholic" -- universal

Scripture Lesson

1 Corinthians 8.5-6 (p. 956)

Sermon

Pastor Jones

FOR US

\*Hymn

No. 197 (vs. 3-4)

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

\*Confession of Faith (in unison)

*Apostles' Creed*

LEADER: Christian, what do you believe?

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
died, and was buried;**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of**

**God the Father Almighty.**

**From there He will come to judge the  
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic<sup>†</sup> church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, amen.

## God Communes with Us

### \*The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **It is good and right so to do.**

LEADER: It is right, and good, and a joyful thing...

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with  
all the company of heaven, we praise and  
magnify Your glorious name, ever more  
praising and singing...

### \*Song of Ascent

### Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven\_ and earth\_ are  
full\_ of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
Blessed is he who comes\_ in the name\_ of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Instruction and Prayer

### The Institution

Hymn

No. 460

*Amazing Grace!* (vs. 1-3, 6)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we've first begun.

## God Commissions Us

### Benediction

Just as God calls us to worship at the beginning of the service with Holy Scripture, He sends us into our week with a Holy Scripture reminder (*a good word*) of the blessing of Christ, by God's grace, through the indwelling Spirit.

\*Benediction

Pastor Mullinax

Postlude

Alayne Griffin and Evangeline Wykoff