

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

JULY 21, 2024 | 10:00 A.M.

PREPARATION & PRAISE

Prelude: "As the Deer"/"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Mark Hayes

"I Will Enter His Gates"/"This Is the Day"

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Call to Worship:

based on Psalm 118

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me in a broad place. I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the Lord helped me.

The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Prayer of the Day:

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the foundation of our life and faith. Even when the world rejects you, we sing your praise. Help us to love and serve others even when they reject us and you. In your name there is healing, in your death there is life, in your resurrection there is hope, and at your return every knee will bow. Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.

* Hymn: "See, What a Morning"

See, what a morning,
gloriously bright
with the dawning of hope
in Jerusalem;
folded the graveclothes,
tomb filled with light,
as the angels announce,
"Christ is risen!"

See God's salvation plan,
wrought in love,
borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
fulfilled in Christ the Man,
for he lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.

See Mary weeping,
"Where is he laid?"—
as in sorrow she turns
from the empty tomb.
Hears a voice speaking,
calling her name;
it's the Master, the Lord,
raised to life again!

The voice that spans the years,
speaking life,
stirring hope,
bringing peace to us,
will sound 'til he appears
for he lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.

One with the Father,
Ancient of Days,
through the Spirit
who clothes faith with certainty.
Honor and blessing,
glory and praise
to the King crowned with power
and authority.

And we are raised with him;
death is dead,
love has won,
Christ has conquered.
And we shall reign with him,
for he lives:
Christ is risen from the dead.

* God's Greeting:

Revelation 1:4-5

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession

As God's creatures we are made in his image to represent him on earth and to live in loving communion with him. By sovereign appointment we are earth keepers and caretakers: loving our neighbor, tending the creation, and meeting our needs. God uses our skills in the unfolding and well-being of his world.

Yet often we neglect our task. Recalling our task leads us to confess our sin and to yearn for God's forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Ephesians 2:4-7,10

Hymn: "This Is My Father's World"

This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings,
and round me rings,
the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees,
of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:
O let me not forget that,
though the wrong
seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King,
let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad.

God's Will for Our Lives

Joining the mission of God, the church is sent with the gospel of the kingdom to call everyone to know and follow Christ and to proclaim to all the assurance that in the name of Jesus there is forgiveness of sin and new life for all who repent and believe.

The Spirit calls all members to embrace God's mission in their neighborhoods and in the world: to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and free the prisoner.

We repent of leaving this work to a few, for this mission is central to our being.

Grateful for advances in science and technology, we participate in their development, fostering care for creation and respect for the gift of life.

We welcome discoveries that prevent or cure diseases and that help support healthy lives. We respect embryonic life, approaching each new discovery, whether of science or of medical technique, with careful thought, seeking the will of God.

Our hope for a new creation is not tied to what humans can do, for we believe that one day every challenge to God's rule will be crushed. His kingdom will fully come, and the Lord will rule. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

With the whole creation we join the song:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

He has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God, and we will reign on earth. God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish, everything will be made new.

Then every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God. Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!

Congregational Prayer

* Hymn: "How Great Is Our God"

The splendor of the King,
clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice,
let all the earth rejoice.

He wraps himself in light,
and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at his voice,
and trembles at his voice.

How great is our God!

Sing with me:
how great is our God!

And all will see how great,
how great is our God!

From age to age he stands,
and time is in his hands;
beginning and the end,
beginning and the end.

The godhead, three in one,
Father, Spirit, Son,
the lion and the lamb,
the lion and the lamb.

How great is our God!

Sing with me:
how great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!

Name above all names,
worthy of all praise;

my heart will sing,
how great is our God!

How great is our God!

Sing with me:
how great is our God!

And all will see how great,
how great is our God!

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon: *Learning Wisdom in Limits*

Proverbs 30:5-9

- 5 "Every word of God is flawless;
he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.
- 6 Do not add to his words,
or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.
- 7 "Two things I ask of you, Lord;
do not refuse me before I die:
- 8 Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
give me neither poverty nor riches,
but give me only my daily bread.
- 9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you
and say, 'Who is the Lord?'
- Or I may become poor and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my God.

O Lord my God,
when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works
thy hand hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout
the universe displayed:

(Chorus)

Then sings my soul,
my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art,
how great thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art,
how great thou art!

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down
from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook
and feel the gentle breeze;

(Chorus)

But when I think
that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die,
I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross,
my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died
to take away my sin;

(Chorus)

When Christ shall come,
with shout of acclamation,
and claim his own,
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow
in humble adoration
and there proclaim,
"My God, how great thou art!"

(Chorus)

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

Offertory Prayer

for the General Fund & World Renew

* Confession of Faith:

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten
Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and 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 shall come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.
I believe a holy catholic church,
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

* Benediction:

Numbers 6:24-26

* Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings"

PH 638

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.

Postlude

**Indicates congregation stands, as able*

Minister: Rev. Joel Vande Werken

Liturgists: Dick Vanden Berg, Katie Vande Werken

Piano: Terry Ebbeling

Prayer of the Day adapted from Psalms for All Seasons ©2012 CRC Publications

Call to Confession adapted from from Our World Belongs to God § 10

God's Will for Our Lives adapted from Our World Belongs to God §41, 50, 55, 58

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