

Service of Worship

Preparing for worship—*For our spiritual edification and for the benefit of one another, let us spend the time before worship in silent preparation, meditation, and prayer, reading Scripture and familiarizing ourselves with today's Scripture readings, prayers, and hymns.*

Leader: The Lord be with you!
People: The Lord bless you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS



God Calls Us

CALL TO WORSHIP Zechariah 8:20-22

Leader: Let us rise and worship God! In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen!

† INTROIT # 164 – *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

† PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 119:153-160

Consider my affliction and deliver me,

For I do not forget Your law.

Plead my cause and redeem me;

Revive me according to Your word.

Salvation is far from the wicked,

For they do not seek Your statutes.

Great are Your tender mercies, O Lord;

Revive me according to Your judgments.

Many are my persecutors and my enemies,

Yet I do not turn from Your testimonies.

I see the treacherous, and am disgusted,

Because they do not keep Your word.

Consider how I love Your precepts;

Revive me, O Lord, according to Your lovingkindness.

The entirety of Your word is truth,

And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

Leader: O Lord, give ear to our prayers.

People: Light the darkness of our hearts, Christ Jesus!

† PSALM OF APPROACH Psalm 8b



God Cleanses Us

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins to Almighty God.
(Let those who are able kneel)

Leader: Almighty and Most Merciful God:

People: We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves; and there is nothing good in us. We are guilty of pride, envy, sinful anger, and selfishness. We have been unchaste, sinfully anxious, and slothful in matters temporal and eternal. We deserve eternal punishment rather

than Your grace in Christ Jesus. We are sorry; we humbly repent and ask You to incline our hearts to holiness. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen!

Leader: Arise, and hear the good news!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON 1 Peter 3:18

Leader: Brothers and sisters, your sins are forgiven and your lives are rescued in our Lord Jesus Christ and His victory over the grave. Believe this, and rejoice!



Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is proper and right to do so.



God Consecrates Us

† FIRST READING Malachi 2:17-3:5, 4:5-6

† SECOND READING Acts 17:10-15

Leader: The Word of the Lord—

People: Thanks be to God!

PASTORAL PRAYER

† SERMON TEXT Matthew 11:7-15

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON *John the Baptist, the New Elijah*
Pastor Jay Barfield

† HYMN OF RESPONSE # 94 – *How Firm a Foundation*



God Communes With Us

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!
People: And His mercy endures forever!

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S TABLE
Passing of the Bread # 100 – *Holy, Holy, Holy!*
Passing of the Wine # 53 – *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Leader: The Body and Blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith until life everlasting, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

† GLORIA PATRI # 735

† CONFESSION OF FAITH *Heidelberg Catechism (Q. 1)*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.



God Commissions Us

† BENEDICTION

‡ DOXOLOGY

† The congregation will please stand
‡ With hands uplifted

