

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP of GOD

April 10, 2016 8:15 a.m.



Preparation for Worship

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

Have you ever wondered why we devote so much time to the reading and preaching of God's Word? Like doubting Thomas, we all struggle with unbelief. The Apostle Paul reminds us of the antidote: "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17).

By devoting ourselves to the hearing and preaching of God's Word, our eyes are opened "so that [we] turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that [we] receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in [Jesus]" (Acts 26:18).

May our Lord use the reading and preaching of His Word today to:

- Enlighten, convince, and humble us.
- Conforms us to His image,
- Build us up in His grace,

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- Strengthen us against temptations and corruptions,
- · And establish our hearts in holiness and encouragement.

Pray that the Lord would transform our lives due to our hearing God's Word faithfully preached.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Arise, My Soul, Arise"......LENOX Gabriel C. Statom, organ HANDBELL PRELUDE: "A Joyous Fanfare" Fred Gramann "How Can I Keep From Singing"......Cathy Moklebust The Second Ringers Terri Theil, Director The Westminster Singers Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music CALL TO WORSHIP...... David A. Bowen **†**HYMN OF PRAISE: "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"JOY HAS DAWNED 1. Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant 2. 'Tis to - day: of death, spring of has burst the souls Christ 3. Nei ther could the gates nor the tomb's dark brought forth glad - ness! God Is has ra - el in to pris - on, sleep death and from three days' in as а por - tal, the wat - chers, the seal, hold nor nor you from sad loosed from Phara-oh's bit - ter joy ness,

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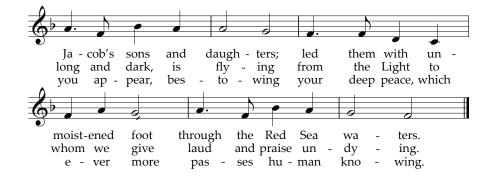
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Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

so that the tested genuineness of your faith—
more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—
may be found to result in praise and glory and honor
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Though you have not seen him, you love him.

Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories.

It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, With the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

†PRAYER OF ADORATION

†GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Amen" arr. Brandon Waddles

♦DOXOLOGY.....OLD HUNDREDTH

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 DEDICATION

(page 907 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)

HOMILY

Doubters Blessed

Sanders L. Willson

The Liturgy of the Table

†INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

Gluten-free communion bread is available upon request from the elder at the east side of the transverse aisle (opposite from the door leading to the Connector).

 PROFESSION OF FAITH
 The Apostles' Creed

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

and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

♦GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

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!

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever faithful and most gracious Father,
You promise blessing to those who trust You without the aid of sight.
Yet we confess losing our battle with unbelief regularly.
Forgive us for doubting Your provision, promises, and plan.
Pardon us for the times that we have faced our trials
with cowardice and not courage, with fickleness and not faith.
Grant us to discover anew in Jesus' death and resurrection
the reality, immensity, and assurance of Your love.
We pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION 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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns below.

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, Thou fount of life, Thou light of men, From the best bliss that earth imparts We turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee call; To them that seek Thee Thou art good, To them that find Thee all in all.

We taste Thee, O Thou living bread, And long to feast upon Thee still; We drink of Thee, the fountainhead, And thirst our souls from Thee to fill.

Our restless spirits earn for Thee, Where'er our changeful lot is cast; Glad when Thy gracious smile we see, Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay, Make all our moments calm and bright; Chase the dark night of sin away, Shed o'er the world Thy holy light. "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away, As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders; Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything — no gifts, no power, no wisdom; But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

"Arise, My Soul, Arise" LENOX Reference page 305 in the hymnal for music.

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears; The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears: Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands, My name is written on His hands.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede, His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead; His blood atoned for ev'ry race, His blood atoned for ev'ry race, And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive Him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive Him, O forgive," they cry,
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled; His pard'ning voice I hear; He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear; With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh, And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

♦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE.....

The Father hears Him pray, His dear anointed One;

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He cannot turn away, the presence of His Son; His Spirit answers to the blood, His Spirit answers to the blood, And tells me I am born of God.

†BENEDICTION

♦ Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Second Ringers: Lily Humphreys, Annie Petzinger, Mimi Vestal, Mary Lawrence Flinn, Anne Thompson, BJ Webster, Beth Fischer, Rebecca Albert, Mike Albert, Fred Flinn, Jim Cantrell