



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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April 29, 2018  
*Season of Eastertide*

  
**Second**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

The regular discipline of confession enables us to grasp more fully the beauty and wonder of grace as we are continually made aware of the depth of our need of the Gospel. We often include a written prayer of confession as a tool to prime the pump of our hearts to facilitate an honest confession of our individual sins as well as to acknowledge that when we sin, we do so in community.

However, do not let our time of confession lead you to despair. In Micah 7:18-19, God's Word teaches us about His character: *Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity ... delights in mercy ... You will subdue our iniquities; and cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.*

One of the high moments of our worship service occurs when we hear one of our pastors say during the assurance of pardon: "...if your faith is in Jesus Christ this morning, then I can assure you, based on the sure promise of the Word, that your sins are forgiven." Oh what a blessing it is to know that we are completely forgiven, totally accepted, and deeply loved by our Lord!

## THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE:

"Valses nobles et sentimentales" (8:15) ..... Maurice Ravel  
*Daniel Pollorena, piano*

"Think About His Love" (11:00) ..... arr. Tom Fettke  
*Jill Peak, piano*

A WORD ON WORSHIP ..... George W. Robertson

CHORAL INTROIT: "Holy Is the Lord" ..... Franz Schubert

Holy, holy holy, holy is the Lord.  
Holy is the Father, holy is the Son.  
Holy is the Spirit; blessed Three in One.

*The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00)  
Calvin L. Ellis, Jr., Associate Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Joshua D. Yates

✦HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 55 "To God Be the Glory" ..... TO GOD BE THE GLORY

✦INVOCATION (*Please lift hands*)

✦PROPHETIC LESSON: Isaiah 42:1-9 ..... Bill Jorgensen (8:15)  
Elizabeth Wall (11:00)

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen,  
in whom my soul delights;

**I have put my Spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.**

He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

**a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.**

He will not grow faint or be discouraged  
till he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his law.

**Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,**

who gives breath to the people on it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

**"I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;  
I will take you by the hand and keep you;**

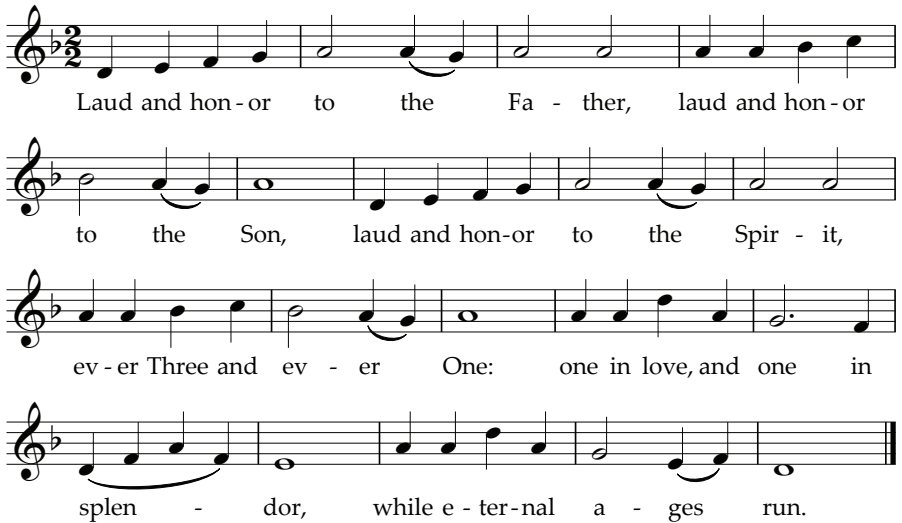
I will give you as a covenant for the people,  
a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,

**to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.**

I am the Lord; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to carved idols.

**Behold, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth I tell you of them."**

♠ DOXOLOGY ..... PICARDY



Laud and hon-or to the Fa-ther, laud and hon-or  
to the Son, laud and hon-or to the Spir-it,  
ev-er Three and ev-er One: one in love, and one in  
splen-dor, while e-ter-nal a-ges run.

## THE LORD CLEANSSES US WITH HIS GRACE

### CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious Father,  
we acknowledge we are prone to evil and lazy in doing good.  
It is Your will that we submit to Jesus, our Redeemer,  
as the Lord of our lives.**

**Yet we seek to be our own authority.**

**It is Your will that Your people should be one in Christ  
and reflect the eternal unity that exists in the Trinity.**

**Yet we have selfishly chosen the way of division and dissension.**

**It is Your will that we are to do justice and serve as a light to the nations.**

**Yet we have been slow to love our neighbor.**

**Give us Your enabling grace to repent of our pride and disobedience  
and to submit to Your revealed will.**

**Free us from the idolatry in our hearts  
that hinders us from loving You and our neighbor.**

**Save us from considering as normal  
that which is an offense to Your love.**

**Pour out Your Spirit on us  
that we may worship in spirit and truth  
and live for the glory of Your name.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE. . . . . I John 1:8-9

*If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins  
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "To the Lamb on the Throne" . . . . . Dan Forrest

Worthy the Lamb.

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
And publish abroad His wonderful name;  
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;  
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"  
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son;  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save;  
Thou hid from our sight, His presence we have;  
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,  
Ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

*Congregation stands and sings:*

**Then let us adore and give Him His right,  
All glory and pow'r, all wisdom and might;  
All honor and blessing with angels above,  
And thanks never ceasing and infinite love.**

Worthy the Lamb!

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING . . . . . Dan G. Burns

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) . . . . . Peggy Stephens

THE LORD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *(please stand)*

**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.**

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 283 "Alleluia! Alleluia!" . . . . . EBENEZER

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON. . . . . Acts 10:23-11:18  
*(page 919 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.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

SERMON *Stumbling People* George W. Robertson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 355 "We Are God's People" . . . . . SYMPHONY  
*stanzas 1-3*

✦BENEDICTION *(please lift hands)*

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Allegro" from *Sonata No. 1* . . . . . Felix Mendelssohn  
*Samuel Metzger, organ*

✦Indicates congregation standing

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**Stumbling People** | George Robertson

April 29, 2018

I. Unsophisticated (*Acts 10:23-26; 30-33*)

A. How to Embrace the Unsophisticated (23-26)

B. Motive for Embracing the Unsophisticated (30-33)

II. Despised (*Acts 10:27-29; 34–11:18*)

A. How to Embrace the Despised (28-43)

1. Get Close and Personal (28-29, 34)

2. Offer the Gospel at No Charge (34-43)

3. Defend Your Despised Brothers (11:3, 17)

B. Why Embrace the Despised (44-48)

**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 dinner? Not a problem — Stanley's Sweet Street Treats and Memphis MoJo Cafe food trucks will be there!