



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

JANUARY 21, 2018

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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

Although the reasons and circumstances differ, we all experience suffering. However, we often go through seasons that are so overwhelming and painful that even the most faithful of believers can become hopeless. It is precisely during those moments that we must turn our eyes to Christ. For in Him, the Hope of the hopeless has come!

Ultimately, Jesus has already delivered us from the only storm that could ever truly destroy us, the wrath of God. In Romans 5:8-9, Paul tells us “God shows his love in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.” It is through His own suffering that we have redemption.

Additionally, since Jesus is the Great Sufferer, He also identifies with us in our own suffering. Jesus isn’t indifferent toward you. He promises to be with you in your suffering, drawing you closer to Himself. Psalm 34:18 says, “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”

Lastly, as those in Jesus Christ, He has also secured for us a future with Himself in eternity where everything sad will be made untrue and every present agony will give way to glory. Revelation 21:4 says, “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Brothers and sisters, the Hope of the hopeless has come! Let us worship Jesus together — the One who draws near to the sufferer, the One who redeems us through His own suffering, and the One who has promised to deliver us from suffering forever on the Day to come.

EXALT THE LORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: “Allegro” from *Concerto in A Minor* . . . Antonio Vivaldi; arr. Bach
“Power of the Cross” arr. Lloyd Larson
Samuel Metzger, organ and piano

CALL TO WORSHIP George W. Robertson

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 92 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” EIN’ FESTE BURG

♠PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 46. Bill Jorgensen (8:15)
Haley Overcast (11:00)

God is our refuge and strength a very present help in trouble

**Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High

**God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.**

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress

**Come and behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;**

Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

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!

♠INVOCATION (please raise hands)

REST IN THE LORD

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♠HYMN OF ASSURANCE: "Sometimes a Light Surprises" FOREST GREEN

1. Some - times a light sur - pris - es the Chris - tian while he sings;
 2. In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue
 3. It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;
 4. Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their wont - ed fruit shall bear,

it is the Lord, who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings:
 the theme of God's sal - va - tion, and find it ev - er new;
 who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too:
 though all the field should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there;

when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
 set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
 be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;
 yet God the same a - bid - eth, his praise shall tune my voice,

a sea - son of clear shin - ing, to cheer it af - ter rain.
 "Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."
 and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.
 for, while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS. T. Barton Kimbro

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "It Is Well with My Soul" John Ness Beck

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll –
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin – O the joy of this glorious thought –
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so" it is well with my soul!

*The Westminster Singers (8:15) · The Chancel Choir (11:00)
Christy Young, director*

✦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 THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15) Will Nease

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION 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.**

SERMON H. B. Charles, Jr.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 693 "Blessed Assurance" ASSURANCE

✦BENEDICTION (*please raise hands*)

✦CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Toccata" from *Symphony No. 5*. Charles-Marie Widor

✦Indicates congregation standing

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