

The Lord's Service

December 29, 2019

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

Alayne Griffin and Evangeline Wykoff

*Song of Praise and Greeting

Across the Lands

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together by the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory, let the land and seas rejoice.

Chorus: You're the author of creation,
You're the Lord of ev'ry man,
And Your cry of love rings out
Across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry, with a word You stilled the sea.
Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free. (Chorus)

With a shout You rose victorious, wresting victory from the grave
And ascended into heaven leading captives in Your wake.
Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own,
From each tribe and tongue and nation You are leading sinners home.

(Chorus)

(2002 Thankyou Music)

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, let us prepare to meet God in worship.

*Call to Worship

Luke 2.14

LEADER: "Glory to God in the highest,

PEOPLE: **And on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"**

*Hymn

No. 208

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Invocation

Elder John Wykoff

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession

Deuteronomy 5.6-11

LEADER: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

PEOPLE: **You shall have no other gods before me.**

LEADER: You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Call to Worship

We are called into worship by God Himself. He sets the terms for worship because He makes worship possible through Jesus Christ.

Invocation

This prayer addresses God in three persons, asking Him to be present with us in worship to help us worship Him according to His will.

Call to Confession

As we see God in His invitation and our praise, we cannot help but see how we have fallen short of His glory. God's Holy Scripture has the authority to reveal us to ourselves and transition our hearts to confession.

PEOPLE: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

*Whether seated or kneeling,
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

**Corporate
Confession of Sin**

We sin in thought, word, and deed every week. Our prayer includes time not only for individual silent confession, but also confession that unites our voices as a body of people equally and desperately in need of God's grace.

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

**Most merciful Father;
we acknowledge and confess before You
our many sins.
We have transgressed Your holy laws;
we have neglected Your Word and ordinances;
we have walked in our own ways
and fulfilled the desires of our own hearts.
By our neglect and selfishness
we have injured others,
hurt our own souls and grieved Your Holy Spirit.
Most gracious God,
who pardons and forgives all that repent
and believe Your Gospel;
show Your mercy upon us,
and for the sake of Your beloved Son,
our only Mediator, forgive us our offenses.
Increase in us the grace of repentance,
that we may not only confess our sins,
but forsake them with our whole heart,
and bring forth the fruits
of holiness and righteousness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

John 3.16

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:
“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”
The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

*Hymn

No. 207

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

Elder Jim Hildebrand

Daniel 7.13-18 (p. 745)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology

No. 214 refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelis Deo.

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Bennett

*Hymn

No. 195

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Assurance of Pardon

God’s Holy Scripture reminds us not only of who we are as sinners, but also assures us of who we are as Christians united to Jesus in His death and resurrection.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. This lesson, or reading, helps prepare us for the Scripture lesson that will be preached from later.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The tithe is our regular, worshipful setting apart of a portion of our resources for the purpose of God, while an offering is an additional portion we return to God for His glory. Both are a display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than our money.

Doxology

A *doxology* is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands pastors to pray with and for God’s people, not just in corporate worship, but privately, as well.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service, but this lesson, or reading, prepares us for the sermon text.

Sermon

A preacher is commanded to faithfully steward God's Holy Scripture by submitting to it, studying it, and expositing it (holding it forth), bearing witness to Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Confession of Faith

By confessing our faith together using statements believed by Christians over the ages, we join in the sweep of Christian history even as we await the return of Jesus.

Benediction

Just as God calls us to worship at the beginning of the service with Holy Scripture, He sends us into our week with a Holy Scripture reminder (*a good word*) of the blessing of Christ, by God's grace, through the indwelling Spirit.

Scripture Lesson

Revelation 5 (p. 1030)

Sermon

Pastor Caines

THE LION, THE ROOT, THE LAMB

*Hymn

No. 565

All for Jesus!

*Confession of Faith (in unison)

Westminster Confession of Faith, 8.5

LEADER: Christian, what do you believe about Jesus?

The Lord Jesus, by His perfect obedience and sacrifice of Himself - which He through the eternal Spirit once offered up to God - has fully satisfied the justice of His Father. He purchased not only reconciliation but also an everlasting inheritance of the kingdom of heaven for all those the Father has given Him.

*Gloria Patri

No. 734

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.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Pastor Jones

Postlude

Evangeline Wykoff and Alayne Griffin