

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Elegy James Biery

Introit

“The Lord Is High Above All Nations” Donald Cashmore

*The Lord is high above all nations
and his glory above the heavens.*

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Call to Worship

Minister: *In your wisdom, O God,
you call us here to worship you.*

People: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Minister: *You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,
ready to listen and respond
with heart, soul, strength, and mind.*

People: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Minister: *You call us to be always watchful
for your Word of wisdom,
sometimes startling and unexpected,
sometimes still and quiet,
but always dwelling among us.*

People: We watch and wait for the Word of God.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 473 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God,
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 and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Love Is Little” Shaker song; arr. Kevin Siegfried
*Love is little; love is low; love will make my spirit grow;
grow in peace; grow in light; love will do the thing that’s right.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 78:1–7 Old Testament, page 508

*Gloria Patri (*sung*) The Hymnal, 579

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.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 25:1–13 New Testament, page 26

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Layton Williams

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 356 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) 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.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Jesus Christ, Abide with Us Johann Sebastian Bach

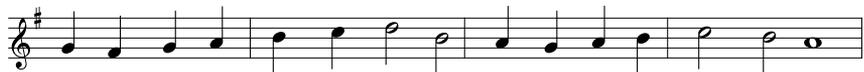
*Offertory Response



For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,



with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:



here we of - fer, Lord, our prai - ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.



Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Minister: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly Lord, God of po- wer and might,
hea- ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bles-sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san- na in the high- est.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.**

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“Peace” Shaker song; arr. K. Siegfried

*Peace unto Zion.
Peace to the faithful
and a crown of rejoicing
from your heavenly Father.
When Zion shall be cleansed,
she shall flourish as a rose.
I will walk in her midst
and will bless all those with a tenfold blessing.
And their sorrows shall cease,
for I'll cry upon her walls.
Peace, sweet peace.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O amazing God,
you come into our ordinary lives
and set a holy table among us,
filling our plates with the bread of life
and our cups with salvation.
Send us out, O God, with tenderheartedness,
to touch an ordinary everyday world
with the promise of your holiness. Amen.

*Hymn 332 “Live Into Hope”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Praise God, Ye Christians, One and All J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Ned Morley, Layton Williams

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

MJ Chen, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for "Holy, Holy, Holy" is by John Sherer © 1997.

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