

WORSHIP GUIDE
 PREPARING FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP: PART 5
The Diet of the Christian: Singing

SINGING IS NO DOUBT A CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC. What should our singing do? What should we be singing? The answers are often derived from “I think,” “I feel,” or “I prefer.” However, the Bible has a very different story to tell about our heart’s desires, and natural tendencies:

- “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” (Jer. 17:9)
- “So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels. Oh, that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!” (Ps. 81:12-14)

We should not be so quick to “follow the heart” because of our natural tendency to deceive ourselves. Instead, we should turn to the Holy Spirit through his revealed Word for our direction, including for our singing: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God” (Col. 3:16). One of the main methods of Christ dwelling within us is to fill our lives with the singing of the “Word of Christ.” It should be in accordance with the Word of God both in content and in richness. We should strive to model the loveliness and robustness of Christ’s Word and doctrine with our singing voices.

When we sing, we not only obey His command, but we are also building up one another (e.g. Col. 3:16). There is a joy in singing the same Word that can be brought to us every day (Ps. 5:11; 9:2; 51:14; 59:16). Indeed, the culmination of our lives will be on the final days, when an incalculable multitude will be singing the song of the Lamb (Rev. 7, 16).

By singing throughout the week, we also prepare our hearts for worship. We should strive, even in our darkest moments, to center around the Word, especially through singing. What a powerful tool to love the Lord and to be filled with his love. His joy is not containable, and when we drink deeply in his Word and doctrine, and do not carelessly sing, we not only submit to Christ, but we depend on him. Oh that we would find our rest in Him, a rest which cannot be shaken or taken from us.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!
 (Psalm 103:1)

Sermon Notes
 Unto Us a Child is Born
 Isaiah 9:6-7

God promises to rescue His people and set up His eternal Kingdom by giving us His Son.

I. The promise of the Son: v. 6a

II. The name of the Son: v. 6b

III. The kingdom of the Son: v. 7

Coming Up:

12/10/23 PM Service:

Job Longs for Resurrection

Job 13:20-14:22

12/17/23 AM Service:

And Shall Call His Name Immanuel

Isaiah 7:14

Church Officers

Session:

Armor.Session@gmail.com

Gary Goeddertz, ruling elder
 Jonathan Bergmann, ruling elder
 LeRoy Osborn, ruling elder, clerk
 Jonathan Hunt, teaching elder, moderator
 Aaron Masters, elder nominee

Diaconate:

Armor.Deacons@gmail.com

Rick Hunt
 Caleb Henning, clerk
 Rick Weber, moderator
 Jonathan Rogers, diaconal treasurer



The Lord’s Day Morning

Sunday, December 10, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
 The Reverend Mr. Leonard Gulstrom, *Presiding*
 Ruling Elder Mr. Gary Goeddertz, *Assisting*

The Silent Preparation

The Announcements

The Greeting and Call to Worship

1 Chronicles 16:10

* **The Hymn of Praise**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

see bulletin

* **The Prayer of Invocation and Adoration**

* **The Reading of the Law and Confession of Sin**

Exodus 20:12; Deut. 21:18-21; 27:16; Matthew 15:1-6; Psalm 41:4

see bulletin

* **The Gospel Promise**

Lamentations 3:22-23

see bulletin

* **The Response of Thanksgiving**

Psalm 75:1

see bulletin

* **The Doxology**

* **The Pastoral Prayer**

The Old Testament Reading

Leviticus 23:33-44

The New Testament Reading

John 3:1-21

* **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

* **The Worship of God with Our Offerings**

* **The Psalms of Preparation**

Psalm 8:1-9 – *Lord, Our Lord*

Psalm 16:1-11 – *Preserve Me, O God*

Psalm 8C

Psalm 16C

The Prayer of Illumination

The Preaching of God’s Word

Unto Us a Child is Born

Isaiah 9:6-7

* **The Prayer of Application**

* **The Song of Response**

Angels We Have Heard on High

see bulletin

* **The Benediction**

* **The Gloria Patri**

* — Please stand as you are able. Following Scriptural principle for public prayer (Neh. 9:2-4, 2 Chron. 20:5-13; Mark 11:25), we follow in the footsteps of the early church and our Presbyterian heritage in standing for most of the public prayers.

Giving:	Budget Requirements:
12/03/23\$4,882.04	Weekly\$5,607.00

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2. Shepherds in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son; Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth;
 Yon - der shines the In - fant light:
 Ye have seen His na - tal star: Come and wor - ship,
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear;
 To th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

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 James Montgomery, 1816, 1825
 From *The Trinity Hymnal* (Rev.) 1990

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7
 Henry Smart, 1867
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Mission of the Month: Ben & Heather Hopp

The Hopps are laboring in Haiti. Ben accepted a call to serve as the Regional Foreign Missionary to Africa and Haiti beginning in March 2024. The Hopps will live with the OPC's Uganda Mission, from which Ben will conduct his labors.

The Reading of the Law

Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 21:18-21, 27:16; Matthew 15:1-6

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
 "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and, though they discipline him, will not listen to them, then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gate of the place where he lives, and they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' Then all the men of the city shall stone him to death with stones. So you shall purge the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

"'Cursed be anyone who dishonors his father or his mother.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'
 Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat." He answered them, "And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.

The Confession of Sin

Psalm 41:4

As for me, I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!"

The Gospel Promise

Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

The Response of Thanksgiving

Psalm 75:1

We give thanks to You, O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near. We recount Your wondrous deeds.

Announcements

Join us for the **4PM Service** as we continue our series in Job.

Join us Wednesday for **Prayer Meeting** at 6 pm.

The **Christmas Program** is on **Saturday, December 16th at 4:00 pm.**

The next Children's Christmas Program practice will be on Saturday, December 16th at 9:30 am. Please bring a ready to serve finger food to share if you wish.

The **regular monthly Session Meeting** is on **Tuesday, December 12th at 6:00 pm.** If anyone would like to attend, please speak to one of the Elders.

We will be celebrating the **Lord's Supper** on **December 17th** at the 4 PM Service.

See the **InfoCenter** for details on Armor's Winter Closing Policy.

Offering Envelopes - If you did not receive offering envelopes in 2023, but would like to for 2024, or you no longer wish to get them, please contact the church office.

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing
 2. Shepherds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him Whose birth the

o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re - ply
 strains pro - long? Say what may the tid - ings be
 an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee

Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - ri - a in excelsis De - o,
 Glo - ri - a in excelsis De - o,

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 Traditional French Carol (Noël)
 From *The Trinity Hymnal*

GLORIA (FRENCH). 7.7.7.7 ref.
 Arr. by Edward Shippens Barnes, 1937
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Nursery – Dec 10th – Kathy G & Rebecca N
 Dec 17th – Amy B & Christine S

Ushers – Dec 10th AM– Wyatt B; PM–
 Dec 17th AM– Chris, Ethan, Noah B; PM– Colton B