PREPARATION TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Let us stand as the Triune God, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now calls His Church into His presence to worship Him. I ask you this morning:

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, on Whom must we focus as we come to worship today?

We must be fixing our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of faith, Who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him Who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:2-3

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

It is He who remembered us in our low estate,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,

For His steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 136:1-3, 23,26

(End)

Opening Prayer

(Prayer in Unison)

Please stand, if you are able.

Our Father in heaven, how lovely are Your dwelling places, O LORD of hosts! Our souls longed and even yearned for Your presence; Our hearts and flesh sing for joy to You, the living God. Just like a bird that finds a house and a swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young, so do we find comfort in Your presence Our King and our God! How blessed are we to dwell in Your presence.

We are ever praising You! For You are a sun and a shield, LORD. You give grace and glory to Your people; and withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly. Accept our worship for the sake of Your own beloved Son in Whose Name we pray. Amen.

Based on Psalm 84

Hymn 225

"Come Christians, Join to Sing"

Please stand, if you are able.

Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen! Loud praise to Christ, our King; Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, Before His throne rejoice; Praise is His gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen! He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll condescend; His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore, Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS, TO REPENT, AND TO RECONCILED

God's Commandments

Exodus 20:1-17

We Pray and Confess Our Sin

(Prayer led by Pastor)

God's Assurance to His Repentant People

The LORD will rescue His servants; no one who takes refuge in Him will be condemned.

Psalm 34:22

Psalm 130B

"From Out the Depths I Cry, O Lord, to You"

Please stand, if you are able.

From out the depths I cry, O Lord, to You; Lord, hear my call.

I love you, Lord, for you will hear my plea, forgiving all.

If You should mark our sins, who then could stand? But grace and mercy dwell at Your right hand.

I wait for God, the Lord, and on His word my hope relies;

my soul still waits and looks unto the Lord till light arise.

I look for Him to drive away my night, yes, more than watchmen look for morning light.

Hope in the Lord, you waiting saints, and He will well provide,

for mercy and redemption full and free with Him abide.

From sin and evil, mighty though they seem, His arm almighty will His saints redeem.

We Profess Our Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Please stand, if you are able.

Q. 60. How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?

A. The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy rest all that day from worldly employments and recreations that are lawful on other days, spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except what is taken up by works of necessity and mercy.

 $\overline{(Continue)}$

Q. 61. What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment forbids the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, by doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works about our worldly employments or recreations.

(End)

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Psalm 55:1-11

We Worship God with Our Tithes and Offerings

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Prayer

(Led by a Ruling Elder)

The Doxology

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.

Please stand, if you are able.

New Testament Scripture Reading

2 Peter 3:1-7

Pastoral Prayer

(Led by Pastor)

Hymn 539 (1, 2, 3)

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Please stand, if you are able.

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou, Lamb of Calvary. Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away. O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart, My zeal inspire; As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

THE LORD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:8-10; Mark 2:23-28

Sermon

"This Is the Day the Lord Has Made" (3)

Pastor Theo van Blerk

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND TO HIS WORD

Prayer

Hymn 724

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

Please stand, if you are able.

Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come; Henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home. Thro' days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong; And now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King Eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease, And holiness shall whisper The sweet amen of peace; For not with swords' loud clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums, With deeds of love and mercy The heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King Eternal, We follow, not with fears; For gladness breaks like morning Where'er Thy face appears. Thy cross is lifted o'er us; We journey in its light. The crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might.

THE LORD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

The Blessing of God's People

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to Whom be the glory forevermore. Amen.

Galatians 1:3-5

Leader: "Christ is Risen!"

All: "He is Risen Indeed!"