

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

JULY 20, 2025

When the musical prelude begins, the congregation is invited to spend time preparing their hearts for corporate worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 69:14-16, 34-35

Leader: Deliver me from sinking in the mire.

People: Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up.

Leader: Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good.

People: According to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

Leader: Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them.

All: For God will save Zion, and those who love his name shall dwell in it.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN OF PRAISE

1. Let us love and sing and wonder,
Let us praise the Savior's name.
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame.
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has brought us nigh to God.

2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,
Pitied us when enemies.
Called us by His grace and taught us,
Gave us ears and gave us eyes.
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,
He presents our souls to God.

3. Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down.
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqueror's crown.
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
Soon will bring us home to God.

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

4. Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store,
When through grace in Christ our trust is,
Justice smiles and asks no more.
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,
Has secured our way to God.

5. Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high.
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky.
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou art worthy, Lamb of God.

*Author: John Newton; Music by Laura Taylor
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NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 12

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴ In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone,

and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

SONG OF AFFIRMATION

1. Christ the true and better Adam,
Son of God, and Son of man;
Who, when tempted in the garden,
Never yielded, never sinned.
He who makes the many righteous,
Brings us back to life again.
Dying, He reversed the curse, then
Rising, crushed the serpent’s head.

2. Christ the true and better Isaac,
Humble son of sacrifice;
Who would climb the fearful mountain,
There to offer up his life.
Laid with faith upon the altar,
Father’s joy and only son;
There salvation was provided.
Oh what full and boundless love.

Chorus

Amen, amen
From beginning to end
Christ the story
His the glory
Alleluia, amen

Christ the True and Better

3. Christ the true and better Moses,
Called to lead a people home;
Standing bold to earthly powers,
God’s great glory to be known.
With his arms stretched wide to heaven,
See the waters part in two;
See the veil is torn forever.
Cleansed with blood we pass now through.
Chorus

4. Christ the true and better David,
Lowly shepherd, mighty King;
He the champion in the battle,
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
In our place He bled and conquered,
Crown Him Lord of majesty;
His shall be the throne forever.
We shall e’er His people be.
Chorus (2x)

Christ the story, His the glory,
Alleluia, amen.

*Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Keith Getty, and
Matt Papa*

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we are focused on earthly matters rather than the things of heaven. We confess that we are often entangled with our sin and captivated with pleasures and things of this world. That we frequently gratify the flesh, and serve and indulge our senses. That we cling to the things of this place which clouds our vision for the things of You. Lord forgive us for our nearsightedness and open the eyes of our heart that we might know the glorious riches of your mercy and the promise of everlasting life with Christ Jesus our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 43:25

²⁵ "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it Lord that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to His blood.
3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Authors: Words by Isaac Watts; Music by Lowell Mason
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

1 Samuel 5

¹When the Philistines captured the ark of God, they brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. ²Then the Philistines took the ark of God and brought it into the house of Dagon and set it up beside Dagon. ³And when the people of Ashdod rose early the next day, behold, Dagon had fallen face downward on the ground before the ark of the Lord. So they took Dagon and put him back in his place. ⁴But when they rose early on the next morning, behold, Dagon had fallen face downward on the ground before the ark of the Lord, and the head of Dagon and both his hands were lying cut off on the threshold. Only the trunk of Dagon was left to him. ⁵This is why the priests of Dagon and all who enter the house of Dagon do not tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.

⁶The hand of the Lord was heavy against the people of Ashdod, and he terrified and afflicted them with tumors, both Ashdod and its territory. ⁷And when the men of Ashdod saw how things were, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us, for his hand is hard against us and against Dagon our god." ⁸So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" They answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be brought around to Gath." So they brought the ark of the God of Israel there. ⁹But after they had brought it around, the hand of the Lord was against the city, causing a very great panic, and he afflicted the men of the city, both young and old, so that tumors broke out on them. ¹⁰So they sent the ark of God to Ekron. But as soon as the ark of God came to Ekron, the people of Ekron cried out, "They have brought around to us the ark of the God of Israel to kill us and our people." ¹¹They sent therefore and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines and said, "Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it return to its own place, that it may not kill us and our people." For there was a deathly panic throughout the whole city. The hand of God was very heavy there. ¹²The men who did not die were struck with tumors, and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

SERMON NOTES

1. How Did Israel Get Into This Situation?

2. The LORD vs. Dagon

3. These Things Are Written For Our Instruction

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY SONG

1. Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God!

2. What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God!

Chorus

Come and behold Him, The One and the Only.
Cry out! Sing holy! Forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God!

3. What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God!
Chorus

HYMN OF RESPONSE

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

Only a Holy God

4. Who else could rescue me from my
failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God; only my Holy God!
Chorus 2x

Come and worship the Holy God!
Come and worship the Holy God!

*Authors: Dustin R. Smith, Jonny Robinson, Michael
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Holy Holy Holy

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