



The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Eastertide
May 3, 2020

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God, hold us to that which drew us first, when the Cross was the attraction, and we wanted nothing else.

—Amy Carmichael

The essential background to the cross, therefore, is a balanced understanding of the gravity of sin and the majesty of God. If we diminish either, we thereby diminish the cross.

—John Stott

Life is wasted if we do not grasp the glory of the cross, cherish it for the treasure that it is, and cleave to it as the highest price of every pleasure and the deepest comfort in every pain. What was once foolishness to us—a crucified God—must become our wisdom and our power and our only boast in this world.

—John Piper

CALL TO WORSHIP

Josh Johnson

HYMN OF THE KING

“Lift High the Cross”

Refrain:

Lift high the cross,
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world adore
His sacred name.

Come, brethren, follow
Where our Savior trod,
Our King victorious,
Christ, the Son of God.
(Refrain)

O Lord, once lifted
On the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised,
Draw men unto thee.
(Refrain)

Thy kingdom come,
That earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow
Of its healing peace.
(Refrain)

For thy blest cross
Which doth for us atone,
Creation's praises
Rise before thy throne.
(Refrain)

Words: George W. Kitchin, 1887; Rev. by Michael R. Newbolt, 1916; alt. 1990.
Music: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916.

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Ingram Link

Amos 5:1-2, 10-13, 21-24

Hear this word that I take up over you in lamentation, O house of Israel:

²“Fallen, no more to rise,
is the virgin Israel;
forsaken on her land,
with none to raise her up.”

¹⁰They hate him who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor him who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and you exact taxes of grain from him,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not dwell in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and turn aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time,
for it is an evil time.

²¹“I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Almighty Father, King over all the earth,
We are a sinful people, and our sin is ever before us.
Rather than take up the cause of the poor and needy,
We turn them aside and neglect their care—please forgive us.
Rather than pursue righteousness and defend the truth,
We are self-righteous and constantly lie to protect ourselves—please forgive us.
Rather than love you with all of our hearts
and allow true justice to rule in our midst,
We offer half-hearted worship and are content with injustice—please forgive us.
By your mercy, and through the grace of Jesus worked in us by your Spirit,
Allow the refreshing stream of justice and righteousness to flow out of our hearts
And into our homes, our church, and our community,
For the glory of Jesus, in whose name we pray, Amen.*

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

—Galatians 6:14

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you forgiveness of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“Rock of Ages”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee

Words: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; alt. by Thomas Cotterill, 1815. Music: TOPLADY; Thomas Hastings, 1830.

Romans 8:31-34

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF CHRIST

“All I Have is Christ”

I once was lost in darkest night,
Yet thought I knew the way.
The sin that promised joy and life
Had led me to the grave.
I had no hope that You would own
A rebel to Your will,
And if You had not loved me first,
I would refuse You still.

But as I ran my hell-bound race
Indifferent to the cost,
You looked upon my helpless state
And led me to the cross.
And I beheld God’s love displayed;
You suffered in my place.
You bore the wrath reserved for me,
Now all I know is grace.

Chorus:

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ!
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ!
Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!

Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone,
And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands
Could never come from me.
Oh Father, use my ransomed life
In any way You choose,
And let my song forever be
My only boast is You.
(Chorus)

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS*John Fountain**“And Can It Be”**Choral Offering*

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love
And bled for Adam's helpless race
'Tis mercy all, immense and free
For, O my God, it found out me!

No condemnation now I dread
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head
And clothed in righteousness divine
Bold I approach th'eternal throne
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own!

Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley, 1738. Music: Dan Forrest, 2014.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**THE MORNING PRAYERS**

Mark Hogewood

John 12:27–36

Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour?’ But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going.

³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

All flesh is like grass,
 And all its glory is like the flower of the field.
*The grass withers, the flower fades,
 But the word of our God stands forever.*

“THE GLORY OF THE CROSS”

Sandy Willson

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be 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.

HYMN OF THE CROSS

“The Power of the Cross”

Oh, to see the dawn Of the darkest day:
 Christ on the road to Calvary.
 Tried by sinful men, Torn and beaten, then
 Nailed to a cross of wood.

Oh, to see the pain Written on Your face,
 Bearing the awesome weight of sin;
 Every bitter thought, Every evil deed
 Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Chorus:
 This, the power of the cross:
 Christ became sin for us,
 Took the blame, bore the wrath;
 We stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees, Now the ground beneath
 Quakes as its Maker bows his head.
 Curtain torn in two, Dead are raised to life;
 ‘Finished!’ the victory cry.
 (Chorus)

Oh, to see my name Written in the wounds,
 For through Your suffering I am free.
 Death is crushed to death, Life is mine to live,
 Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:
 Son of God, slain for us.
 What a love! What a cost!
 We stand forgiven at the cross.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, 2005. CCLI 4490766.

BENEDICTION

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RULING ELDERS

2020

Bill Bennett
 Will Brooke
 Michael Latta
 Charlie Logan
 Paul Loyless
 Bob Schaffeld
 Lee Sheppard
 Steve Stigler
 Mark Taylor
 John Wood

2021

Eric Getty
 Russell Martin
 Daniel Murray
 Warren Norville
 Sandy Stradtman
 Clay Wheeler

2022

Ty Dedmon
 John Hamilton
 Mark Hogewood
 John James
 David O'Dell
 Norman Pless
 Kurt Senn

DEACONS

2020

Tripp Alexander
 Paul Darden
 Jay Evans
 Bryan Flores
 John Gant
 John David Gray
 Marty Martin
 Bud Miller
 Tyler O'Connor
 John Shults
 Danny Smith
 Robert Stephens
 Clark Worrell

2021

Nick Baggett
 Ward Bailey
 Samuel Bragg
 Trey Clegg
 Will Graham
 Jeff Hicks
 Jim Jenkins
 Alan Spooner
 Patrick Strong

2022

Jim Bennett
 William Edwards
 Merrill Johnston
 Randall Lancaster
 Mark Midyette
 Stephen Mince
 Clyde Prather
 John Shank
 Matt Thomas
 Greg Tomlinson

BIBLE READING PLAN

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers, and hymns. The scripture readings are from Ligonier Ministries and are designed around a one-year cycle that will allow you to read through the New Testament or the entire Bible in 2020.

MAY READING PLAN

	2 SAMUEL	LUKE
1	□ 23-24	□ 22:31-53
	1 KINGS	
2/3	□ 1-5	□ 22:54-23:26
4	□ 6-7	□ 23:27-28
5	□ 8-9	□ 23:39-56
6	□ 10-11	□ 24:1-35
7	□ 12-13	□ 24:36-53
		JOHN
8	□ 14-15	□ 1:1-28
9/10	□ 16-20	□ 1:29-2:25
11	□ 21-22	□ 3:1-21
	2 KINGS	
12	□ 1-3	□ 3:22-36
13	□ 4-5	□ 4:1-30
14	□ 6-8	□ 4:31-54
15	□ 9-11	□ 5:1-23
16/17	□ 12-17	□ 5:24-6:21
18	□ 18-19	□ 6:22-44
19	□ 20-22	□ 6:45-71
20	□ 23-25	□ 7:1-31
	1 CHRONICLES	
21	□ 1-2	□ 7:32-52
22	□ 3-5	□ 7:53-8:30
23/24	□ 6-11	□ 8:31-9:41
25	□ 12-14	□ 10:1-21
26	□ 15-17	□ 10:22-42
27	□ 18-20	□ 11:1-27
28	□ 21-23	□ 11:28-44
29	□ 24-26	□ 11:45-57
30/31	□ 27-2 Chronicles 3	□ 12