Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

Ordinary Time—Sundays of Pentecost 07July 2013

Worship Notes

This morning we encounter the faithless generation seeking for a sign when in fact the Sign stands before them—the Lord Jesus Christ is *the* sign that was promised. God has indeed revealed Himself, and we will read, pray and sing to that end this morning. We begin with the **Call to Worship** from **Psalm 65** and the awesome deeds of righteousness at which the earth stands in awe. We respond in grateful praise with singing **For the Beauty of the Earth** and the recognition that God and His attributes are continually pointed towards by the things He was made. We continue singing of the glories of the King with **Come Ye that Love the Savior's Name**.

The New Testament Reading from Mark 8 reveals the desire (and the blindness) of the Pharisees in seeking a sign even as Christ reveals to His disciples His forthcoming death and resurrection—the sign of Jonah. The Prayer of Confession from Romans I reveals how sin has blinded us to the revealed power and divine nature of who God is. The Assurance of Pardon from I Corinthians I reinforces the notion that Christ crucified and resurrected is the sign and wisdom for which we truly seek. In that truth, we sing Jesus, I My Cross, Have Taken.

The Communion Hymns, O Love of God and Alas and Did My Savior Bleed continue the theme of the sign of Jonah even as we conclude by singing Christ is Risen, Hallelujah—"in Him, forever, we have triumphed over all!"

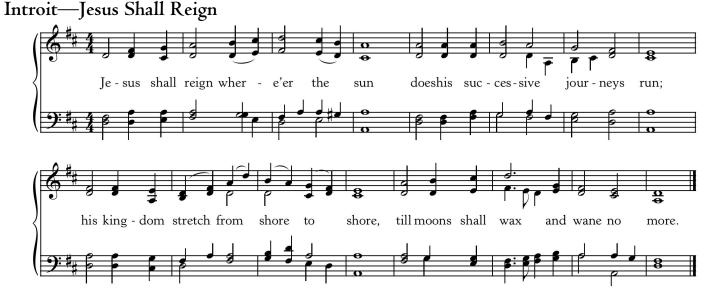
—Greg Wilbur

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into his courts.

Prelude

Announcements & Preparation



Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 65:1-5, 8

Pastor: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

All: When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

Pastor: Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!

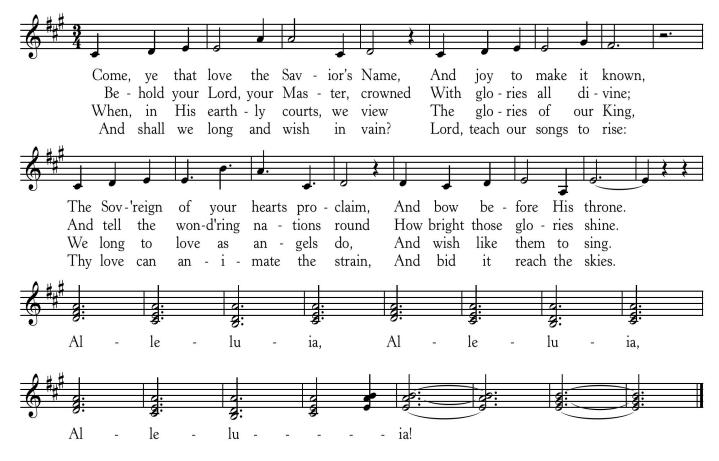
- All: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!
- Pastor: By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;
- All: Those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.

Pastor: You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838, Arr by William H. Monk, 1861.

Hymn of Praise—Come Ye that Love the Savior's Name



CCLI #11121087 ©2008 Andrea Tisher, Text: Anne Steele, 1769; Music: Andrea Tisher, 2008.

(Please be seated)

New Testament Reading—Mark 8:11-13; 31-38

If anyone would come after Christ, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Him

11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him [Jesus], seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." 13 And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

31 And he began to teach them [the disciples] that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

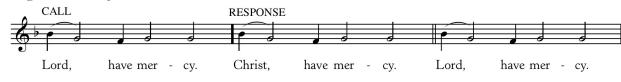
GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Sung Response—Come, O Redeemer, Come Fa - ther en-throned on high, Ho - ly, Ho - ly: An-cient e - ter-nal light, hear our prayer. Look now up - on our need, Lord be, with us; heal us and make us free, from our sin. Come, O Re-deem-er, come, Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us mer-cy. grant us peace. CCLI #11121087 ©1996 Metro One, Inc. Text and Music: Fernando Ortega, 1996. Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Romans I:18-23, 25 Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Your wrath is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of man, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. All: What can be known about You is plain because You have shown it to us. Pastor: Your invisible attributes—Your eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly perceived ever since the creation of the world in the things that have been made. All: We are without excuse, for although we knew You, we did not honor You or give thanks to You. Pastor: We became futile in our thinking and our foolish hearts were darkened. All: Claiming to be wise, we became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for earthly things.

Pastor: We have exchanged the truth of about You, O God, for a lie and worshipped the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever!

Sung Response—Kyrie

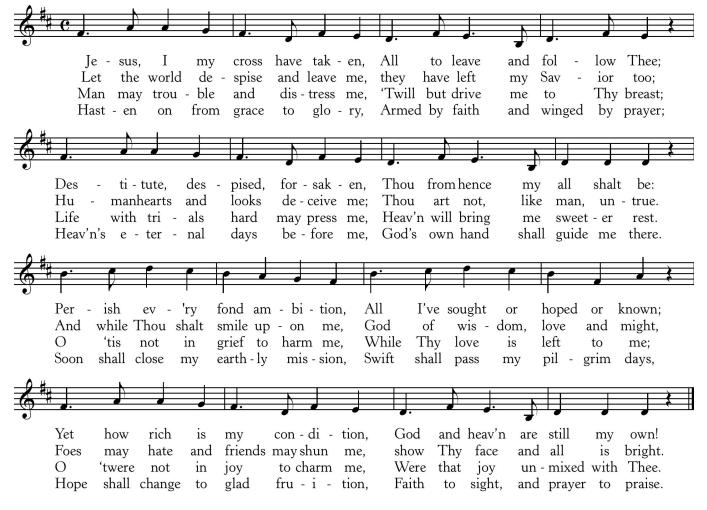


Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—I Corinthians I:22-25

22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Hymn of Praise-Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken



CCLI #11121087 © 2005 ReformedPraise.org Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1833: Music: Jeff Bourque, 2005.

The Reading of the Word—Luke II:29-32

29 When the crowds were increasing, he [Jesus] began to say, "This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. 30 For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. 31 The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. 32 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here."

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon—The Gospel of Luke, Part 54

A Sign of Things to Come

-Nate Shurden, Pastor

Profession of Faith-The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; The one holy Church—both visible and invisible; The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sung Response—O Praise the Father



Text: John Mason, 1683; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011.

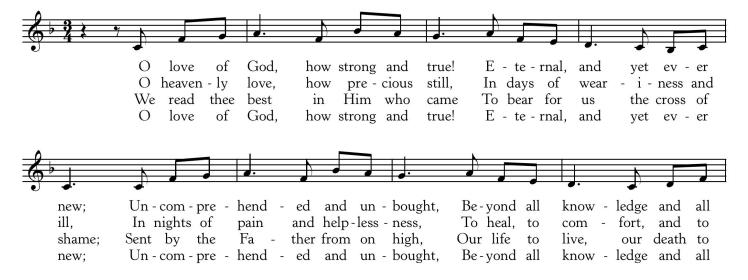
THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

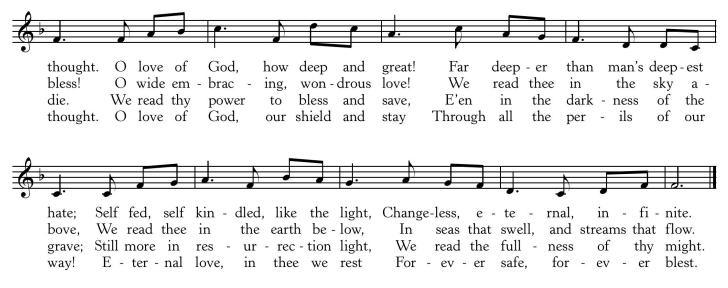
God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

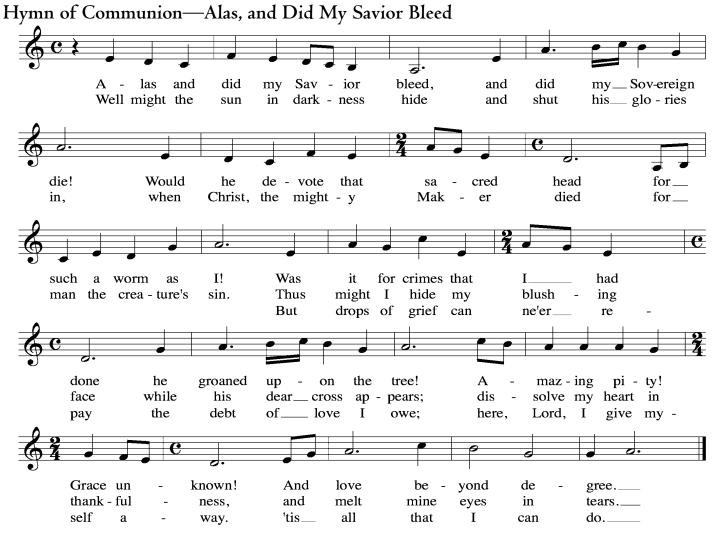
Having confessed our sins and made a good profession of faith, God's Table is open to all those "faithfully-fenced" members of the covenant community. Please come forward to partake of this means of grace. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Hymn of Communion—O Love of God





Text: Horatiua Bona, 1861; Music: © 2013 Greyfriars Press.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: © 2006 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

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 Praise—Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah!



Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: FOUNT OF GLORY, R.W. Thompson, 1864, Adapted Gregory Wilbur. ©2010 Gregory D Wilbur

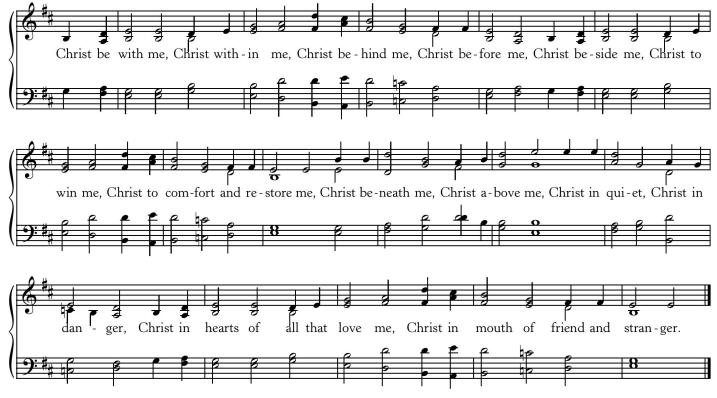
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



Text: Atomriug indui niurt tren, St. Patrick, 372-466, Trans by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-95; Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version