

Tates Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Liturgy Notes

Do you have questions about how we worship? This column answers the “what” and “why” of each element of our liturgy.

Call to Worship

The Call to Worship is traditionally the first element in a Christian liturgy, serving as the moment of consecration. God’s word is used to invite us into the sacred time of corporate worship, and we respond with our voices as an answer to His call.

Congregational Singing

A unique aspect of Christian worship is that we sing together. Our singing is an expression of love for God and joy in his gospel. Singing strong hymns grounded in the truths of our theology raises our eyes from awe of the created to awe of the Creator. Scripture commands us to sing. Beautiful voices are not required, but a community joining together to sing truth and to sing it with passion and conviction is beautiful to our God.

Order of Worship

August 23, 2020 at 9:00AM, 11:00AM, and 1:00PM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Prelude

Call to Worship based on Psalm 27; John 4:23

LEADER:

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

PEOPLE:

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

LEADER:

We desire to live in God’s house and to seek God in His holy temple.

PEOPLE:

We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

LEADER:

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

PEOPLE:

**Teach us Your ways and make straight our paths
in this hour of worship and always.**

Hymn of Rejoicing *Lift High The Cross*

George William Kitchin | Michael Robert Newbolt | Sydney Hugo Nicholson

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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**)

Led on their way by this triumphant sign
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine (**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 all atone
Creation’s praises rise before Thy throne (**REFRAIN**)

Invocation

Welcome & Announcements

RENEW Receive the grace of God

Scripture Reading Leviticus 26:1-6

1“You shall not make idols for yourselves or erect an image or pillar, and you shall not set up a figured stone in your land to bow down to it, for I am the Lord your God. **2**You shall keep my Sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord.

3“If you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them, **4**then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. **5**Your threshing shall last to the time of the grape harvest, and the grape harvest shall last to the time for sowing. And you shall eat your bread to the full and dwell in your land securely. **6**I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid. And I will remove harmful beasts from the land, and the sword shall not go through your land.

--

All men are like grass, their glory like flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, **but the Word of the Lord stands forever.**

Confession of God’s People

LEADER:

Father, some of us come to You this morning with weary souls. We are weary of waiting to know what tomorrow will bring. We are weary of political maneuvering. We are weary of sickness and death. We are weary of boredom.

PEOPLE:

Father, we confess in our weariness we have failed to see Your glory.

LEADER:

Father, some of us come to You this morning with angry hearts. We are angry at all the change the virus has caused to our lives. We are angry at those we live with for not understanding us or meeting our needs. We are angry that we can’t go where we want, and do what we want. We are angry at our loss of freedom.

PEOPLE:

Father, we confess in our anger we have failed to enjoy Your goodness.

(continue on next page)

Invocation

The minister invokes the presence of God that is promised to those who gather in His name. We ask for God to join us in worship, to lead us in worship, and to be pleased with our worship.

Confession of God’s People

In the Confession of Sin we humbly agree with Scripture’s claim that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. This is the most honest moment of our week, as we confess our sin and shame together. We do this corporately through a unison litany or prayer and individually through a moment of silence for private confession.

LEADER:

Father, some of us come to You this morning with fearful thoughts. We fear that we won't have money to pay our bills. We fear that we might not see people we love before they die. We fear that we might die. We fear that we will have to give up meeting together as a church for more months. We fear that our future plans will have to change yet again.

UNISON:

Father, we confess in our fears we have failed to trust Your sovereignty. Forgive us for shutting our eyes to Your glorious goodness and for our lack of faith. Amen.

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

Repentance of God's People

Our time of confession becomes a time of fresh commitment through corporate repentance. Together we boldly turn from all evil and offer our lives again to God. Only say these words if you are indeed willing to repent of your sins.

Repentance of God's People

MINISTER:

Do you turn from your lack of trust in God's promises to you?

PEOPLE:

We do.

MINISTER:

Do you turn from your obsession of things which cannot satisfy your soul?

PEOPLE:

We do.

MINISTER:

Do you turn from your doubts of the power and goodness of our Lord?

PEOPLE:

We do.

Assurance of God's Pardon

Confession and repentance is always met with the surety of God's grace. The minister proclaims to the penitent community words of pardon from Scripture, assuring our hearts of the grace that is already ours in Christ Jesus.

Assurance of God's Pardon Jeremiah 33:8

MINISTER:

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me,
and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

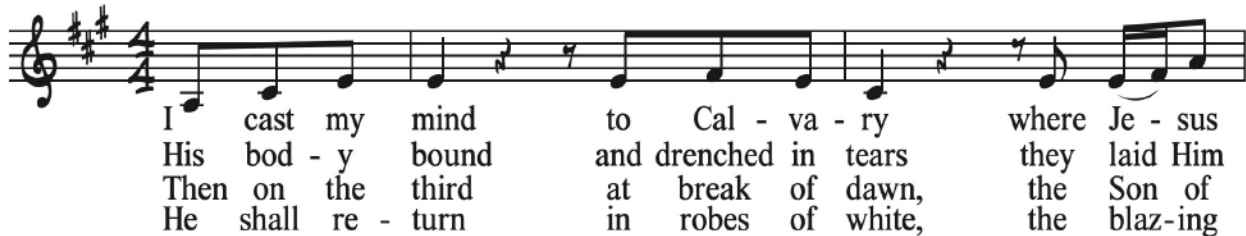
Hymn of Renewal O Praise The Name (Anástasis) (Music on Page 6)

O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

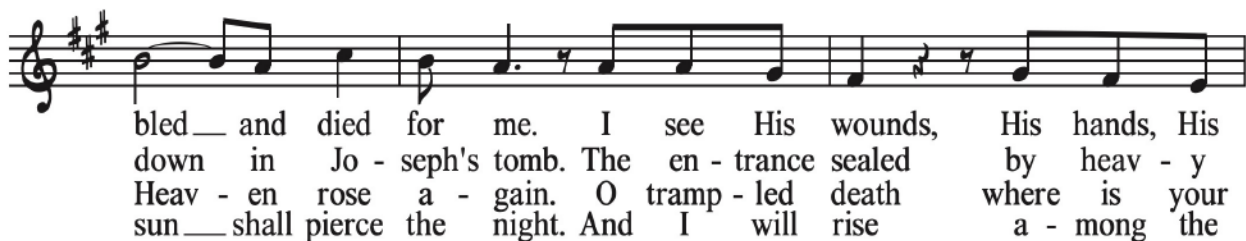
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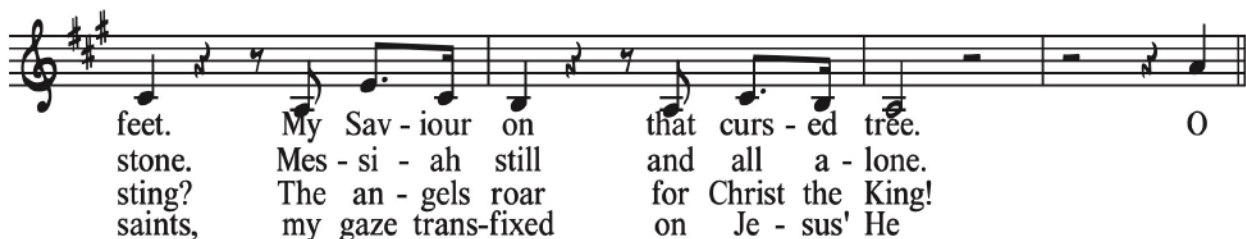
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I cast my mind to Cal - va - ry where Je - sus
His bod - y bound and drenched in tears they laid Him
Then on the third at break of dawn, the Son of
He shall re - turn in robes of white, the blaz - ing



bled and died for me. I see His wounds, His hands, His
down in Jo - seph's tomb. The en - trance sealed by heav - y
Heav - en rose a - gain. O tramp - led death where is your
sun shall pierce the night. And I will rise a - mong the



feet. My Sav - iour on that curs - ed tree. O
stone. Mes - si - ah still and all a - lone.
sting? The an - gels roar for Christ the King!
saints, my gaze trans - fixed on Je - sus' He



praise the Name of the Lord, our God. O praise His Name for -



ev - er - more. For end - less days we will sing Your praise. Oh



Lord, oh Lord our God.

Confession of Faith

We confess together the convicting truths of orthodoxy by reciting the ancient creeds of our faith. We share these words with saints throughout the centuries as well as those throughout the world today. This also serves as a bold proclamation to the watching world of what we believe is true.

Confession of Faith from Westminster Catechism

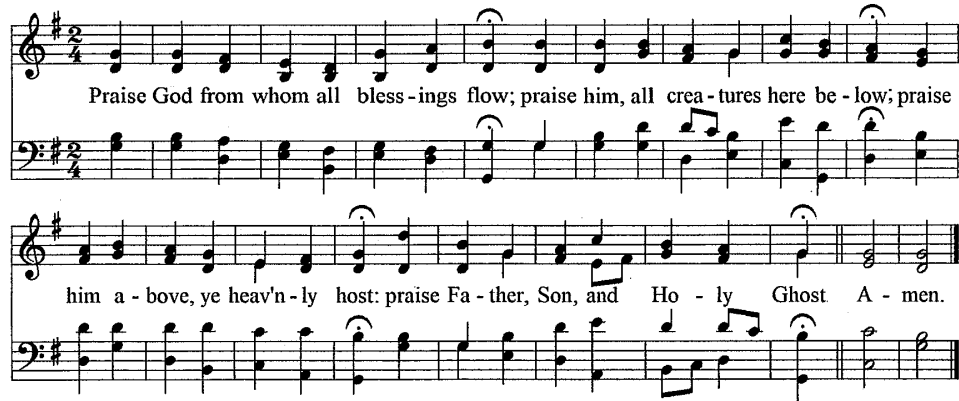
MINISTER:
What is sin?

PEOPLE:
Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

MINISTER:
Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

PEOPLE:
God, having out of His mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

Doxology Old Hundredth



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost A - men.

Offering

The offering is received, not merely as a way to pay the bills, but as an act of worship. In response to the God from whom all blessings flow, we give freely, joyfully, and sacrificially to His beloved bride, the Church.

Offertory Prayer

Hymn of Preparation *Spirit Of The Living God*

Daniel Iverson © Words: 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music

Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me

Melt me mold me
Fill me use me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall fresh on me

Scripture Reading Acts 8:9-25

9But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. **10**They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." **11**And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. **12**But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. **13**Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

14Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, **15**who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, **16**for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17**Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. **18**Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, **19**saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." **20**But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! **21**You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. **22**Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. **23**For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." **24**And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

25Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The preaching of God’s Word in the context of holy worship is the primary means of God’s voice to His people. Our trust is not in the ability of the preacher, but in the promise that God, by His Spirit working in and through His word, is speaking to us in exceptional ways. Therefore, we open our minds and hearts to the uniquely formative power of ordained preaching.

Sermon Rev. Robert Cunningham, Senior Minister

“Christless Christianity”

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PLEASE NOTE:

Communion elements were passed out as you entered the Sanctuary. If you did not receive elements, please raise your hand and they will be brought to you. A gluten-free option is available as well.

Words of Institution

MINISTER:

Let us together proclaim the hope of the Church:

UNISON:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again!

MINISTER:

I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after supper, He took the cup saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

Holy Communion

Communion

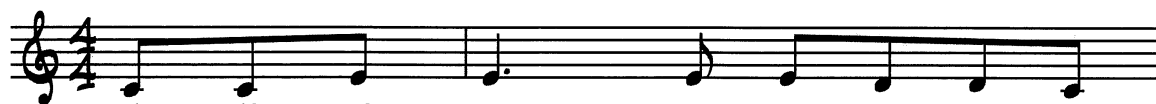
The sacrament of the Lord’s Supper is a holy ordinance, wherein Christ and his gospel are represented and applied to His people. Though the bread and wine are not literally the body and blood of Jesus, this meal is far more than a sentimental reminder. It is spiritual nourishment to our souls and a means of growth in His grace. Communion is the family meal of Christians, and all followers of Jesus who are in good standing with His Church are invited to partake.

Hymn of Response *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me*

Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson

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What gift of grace is Je - sus my Re -
The night is dark, but I am not for -
No fate I dread, I know I am for -
With ev - 'ry breath, I long to fol - low



deem - er; There is no more for Hea - ven now to give. He is my
sa - ken, for by my side, the Sa - viour He will stay. I la - bour
giv - en; the fu - ture sure, the price it has been paid. For Je - sus
Je - sus for He has said that He will bring me home. And day by



joy, my right - eous - ness, and free - dom; My stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less
on in weak - ness and re - joi - cing, for in my need, His pow - er is dis -
bled, and suf - fered for my par - don; And He was raised to ov - er - throw the
day, I know He will re - new me un - til I stand with joy be - fore the



peace. To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus, for my
played. To this I hold: my Shep - herd will de - fend me; Through the
grave! To this I hold: my sin has been de - feat - ed. Je - sus
throne. To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus. All the



life is who - lly bound to His. Oh how strange and div - ine, I can
deep - est val - ley He will lead. Oh the night has been won, and I
now and ev - er is my plea. Oh the chains are re - leased, I can
glo - ry ev - er - more to Him. When the race is com - plete, still my



sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
shall o - ver - come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
lips shall re - peat: Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Benediction

The minister raises His hands and pronounces God's benediction over the congregation, sending them forth with assurance from on high. Stretch forth your hands and open wide your hearts to receive the abundant blessings that are yours in Christ Jesus!

Benediction

MINISTER:
Go love your God;

PEOPLE:
Go love your neighbor.

Postlude



Giving Report: For more info, visit tcpca.org/give

July Giving: \$144,899

July Goal: \$184,211

Difference: -\$39,312

YTD Giving (Oct-Jul): \$1,856,620

YTD Expenses (Oct-Jul): \$2,042,697

Difference: -\$186,076

Announcements

New Worship Service Times

We will be holding three worship services each Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, and 1:00 PM. Please be sure to RSVP in advance, as this helps the planning team create the safest possible experience for everyone in attendance. You can RSVP online on our website at tcpca.org.

Parish Groups Starting in September

Parish Groups will be resuming in September! In light of the complexity of in-person gathering due to Covid-19, we aim to keep Parish Groups as simple as possible for the new year. Therefore, you will not need to sign up for a group this fall, but the groups from last year will remain in place. However, if you are new to Parish Groups, or need to be reassigned to a new group, email Mark Randle (mrandle@tcpca.org) and he will get you in a group. You will be hearing from your Parish Group leader in the coming weeks!

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible study for the Fall will begin on September 16. We will be using Nancy Guthrie's "The Wisdom of God: Seeing Jesus in the Psalms and Wisdom Books" which is available through several online bookstores. Various meeting options will be available, including in-person and video calls. Sign up will be available soon.

Job Openings at Trinity Christian Academy

Trinity is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Upper School Nurse (part-time)
- Upper School Aide (seasonal)
- Lower School Aides (seasonal)
- Lower School Custodian (seasonal)

For more information, contact Melissa Feaster at mfeaster@trinitylex.org.

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 859-272-4399 **Email:** contact@tcpca.org

Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org