



# 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

July 5, 2020 at 9:00 and 11:15AM

# **REJOICE** Declare the praises of God

# Prelude

# Call to Worship from 2 Chronicles 20

LEADER:

"O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you."

#### **PEOPLE:** We worship you as our King.

LEADER:

"O, our God, will you not execute justice on the earth? For we are powerless against this great enemy that is coming against us."

### **PEOPLE:** We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.

# Hymn of Rejoicing A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he, Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us. The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; One little word shall fell him.

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That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth; The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever.

# Invocation, Welcome, and Announcements

# **RENEW** Receive the grace of God

### Scripture Reading Revelation 19:11-16

<sup>11</sup>Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup>His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. <sup>13</sup>He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. <sup>14</sup>And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. <sup>15</sup>From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. <sup>16</sup>On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

LEADER: I The Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

#### 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.

#### **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.

#### 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.

### Confession of God's People UNISON:

All-glorious God and Father, you have made us a new creation in Christ yet we confess we still cling to our old nature and grieve the grace within us. Although we are children of the light, we have walked in the dark of our addictions and deadly desires. We have preferred the petty pleasures of sin over your all-satisfying worth. We confess we are often bored and unimpressed with Jesus, more concerned with our safe suburban life. We have forsaken the fountain of living water for cisterns that are empty and dry. We have loved the gifts more than the Giver. In your grace, break our love affair with this world and enthrall us with the glories of Jesus. Wean us from what fades and fails, that we may set our hope upon what is truly life. For the sake of Christ, Amen.

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

### Repentance of God's People from Psalm 79:9

MINISTER: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name;

#### **PEOPLE:**

Deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.

MINISTER: Restore us, O Lord of hosts;

**PEOPLE:** Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

#### Assurance of God's Pardon from Acts 13:38, Ephesians 1:7

MINISTER:

Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.





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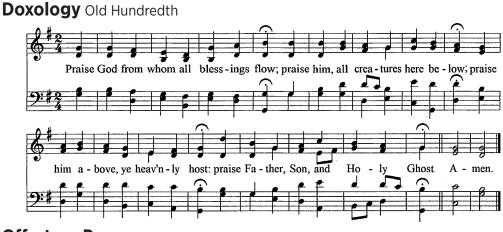
# **RESPOND** Embrace the call of God

### Confession of Faith The Apostles Creed

#### UNISON:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic<sup>+</sup> Church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

<sup>+</sup> Worldwide communion of faith, past, present, and future.



## **Offertory Prayer**

**Offertory** Is He Worthy? (Andrew Peterson)

### Scripture Reading 2 Chronicles 20:1-24

<sup>1</sup>After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat for battle. <sup>2</sup>Some men came and told Jehoshaphat, "A great multitude is coming against you from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar" (that is, Engedi). <sup>3</sup>Then Jehoshaphat was afraid and set his face to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. <sup>4</sup>And Judah assembled to seek help from the Lord; from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

**5**And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, **6**and said, "O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand

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#### **Confession of Faith**

We confess together the convictional 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.

#### 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.

#### Anthem

It is not just financial offerings that we give to God during this time but offerings of beauty as well. While the offering is collected, our choir offers up to God beautifully-composed music with text that meditates upon the truths of the gospel and the promises of God. God's gift of music (along with the work of his Spirit) helps us feel deeply and marvel at who he is, what he has done, and what he will do. you. **7**Did you not, our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? **8**And they have lived in it and have built for you in it a sanctuary for your name, saying, **9**If disaster comes upon us, the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before you—for your name is in this house—and cry out to you in our affliction, and you will hear and save.' **10**And now behold, the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from the land of Egypt, and whom they avoided and did not destroy—**11**behold, they reward us by coming to drive us out of your possession, which you have given us to inherit. **12**O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

<sup>13</sup>Meanwhile all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. <sup>14</sup>And the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. <sup>15</sup>And he said, "Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the Lord to you, Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's. <sup>16</sup>Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. <sup>17</sup>You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you."

**18**Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the Lord, worshiping the Lord. **19**And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to praise the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

**20**And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed." **21**And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the Lord and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say,

"Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever."

<sup>22</sup>And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. <sup>23</sup>For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

24When Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, they looked toward the horde, and behold, there were dead bodies lying on the ground; none had escaped.

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.** 

Sermon Rev. Will Witherington, Assistant Minister

# "Fear Not, Stand Firm"

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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.


#### Hymn of Response The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is his new creation by water and the Word: From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride; With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, She waits the consummation of peace forevermore; Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest, And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

### **Benediction**

MINISTER: Go love your God;

**PEOPLE:** Go love your neighbor.

#### Postlude

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

June Actual Giving: June Giving Goal: **Difference:**  \$172,603 YTD \$186,440 YTD -13,837 Diffe

YTD Actual Giving (Oct-Jun): YTD Actual Expenses (Oct-Jun): Difference: \$1,711,720 \$1,858,486 **-\$146,766** 

#### 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!

# Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

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Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org