

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 16, 2020 at 9:00AM, 11:00AM, and 1:00PM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Prelude *Meditation* (by Dan R. Edwards)

Handbell Choir

Call to Worship from Psalm 90

LEADER:

God, our Creator, from nothing you made our world.

PEOPLE:

You formed us, love us, and give us all that we need.

LEADER:

God, our Redeemer, you rescued us from sin.

PEOPLE:

You have given us new life and hope of healing to the world.

LEADER:

God, our Comforter, you are with us always.

PEOPLE:

You comfort us, renew us, and guide us into your truth.

ALL:

Almighty God, for your gracious love for us, we praise you. Amen.

Hymn of Rejoicing *O God Our Help in Ages Past*

Isaac Watts | William Croft © Public Domain

O God our Help in ages past
Our Hope for years to come
Our Shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal Home

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure
Sufficient is Thine arm alone
And our defense is sure

Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame
From everlasting Thou art God
To endless years the same

(continue on next page)

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun

Our God our Help in ages past
Our Hope for years to come
Be Thou our Guide while troubles last
And our eternal Home

Invocation

Welcome & Announcements

Baptism

11:00 - Chloe Grace Crowley, daughter of Andy & Lily Crowley

Declaration to Our Covenant Children from the Church of Scotland

UNISON:

For you Jesus Christ came into the world.

For you he lived and showed God's love.

For you he suffered the darkness of Calvary.

For you he triumphed over death and rose to new life.

For you he reigns at God's right hand.

All this he did for you, Chloe, though you do not know it yet.

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.

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 20:1-4

1“When you go out to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, you shall not be afraid of them, for the Lord your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. **2**And when you draw near to the battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the people **3**and shall say to them, ‘Hear, O Israel, today you are drawing near for battle against your enemies: let not your heart faint. Do not fear or panic or be in dread of them, **4**for the Lord your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.’

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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

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.

Confession of God’s People

UNISON:

Heavenly Father, your promises are endless, but we find it so hard to believe and trust. You are sovereign, but we fear our circumstances. You are faithful, but we fear the future. You are mighty, but we fear the world. You are gracious, but we fear our sins. You are risen, but we fear our death. Forgive our unbelief and restore to us an unshakable confidence in you.

- 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 the vanity of your fears?

MINISTER:

Do you return to the surety of your God?

PEOPLE:

We do.

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 from John 16

MINISTER:

In this world you will have tribulation.

But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Hymn of Renewal *His Mercy Is More*

Matt Boswell | Matt Papa

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What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
What pa - ti - ence would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us? His



nis - cient all know - ing He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home? He
blood was the pay - ment His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore, our
wel - comes the weak - est, the vi - lest, the poor,
stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford.



sins they are man - y His mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord His mer - cy is more.



Strong - er than dark - ness new ev - 'ry morn, Our



sins they are man - y His mer - cy is more.

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.

Confession of Faith from Westminster Catechism

MINISTER:

What is the chief end of man?

PEOPLE:

The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.

MINISTER:

What is God?

PEOPLE:

God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

MINISTER:

Are there more Gods than one?

PEOPLE:

There is but only one, the living and true God.

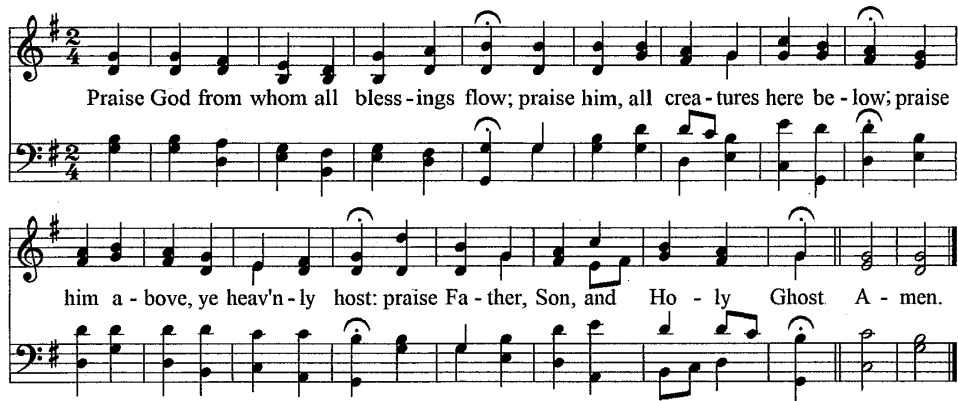
MINISTER:

How many persons are there in the Godhead?

PEOPLE:

There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

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

Offertory *Diademata Festal* (Arr. Bill Ingram)

Handbell Choir

Scripture Reading Acts 8:1-8

1And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. **2**Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. **3**But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

4Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. **5**Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. **6**And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. **7**For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. **8**So there was much joy in that city.

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Robert Cunningham, Senior Minister

“The Power of Persecution”

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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.

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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 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 *Jesus Draw Me Ever Nearer*

Keith Getty | Margaret Becker

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Je - sus draw me e - ver near - er as I la - bor thro' the




4 storm. You have called me to this pas - sage and I'll fol - low tho' I'm ___ worn.



9 Je - sus guide me thro' the temp - est Keep my spi - rit staid and
Let the treas - ures of the tri - al form with - in me as I



13 sure. When the mid - night meets the morn - ing, let me love You e - ven
go. At the end of this long pas - sage, let me leave them at Your



17 ___ more. May this jour - ney bring a bles - sing, may I rise ___ on wings of
___ throne!



21 ___ faith, and at the end of my hearts test - ing with Your



24 like - ness ___ let me ___ wake.

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 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