

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness. Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

“Come, Thou Almighty King” Felice de Giardini
arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

*Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise.
Father all glorious, o'er us victorious, come and reign over us, ancient of days.*

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Invocation

*Hymn 376 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we know Christ died to free us from sin
and to free us for faithfulness.
But we have failed to live what we know.
To those who seek your help, you grant strength;
yet we strive to do for ourselves.
To those who lift their hearts, you bend low;
yet we forget and fail to call on you.
To those who die in faith, you give new life;
yet we cling to what is safe and familiar.
Lord, forgive our lack of gratitude,
our neglect of your good gifts,
and our selfish living.
Bind us to you that we might live for you. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Anthem

“My Lord, What a Morning” African American spiritual
arr. R. Lee Gilliam

My Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall. You’ll hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God’s right hand, when the stars begin to fall. You’ll hear the sinners mourn, to wake the nations underground, looking to my God’s right hand, when the stars begin to fall.

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter

Psalm 46. Old Testament, page 489

*Gloria Patri (*sung*). The Hymnal, 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30 New Testament, page 11

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 403 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) From Colossians 1:15–20


Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ J. S. Bach

*Offertory Response



For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la-bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of-fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv-ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Minister: *Holy God, we praise you . . .*

*. . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs
of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly Lord, God of po- wer and might,
hea- ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bles-sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san- na in the high- est.

Minister: *With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup . . .*

*. . . We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word
made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever.*

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“Ave Verum. Karl Jenkins
*Jesu, word of God incarnate, of the blessed virgin Mary born,
on the cross thy sacred body for us all with nails was torn.
Cleanse us by the blood and water pouring from thy pierced side.
Feed us with thy body broken, now and at our death.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O God, through this bread and cup
you have made us one with you and with each other.
May the unity we find at this table be a gift
that we carry out into your suffering and divided world.
Help us find strength in knowing that you,
the God of peace, will always be with us. Amen.

*Hymn 564 “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

American Hymn. Richard Keys Biggs

Worship Leaders

Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Men of the Morning Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

THE COVER QUOTE is from Walter Brueggemann's book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for "Holy, Holy, Holy" is © 1997 by John Sherer. All are used by permission.

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