

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 3, 2017

Preparation for Worship

Music for Gathering

Announcements

Scripture for Meditation

Romans 13:11-12

Now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand.

Silent Prayer

God Calls Us Into His Presence

† **Salutation and Responsive Call to Worship** Luke 1:46-50

Pastor: We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Our souls magnify the Lord!

People: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

Pastor: The mighty One has done great things for us!

People: Holy is God's name!

Pastor: Let us worship God.

**People: For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;
from generation to generation God gives mercy.**

We Respond to God's Call

†* **Hymn of Praise, No. 34** *The God of Abraham Praise*

† **Prayer of Adoration**

God Cleanses Us of Our Sins

Call to Confession Psalm 106:6

We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

Confession of Sin (congregation kneels, as able)

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. [silent prayer of confession] Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon** Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

We Respond to God's Declaration

† **The Gloria Patri** (with hands lifted)

*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.*

†* **Hymn of Praise, No. 196** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

New Testament Lesson

James 2:1-10

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

† **Psalm 24, Hymn No. 198**

Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates

† **Gospel Lesson**

Luke 1:39-56

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon

*“Magnificat”
(Luke’s Nativity Hymns, 1)*

We Respond to God’s Instruction

† **Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

† **The Prayer of the Church**

(When the pastor says, “God of all mercies,” the congregation responds, “**Hear our prayer.**”)

Tithes and Offerings

† Doxology, No. 731

(with hands lifted)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

God Communes With Us at His Table

The Communion

Eucharistic Meditation and Prayer of Consecration

Distribution of Bread: Hymn No. 420 (hymnal insert)

Distribution of Wine

(Outermost ring of cups contain grape juice; all others contain wine)

We Respond to God's Gift

† Hymn of Commitment, No. 195

Joy to the World!

God Commissions Us to Go Into the World

† Charge

† Benediction

We Respond to God's Charge

† Threefold Amen, No. 740

