



**COVENANT**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA**

The Lord's Day  
January 7, 2024

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 7, 2024

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

Genesis 50:18-20

Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, "Behold, we are your servants." Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day to save many people alive.

SILENT PRAYER

## God Calls Us Into His Presence

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† SALUTATION

Elder: Grace and peace in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Elder: The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**People: And also, with you!**

Elder: This is the day the Lord has made;

*Psalm 118:24*

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 150:1-2, 6

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness . . . Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

†\* THE HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 53

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

## God Cleanses Us of Our Sins

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THE READING OF GOD'S LAW

Pastor: Hear now the commandments of Your God, which he has commanded you to keep, saying, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." This is the first and great commandment.

**People: And the second, like unto it is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

Pastor: Have you fully obeyed the Lord in all that he has commanded?

**People: No, but we have sinned against Him in thought, word, and deed.**

CORPORATE CONFESSION

(congregation kneels as able)

**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 personal confession] **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” *Romans 8:1*

† **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:** (printed in bulletin)

“In Christ Alone”

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

### **God Consecrates us By His Word**

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**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**THE EPISTLE READING:**

*Ephesians 3:1-12*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**THE GOSPEL READING:**

*Matthew 2:1-12*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

**People: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**PSALM 23, NO. 87:**

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

**THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:**

*Ruth 1*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE PREACHING OF GOD’S WORD**

The Gospel According to Ruth, Part 1: The Bitter-Sweet Providence of God

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH:** 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.

*\*catholic=universal*

† **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be 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 OFFERTORY**

† **THE DOXOLOGY**

(with hands lifted)

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

## **God Communes with Us at His Table**

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**THE COMMUNION**

**Eucharistic Meditation and Fencing of the Table**

**Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ**

**Hymn:** *Behold the Lamb*, verses 1 and 2 (printed in bulletin)

**Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ**

**Hymn:** *Behold the Lamb*, verses 3 and 4 (printed in bulletin)

**Prayer**

## God Commissions Us to Go Into the World

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- † **HYMN OF RESPONSE, NO. 128** “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”  
**Congregational Response: Amen!**
- † **THE BENEDICTION:** Numbers 6:24-26  
The LORD bless you and keep you;  
The LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- † **THE THREE-FOLD AMEN**
- † **THE POSTLUDE**

† Congregation stands, if able

\* Seating for latecomers at this time

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# In Christ Alone

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

## VERSE

♩ = 60

A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup>



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my  
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less  
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in



E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup>



song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to  
slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose a -  
me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings  
save. Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -  
gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on  
ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His



B<sup>b</sup> sus B<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G Fm7 A<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>



cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.  
me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!



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# Behold The Lamb

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty  
and Stuart Townend

## VERSE

G2/B                      A/C#                      D                      Em7 D/F#                      A                      D/F#                      G2

1. Be hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us:  
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you:  
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you:  
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re - spond

4                      D/A                      A7sus                      A7 G2/B                      A/C#                      D                      Em7 D/F#                      A                      D/F#

And we re - mem - ber the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for -  
Eat and re - mem - ber the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the  
Drink and re - mem - ber He drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re -  
and to re - mem - ber our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as His

7                      G2                      A7sus A7                      D                      D/F#                      G2                      D2/F# Gmaj7 A2 D/F#                      G2

give - ness at the cross.                      So, we share                      in this Bread of Life, and we drink                      of His  
price to make us one.                      So, we share                      in this Bread of Life, and we drink                      of His  
ceive the life of God.                      So, we share                      in this Bread of Life, and we drink                      of His  
bod - y here on earth.                      As we share                      in His suf - fer - ing, we - proclaim:                      Christ will

12      D2/F#   G2 A   D/F#   G2                      D2/F# Gmaj7 A7sus   G2/B                      Gmaj7   A7

sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of peace a - round the ta - ble of the  
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of love a - round the ta - ble of the  
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of grace a - round the ta - ble of the  
come a - gain! And we'll join in the feast of heav'n a - round the ta - ble of the

**TURNAROUND / OUTRO**

D2                      D2/G                      D2                      D2/G                      D2

King.  
King.  
King.  
King.



