

# The Lord's Service

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Sunday, May 4, 2025



COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

### SILENT PRAYER

## GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

### † SALUTATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you!

*Ruth 2:4*

**And also with you!**

By God's great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope *1 Peter 1:3*  
**through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

### † CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 34:1-3

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

### †\* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 167: "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

### † PRAYER OF ADORATION

† Congregation stands, if able | \* Seating for latecomers at this time | All Scripture readings are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Assistive listening devices are available for use during worship services. Please inquire at the sound booth.

## GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

### CALL TO CONFESSION: Jeremiah 31:33-34

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

### CORPORATE CONFESSION (kneel as able)

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave,  
you shattered the power of sin and death.  
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,  
bound by the ways that lead to death.  
We fail to proclaim the gospel in word and deed,  
we ignore your call to discipleship.  
We overlook the poor and the hungry,  
and pass by those who mourn. Forgive us, God of mercy!  
Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new,  
that we may know the joy of life abundant,  
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.**

[Silent prayer of personal confession] **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **THE PEACE**

† **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.**

†\* **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 647: "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"**

## GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-19

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

#### THE EPISTLE READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

† PSALM 62, NO. 666: "In Silence My Soul Is Waiting" (vv. 1, 4, 5)

† GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:1-8

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

### PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

*The Father Speaks*

(Matthew 17:5)

† CONFESSION 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.      *\*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.

OFFERTORY

† 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

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## GOD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

### † SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

### † SANCTUS

*Sung in unison*

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts Heav'n and earth are full\_\_of your Glo - ry. Ho

san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he\_\_ who\_ comes\_\_

in\_\_ the name of the Lord our God. Ho - san - na, ho-san-na in the High - est.

**EUCCHARISTIC MEDITATION**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

**Communion Meditation Silence**

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

**Communion Song: "In Christ Alone" (p. 8)**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

**GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD**

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 644: "May the Mind of Christ My Savior"**

† **BENEDICTION: Numbers 6:24-26**

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen."

† **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

† **POSTLUDE**

# In Christ Alone

(as published by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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



4

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 -



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## In Christ Alone - 2

8

E $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G B $\flat$ sus B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  Cm7

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

12

B $\flat$ sus B $\flat$  A $\flat$  E $\flat$  A $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm7 A $\flat$ /B $\flat$  E $\flat$

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!