

# The Lord's Service

The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 28, 2025



**COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

**Post Tenebras Lux**

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Hebrews 10:5-7, 10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” ... And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

### 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!**

### † CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 105:1-2

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

### †\* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 75: “O Father, You Are Sovereign”

### † 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:** Psalm 143:1-2

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness! Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.

**CORPORATE CONFESSION:** (kneel as able)

**Eternal God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.**

[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. 335: "Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me"**

## GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Esther 9:1-19** (sermon text)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

**But the Word of our God will stand forever!**

*Isaiah 40:8*

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Colossians 2:8-15**

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

† **PSALM 63, NO. 663: "O God Eternal, You Are My God!"**

† **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 19:23-30**

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

### PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

(Defensive) Holy War

1. The Headline (vv. 1-5)

2. The Holy War (vv. 6-16)

3. The Holiday (vv. 17-19)

† **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**

**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**

## 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.

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE 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.**

**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: NO. 427 "Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands" (printed on page 8)**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

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

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 128: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"**

† **BENEDICTION: Revelation 1:4b-5a**

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come,  
and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ  
the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

† **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

† **POSTLUDE**

# Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

427

*Jesus came and stood among them and said .... "Put your finger here; see my hands."*  
John 20:26, 27

Capo 3: ♮ (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B) (Em) (D) (A) (D) 7

1. A - midst us our Be - lov - ed stands, and bids us  
 2. What food lux - u - rious loads the board, when at his  
 3. If now, with eyes de - filed and dim, we see the  
 4. O glo - rious Bride - groom of our hearts, your pres - ent

(G) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B)

view his pierc - ed hands; points to the wound - ed  
 ta - ble sits the Lord! The wine how rich, the  
 signs, but see not him; O may his love the  
 smile a heav'n im - parts! O lift the veil, if

(Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮ (A<sup>7</sup>) (Bm) (Em<sup>7</sup>) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) 7

feet and side, blest em - blems of the Cru - ci - fied.  
 bread how sweet, when Je - sus deigns the guests to meet!  
 scales dis - place, and bid us see him face to face!  
 veil there be, let ev - ery saint your glo - ry see!