

Sunday, January 3, 2010
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 9:45AM

Announcements and *Welcome!

- We welcome you to our service today! It is a blessing when God's people gather to worship Him in spirit and truth! We trust that those visiting for the first time will sense our desire to follow a pattern of worship derived from God's word; the priorities of which are outlined in the major headings in this order of worship. We invite visitors to sign our Guest Book and to acquire resources regarding our church and mission.
- Each Sunday we participate in a sacrament instituted by Christ to express our communion with him and to remember Gospel truths. When coming to the Lord's Table, participants are stating that they are baptized believers and active members, in 'good standing,' with a Bible teaching church. We must also come with repentant hearts and a faith in Christ alone as savior of our souls and his church. The sacraments of the church teach us to "see and sense" the true foundation for fellowship with God and each other.
- We encourage "family worship" here (as well as at home)! Families attempting to do such, should access our "family seating area." However, this time is set apart to focus attention upon God's attributes and actions! Please be sensitive to "distractions" by utilizing our childcare room which is equipped with TV monitoring of the service.
- May God be glorified and honored in all that we do in His name today!

Preparation for Worship with Prayer and Songs of Ascent

***Hymn – I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord # 353**

I love Thy Kingdom, Lord; the house of Thine abode,
The church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

*I love Thy church, O God: Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye, and graven on thy hand.*

For Her my tears shall fall, for Her my prayers ascend;
To Her my cares and toils be giv'n, till toils and cares shall end.

*Beyond my highest joy, I prize Her heav'nly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows; Her hymns of love and praise.*

***Call to Worship**

Psalms 103:19–20

Elder – The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.

All – Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word!

***Confession and Cleansing**

Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon

*"For their sake He remembered His covenant, and relented according to the abundance of His steadfast love."
–Psalm 106:45*

Song – Praise to the Lord, The Almighty!

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear—, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

(continued)

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*Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen— how thy desires ever have been,
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the, "Amen—" sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Consecration by the Word

Old Testament Law – Exodus 19:4–6

("...you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation...")

Old Testament Prophet – 1 Samuel 13:13–14

(Because of King Saul's disobedience, his kingdom would be given to another.)

Reader – The words of the Lord. **Congregation** – Thanks be to God.

Psalm – 145:11–14

(Duke Street)

They of Your kingdoms glories speak, and of Your power they will tell.
People may then His great works know; His kingdoms glories that excel.

*Your kingdom has no end at all; through all the ages You will reign.
All those brought low the Lord lifts up, and those who fall, He will sustain.*

New Testament Gospel – Luke 1:26–33

(Mary is told that her baby will ascend to the throne of King David.)

New Testament Epistle – Acts 28:23–31

("From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God...")

Reader – The words of the Lord. **Congregation** – Thanks be to God.

***Song – Before the Throne of God Above**

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great high Priest whose Name is "Love," Who ever lives & pleads for me.
*My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart.
I know that while in Heav'n He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart;
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin.
*Because the sinless Savior died my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me;
To look on Him and pardon me.*

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace,
*One in Himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood,
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God!
With Christ my Savior and my God!*

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Sermon: "The Wonder Of... The Kingdom"
(Message by: Rev. Kent Moorlach; Text: Matthew 4:12–5:12)

Coming Together as the Church

Elder's Response & Affirmation of Faith – WLC Q. 53

Elder – How was Christ exalted in his ascension?

All – Christ was exalted in his ascension, in that having after his resurrection often appeared unto and conversed with his apostles, speaking to them of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God, and giving them commission to preach the gospel to all nations, forty days after his resurrection, he, in our nature, and as our head, triumphing over enemies, visibly went up into the highest heavens, there to receive gifts for men, to raise up our affections, and to prepare a place for us, where he also is, and shall continue till his Second Coming at the end of the world.

Offertory –

[Please pass the offering baskets through your section toward the back. If you have a special prayer request, please fill out a prayer card (available at the entry table) and place it in the offering basket. Thank you.]

Congregational Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Communion Through the Sacraments

Sacrament of The Lord's Table

The presiding minister will give direction for participation in this meal.
{Wine is located on the table edge nearest to the cross. Grape juice is on the outside.}

***Hymn of Preparation – His Presence**

(Solid Rock)

Now may we gather with our King; united in this low dwelling:
Praises to Him we now will bring, for wondrous mercies foretelling;
*Jesus, his grace to us accords, Spirit and life are all his words,
His presence hallows temples.*

Here stands the font before our eyes washed with new life, His grace supplies.
The table views Christ's sacrifice, remembered here, atoning price;
*Here sounds the Word that does proclaim: Christ yesterday, today, the same,
His presence hallows temples.*

Commissioning of the Church

***Closing Prayer, Doxology, Benediction & 3-fold Amen**

*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!*

***Those who are able, please stand.** –CCLI #2831635
▯ Please join us after the service for refreshments, fellowship, and Sunday School classes ▯
▯ Prepare for each Sunday Service by visiting www.comunionpres.org/service.html ▯