



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

Jackson, Tennessee

Christmas Season

January 5, 2025

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 5, 2025

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ADVENT MEDITATION: Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### 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!**

This is the day the Lord has made;

Psalm 118:24

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

### † 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!

### †\* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 53: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

### † 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:

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.

**And the second, like unto it is this,**

**"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

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

**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: Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

#### † 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: "In Christ Alone" (printed on page 8)

## GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** Genesis 50:15-21

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**EPISTLE READING:** Ephesians 1:3-12

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 10:26-32

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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

† **PSALM 23, NO. 87:** "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

**READING OF GOD'S WORD:** Romans 8:28-30, 11:33-36

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD**

The Providence of God

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH:** Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic\* church,**

the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. 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

9

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

17

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

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

**Communion Song, No. 500: "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" v. 1-2**

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

**Communion Song, No. 500: "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" v. 3-4**

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

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

† **HYMN OF PRAISE:** The Song of Simeon" (Tune: St. Columba, "How Sweet and Awesome is this Place")

Lord bid your servant go in peace, your word is now fulfilled.

These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world, the Gentile's promised light,

God's glory dwelling in our midst, the Joy of Israel.

† **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.

† **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



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!