



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Jackson, Tennessee

Epiphany

January 19, 2025

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 19, 2025

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 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.

HYMN FOR MEDITATION: "It Is Well with My Soul"

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 146:1-2, 10

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. ... The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

†* PSALM 146, NO. 57: "Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul"

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Hear now the commandments of your God, which he has commanded you to keep, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol.

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet.

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: Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

† 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. 457: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING: Philippians 2:5-11

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:22-38

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

† HYMN OF PRAISE: "There Is a Redeemer" (printed on page 8)

READING OF GOD'S WORD: Mark 1:1-13

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

The Gospel of Mark: When the Kingdom Comes

† **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. 252: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" v. 1-2

Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ

Communion Song, No. 252: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" v. 3-4

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 170: "Fairest Lord Jesus"**

† **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**

† 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.

There Is A Redeemer

Words and Music by
Melody Green

VERSE

♩ = 92 D Dsus D Dsus D A D G A D A D Dsus D

1. There is a Re - deem - er Je - sus, God's own Son; Pre - cious Lamb of
 2. Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names; Pre - cious Lamb of
 3. When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face; There I'll serve my

CHORUS

6 Dsus D Dsus D G G/B Asus A7 D D D/F# G D

God, Mes - si - ah, Ho - - - ly One. Thank You, O my Fa - ther, for
 God, Mes - si - ah, O for sin - ners slain.
 King for - ev - er in that ho - ly place.

11 G A D A7 D Dsus D Dsus D Dsus D G G/B Asus A7 D

giv - ing us Your Son, and leav - ing Your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

CCLI Song # 11483

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“It Is Well with My Soul”

The beloved hymn “It Is Well with My Soul” was written by Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) after enduring many trials and hardships. On November 15, 1873, Spafford’s wife and four daughters boarded a luxury passenger ship, the Ville Du Havre. The Spaffords experienced significant financial loss in the Great Chicago Fire, and the trip to England was meant to restore health to Spafford’s wife, Anna. Horatio was to join his family after attending to some business affairs.

On November 22, 1873, the Ville Du Havre was struck by a Scottish iron ship named the Loch Earn. Anna Spafford spoke of her children’s courage as the ship sank.

“The dear children were so brave. They died praying. Annie said to Maggie and me just before we were swept off the steamer, “Don’t be frightened, Maggie, God will take care of us, we can trust Him; and you know Mama, ‘The Sea is His and He made it’” (Vester).

Anna Spafford felt her baby, Tanetta, being torn from her hands. Anna soon lost consciousness, and when she came to, she found herself in a boat without her children. It was then that she understood her children had perished.

The Ville Du Havre sank 12 minutes after the collision, leaving only 87 survivors of the 313 passengers and crew members. When Anna Spafford arrived in Wales, she sent a telegram to her husband stating, “Saved alone what shall I do ...” She then recounted the deaths of all four children as well as the others in their company.

Horatio immediately departed to be with his wife. In a letter to his sister, Horatio recalls passing over the spot where the ship sank, “They are safe, folded, the dear lambs, and there, before very long, shall we be too. In the meantime, thanks to God, we have an opportunity to serve and praise Him for His love and mercy to us and ours” (Vester).

Ira D. Sankey, a singer and hymn writer, and pastor Dwight L. Moody visited and comforted the Spaffords during their time of loss. In 1876, a few years after the tragedy, Sankey spent some time with the Spaffords. Sankey recalls that it was during this visit that Horatio penned the hymn “It Is Well with My Soul” to remember the death of his children.