

The Lord's Service

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 30, 2025



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Psalm 133

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

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!

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

Psalm 51:17

A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise!

+ CALL TO WORSHIP: Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

+* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 100: "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

+ PRAYER OF ADORATION

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION: Romans 12:9-18

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope,

be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

CORPORATE CONFESSION (kneel as able)

Merciful Lord,

**Pardon all my sins of this day, week,
year, all the sins of my life,
sins of early, middle, and advanced years,
of omission and commission,
of morose, peevish and angry tempers,
of lip, life and walk,
of hard-heartedness, unbelief,
presumption, pride,
of unfaithfulness to the souls of men,
of want of bold decision in the cause
of Christ,
of deficiency in outspoken zeal for
his glory,
of bringing dishonor upon thy great
name,
of deception, injustice, untruthfulness
in my dealings with others,
of impurity in thought, word and deed,
of covetousness, which is idolatry,
of substance unduly hoarded, improv-
idently squandered,
not consecrated to the glory of thee,**

**the great Giver;
sins in private and in the family,
in study and recreation, in the busy
haunts of men,
in the study of thy Word and in the
neglect of it,
in prayer irreverently offered and
coldly withheld,
in time misspent,
in yielding to Satan's wiles,
in opening my heart to his temptations,
in being unwatchful when I know
him nigh,
in quenching the Holy Spirit;
sins against light and knowledge,
against conscience and the restraints
of thy Spirit,
against the law of eternal love.
Pardon all my sins, known and unknown,
felt and unfelt,
confessed and not confessed,
remembered or forgotten.
Good Lord, hear; and hearing, forgive.**

[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. 356: "How Beautiful the Sight"

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Zechariah 14:1-9

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 4:1-6

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

† PSALM 119, NO. 149: "Teach me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth"

† GOSPEL READING: John 17:20-23

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

The Unity of the Church

† CONFESSION OF FAITH: Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 25

1. The catholic or universal church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the Head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

2. The visible church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion; and of their children: and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

3. Unto this catholic visible church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints, in this life, to the end of the world: and doth, by his own presence and Spirit, according to his promise, make them effectual thereunto.

† 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, No. 429: "Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured" v. 1-3 (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: 2 Corinthians 13:14**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

† **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

† **POSTLUDE**

Let Thy Blood In Mercy Poured (Jesus Meine Zuversicht)

Verse 1

Let Thy blood in mercy poured
Let Thy gracious body broken
Be to me O gracious Lord
Of Thy boundless love the token
Thou didst give Thyself for me
Now I give myself to Thee

Verse 2

Thou didst die that I might live
Blessed Lord Thou came'st to save me
All that love of God could give
Jesus by His sorrows gave me
Thou didst give Thyself for me
Now I give myself to Thee

Verse 3

By the thorns that crowned Thy brow
By the spear wound and the nailing
By the pain and death, I now claim
O Christ Thy love unfailing
Thou didst give Thyself for me
Now I give myself to Thee

Johann Crüger, John Brownlie
CCLI Song #721292

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NOTES

I. Charity (vv. 1-3)

II. Trinity (vv. 4-6)