

Bulletin for Worship

November 8th, 2020

Call to Worship

Krista Tahlman

Today, as we listen, the Word of God will speak to our hearts. We will receive a message of peace for our minds and comfort for our souls. We are secure in the knowledge that God's steadfast love will keep us safe.

As we worship the Lord God, we are drawn together and brought into the presence of God where we are renewed and restored.

Hymn: Glory to God Hymnal #771 "What is the World Like" vs. 1, 2 and 4

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:

Roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.

This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Witness the wandering child coming home;

Watch as the parent breaks into a run.

This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,

Tending our lamps till the new day's begun.

This is how God readies us for the light.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2009, © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.

MUSIC (NEW WORLD 10.10.10): Sally Ann Morris, 2009; © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.

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Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we struggle with the loss and grief that surrounds us, and we are overwhelmed by what is happening in our lives. We see so much foolishness and meaningless commotion that fills the world. We do not want to be among the foolish, but are not sure what we need to do in order to be replenished in Your wisdom and compassion. Free us from chasing after what does not satisfy and trying to be happy with trinkets and toys. We need to hear Your promises of comfort and peace. We need to step away from the chaos and absurdity that dominates our world so that we may have strength to shine Your light of hope. Forgive us for all of the times we choose distraction over peace, and selfishness over what is true and meaningful. In the name of Christ who loves and forgives us we pray. Amen.

Take a few moments to offer your own silent confession.

Assurance of Hope and Forgiveness

Have confidence in this, God is faithful to us even when we are foolish. Christ's love for us is constant, even when we are selfish. Through Jesus' sacrifice and love we have been forgiven.

Thanks be to God for the love and grace that will lift us and set us free. Amen.

The Presbyterian Hymnal #579 "Gloria Patri"

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.

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Glory Be to the Father

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text. Composer: Henry W. Greatorex (1851)

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Special music: "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"

*Sung by the Ecumenical Reformation Choir at St. Pat's Concert Hall, Fond du Lac, WI
October 22, 2017*

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
for the time is drawing nigh.

Children don't get weary;
children, don't get weary;
children, don't get weary,
till the work is done.

Christian journey soon be over
Christian journey soon be over
Christian journey soon be over
for the time is drawing nigh.

African American Spiritual

Matthew 25:1-13

^{25:1} 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." ¹²But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Message: "Grieving With Hope "

Prayer

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.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Sending: Glory to God #765 "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

May the God of hope
go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love
and joy and peace.

May the God of justice
speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope
to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984

MUSIC (ARGENTINA 11.11.11.11 with refrain): Argentine folk melody

Benediction