

CHRIST CHURCH

Worshiping Christ and equipping God's people to extend His Lordship
down through our generations
and out into the world.

COVENANT RENEWAL WORSHIP Lord's Day, September 25, 2016 9:30 AM

Meditation

Christianity is a fighting religion. It thinks God has made the world - that space and time, heat and cold, and all the colors and tastes, and all the animals and vegetables, are things that God 'made up out of His head' as a man makes up a story. But it also thinks that a great many things have gone wrong with the world that God made and that God insists, and insists very loudly, on our putting them right again.

C.S. Lewis

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever;
With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.
For I have said, "Mercy shall be built up forever;
Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens."
"I have made a covenant with My chosen,
I have sworn to My servant David:
"Your seed I will establish forever,
And build up your throne to all generations." Selah
And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord;
Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints. **AMEN**

Psalm 89:1-5

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Trinity Hymnal 4

1 All praise to God, who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of wonders, pow'r, and love,
the God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul he fills,
the God who every sorrow stills.

To God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty pow'r hath made
his gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning dawn or evening shade
his watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
within the kingdom of his might,
lo, all is just and all is right.
To God all praise and glory!

3 I cried to him in time of need:
Lord God, O hear my calling!
For death he gave me life indeed
and kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be;
O thank him, thank our God, with me.
To God all praise and glory!

4 The Lord forsaketh not his flock,
his chosen generation;
he is their refuge and their rock,
their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand
he leads his own, his chosen band.
To God all praise and glory!

5 Ye who confess Christ's holy name,
to God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim,
to God give praise and glory!
All idols underfoot be trod,
the Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!

6 Then come before his presence now
and banish fear and sadness;
to your Redeemer pay your vow
and sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell,
the Lord, my God, did all things well,
To God all praise and glory! **AMEN**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the Lord.

Congregation: Praise the Lord, O my soul.

Leader: I will praise the Lord all my life;

Congregation: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save.

**Congregation: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the

Lord his God,

Congregation: The Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—
the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

Leader: He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

Congregation: The Lord sets prisoners free,
the Lord gives sight to the blind,

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

Congregation: The Lord watches over the alien
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

Leader: The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Congregation: Praise the Lord. AMEN

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

Trinity Hymnal 57

1 Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
nor for help on man depend;
he shall die, to dust returning,
and his purposes shall end.

2 Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
he is blessed whose hope of blessing
on the Lord his God is stayed.
Heav'n and earth the Lord created,
seas and all that they contain;
he delivers from oppression,
righteousness he will maintain.

3 Food he daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
raises those bowed down with anguish,
makes the sightless eye to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
and the stranger he befriends,
helps the fatherless and widow,
judgment on the wicked sends.

4 Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
through all ages he is King;
unto him, your God, O Zion,
joyful hallelujahs sing. **AMEN**

Confession of Sin

And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, “O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.” **AMEN** *Daniel 9:4-5*

Silent Confession followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Congregation: Heavenly Father, eternal and merciful God,
we acknowledge and confess before Your divine majesty that we are
poor, miserable sinners.

But we are penitent, Lord,
and we grieve because of our sins whereby we provoked Your wrath.
We bring accusation against ourselves
and lay transgression to our own charge.

Make us bold to desire that You may, in mercy, regard our miseries.

Have compassion on us, most merciful God and Father,

and be pleased to forgive all our sins for the sake of the passion of
Your dear Son, Jesus Christ.

Your

In His name we pray. **AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

“O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.” **AMEN**
Daniel 9:8-9

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

From Depths of Woe I Raise to Thee - Martin Luther/Greg Wilbur

1 From depths of woe I raise to Thee
the voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
and hear my supplication:
if Thou shouldst be extreme to mark
each secret sin and misdeed dark,
O who could stand before Thee?
O who could stand before Thee?

2 To wash away the crimson stain,
grace, grace alone availeth;
our works, alas! are all in vain;

in much the best life faileth:
no man can glory in Thy sight,
all must alike confess Thy might,
and live alone by mercy,
and live alone by mercy.

3 Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
and not in mine own merit;
on Him my soul shall rest, His Word
upholds my fainting spirit:
His promised mercy is my fort,
my comfort, and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience,
I wait for it with patience.

4 What though I wait the live-long night,
and till the dawn appeareth,
my heart still trusteth in His might;
it doubteth not, nor feareth:
So let the Israelite in heart,
Born of the Spirit, do his part;
and wait till God appeareth,
and wait till God appeareth.

5 Although our sin is great indeed,
God's mercies far exceed it;
His hand can give the help we need,
however much we need it:
He is the Shepherd of the sheep
who Israel doth guard and keep,
and shall from sin redeem him,
and shall from sin redeem him. **AMEN**

Confession of Faith

The Scots Confession, Chapter 1

Congregation: We confess and acknowledge one God alone,
to Whom alone we must cleave,
Whom alone we must serve,
Whom only we must worship,
and in Whom alone we put our trust.
Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable,
incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;
one in substance and yet distinct in three persons,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
By Whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth,
visible and invisible to have been created,
to be retained in their being,
and to be ruled and guided by His inscrutable providence
for such end as His eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed,
and to the manifestation of His own glory. **AMEN**

Intercessory Prayer

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. **AMEN** *James 1:5-6*

Leader Prays

Congregation: **Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your 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 do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

AMEN

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

God Consecrates Us with His Word

The Reading of the Scriptures

James 1:9-17

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

The Sermon

Matthew Carpenter “Fighting for Your Life”

Soldiers of Christ, Arise

Trinity Hymnal 575

1 Soldiers of Christ, arise,
and put your armor on,
strong in the strength which God supplies
through his eternal Son.
Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
and in his mighty pow'r,
who in the strength of Jesus trusts
is more than conqueror.

2 Stand then in his great might,
with all his strength endued;
but take, to arm you for the fight,
the panoply of God.
Leave no unguarded place,
no weakness of the soul;
take ev'ry virtue, ev'ry grace,
and fortify the whole.

3 To keep your armor bright,
attend with constant care;
still walking in your Captain's sight,
and watching unto prayer.
From strength to strength go on;
wrestle and fight and pray;
tread all the pow'rs of darkness down,
and win the well-fought day. **AMEN**

God Communes With Us

Elder: God is good!

Congregation: All the time!

Elder: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Let us pray.

**Congregation: It is truly appropriate and right that we should at all times
and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty
everlasting God.**

**But it is especially fitting that we should now,
gathered around this table,
thank You for Your gracious covenant promises to us in Christ.
Remember, Father, our Lord's humble birth,
His holy life, His innocent sufferings and death,
and His resurrection and ascension for us.
Faithfully keep Your covenant with us for Jesus' sake
and come now to nourish and equip us for service in Your kingdom. By
Your Spirit make the body and blood of our Lord
life-giving nourishment for Your people;
in Jesus' name we pray. AMEN**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Trinity Hymnal 604

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart,
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Rejoice, rejoice,
rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

2 Bright youth and snow-crowned age,
strong men and maidens meek,
raise high your free, exulting song;
God's wondrous praises speak. *Refrain*

3 With all the angel choirs,
with all the saints on earth,
pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
true rapture, noblest mirth! *Refrain*

4 Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe. *Refrain*

5 At last the march shall end,
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their Father's house,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Then on, ye pure in heart,
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King. *Refrain*
AMEN

God Commissions Us

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. **AMEN**

1 Timothy 6:12

Benediction

Gloria Patri

Trinity Hymnal 735

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, amen. **AMEN**