

Pre-service Song

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains:
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Chorus

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? (Chorus)

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Chorus)

See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise. (Chorus)

Words and Music: Traditional French Carol
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Call To Worship

We confess the supremacy of God in Christ through both responsive reading and song.

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

*Genesis 1:1-5 (ESV); Advent readings adapted
from The Worship Sourcebook*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.
And God saw that the light was good.
And God separated the light from the darkness.
God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.

**And there was evening and there was morning,
the first day.**

Our Sung Call to Worship

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?

Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Chorus

Behold our God, seated on His throne.

Come, let us adore Him.

Behold our King, nothing can compare,

Come, let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,

Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?

God eternal, humbled to the grave,

Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign! (Chorus)

You will reign forever.

Let Your glory fill the earth.

You will reign forever.

Let Your glory fill the earth.

You will reign forever.

Let Your glory fill the earth.

You will reign forever.

Let Your glory fill (Chorus)

By Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, and Stephen Altrogge

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Confession

We confess our need for mercy through both responsive reading and song.

Our Spoken Confession

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1 (ESV)

Hear the Word of the Lord:

What agreement has the temple of God with idols?

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

“I will make my dwelling among them

and walk among them,

and I will be their God,

and they shall be my people.

Therefore go out from their midst,

and be separate from them, says the Lord,

and touch no unclean thing;

then I will welcome you,

and I will be a father to you,

and you shall be sons and daughters to me,

says the Lord Almighty.”

Since we have these promises, beloved,

let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body

and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

Forgive our sins, Father, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,

and cleanse us from every impurity of the flesh and spirit

so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways

to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Time of silent confession.

Assurance and Peace

We profess our assurance of salvation and peace in Christ through both responsive reading and song.

Remember the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:20-22, 56-58 (ESV)

Remember the Gospel!

In fact Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**For as by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.**

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

**But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable,
always abounding in the work of the Lord,
knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Our Sung Profession of Assurance

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

Chorus

**Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.**

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow'r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone. (Chorus)

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb. (Chorus)

And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat. (Chorus)

Words by Elvina M. Hall, Music by John T. Grape
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Thanksgiving and Petition

We Give Thanks in Prayer and Offer Petitions to God

We express our gratitude to God our Father for Christ's work on the cross for us and bring our requests before him. In bringing our requests, we confess that we believe God truly is a good father, who cares about our needs and gives us what he knows is best.

We Give Thanks by Giving

We give financial offerings to support the work of the church because of our gratitude to God. By giving we confess we are trusting in God's provision for us as well.

You may give electronically at gabcame.org/giving/ or place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary or send a check in the mail.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 22

To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, from the
words of my groaning?
- ² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.
- ³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ In you our fathers trusted; they trusted,
and you delivered them.
- ⁵ To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- ⁶ But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.
- ⁷ All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me;
they wag their heads;
- ⁸ "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"
- ⁹ Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.
- ¹⁰ On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.
- ¹² Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- ¹³ they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
- ¹⁴ I am poured out like water, and all my bones
are out of joint; my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
- ¹⁵ my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
- ¹⁶ For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—
- ¹⁷ I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
- ¹⁸ they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
- ¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword,
 my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!
 You have rescued me from the horns
 of the wild oxen!
²² I will tell of your name to my brothers;
 in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
 All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
 and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred
 the affliction of the afflicted,
 and he has not hidden his face from him,
 but has heard, when he cried to him.
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the
 great congregation;
 my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
 those who seek him shall praise the Lord!
 May your hearts live forever!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
 and turn to the LORD,
 and all the families of the nations
 shall worship before you.
²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD,
 and he rules over the nations.
²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
 before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
 even the one who could not keep himself alive.
³⁰ Posterity shall serve him;
 it shall be told of the Lord to the
 coming generation;
³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness
 to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

This is the word of the Lord.

**The grass withers and the flower falls
 but the word of the Lord endures forever.**

Sermon

Psalm 22 – “The Hinge of History” – Pastor Dean VanEvery

Sermon Discipleship Questions

1. What encouraged you?
2. What convicted you?
3. Is there anything in your life that needs to change?

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross (Distribution Song)

When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss
 And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 Save in the death of Christ, my God.
 All the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words by Isaac Watts. Music by Lowell Mason
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Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sending

Having heard and confessed the Gospel, we are sent into the world on mission in Christ, which we express in both song and spoken word.

Sending Song

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

When thru the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. (Chorus)

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin. (Chorus)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art. (Chorus)

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Blessing

2 Peter 3:18 (ESV)

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.
Amen.**

Scripture text for next Sunday: Psalm 23