

# **Lord's Day Worship**

**Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

## ***Sing Praise to the Lord***

### **\*Call to Worship**

**Psalm 104:1-4; 31-34**

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind; he makes his messengers winds... May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

### **\*10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
O my soul, worship His holy Name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your holy Name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Chorus*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Chorus*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come;  
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. *Chorus*

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

*We ask God's presence to enable us to worship him as we ought.*

## ***Recount the Wonders of His Mercy***

### **Call to Confession**

**Psalm 14:1-3**

The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;  
there is none who does good.

The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man,  
to see if there are any who understand,  
who seek after God.

They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt;  
there is none who does good,  
not even one.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**(from *Streams of Mercy*)**

Mighty God and loving heavenly Father,

You are our glorious Creator who made all things from nothing. In the beginning, you fashioned the sun, moon, and stars, and you divided light from darkness. You gave mankind the glory of your image, crowning us with honor and blessing. You took great delight in your creation, gracing your image bearers with the light of your presence as you walked with Adam in the garden each day. But Adam fell, exchanging the glorious light of your love for the darkness of sin and rebellion. We confess that we were in Adam as he sinned, and we are just like Adam as we continue to make that same choice each day. Though we know you, we are still lovers of darkness who drift toward sin whenever you leave us to ourselves. Even your majestic glory can barely compete with the dazzling trinkets of this world that captivate us. Father, forgive us.

Lord, we thank you that our sin and darkness can never overwhelm the shining brightness of your glory and love. Though we are drawn to disobedience in many ways, considering many things more beautiful than you, you sent your Son to shine the radiant light of your love on vile sinners like us. We thank you for Jesus. Though he is the Light of the World, full of glory and grace, he volunteered to enter our darkness and live in our flesh and blood to destroy the power of sin over us. He lived his life in shining obedience so that he could give his goodness to us as a free gift. He chose to be slain by the darkness in order to pay our debt, and we are undone by his sacrifice.

Holy Spirit, draw our hearts from darkness to light. Show us the glory of our Redeemer; cause us to revel in his love and to bask in the joy of his great pleasure in us. Enable us to hate the darkness of our sin and to flee to the brightness of his love, which welcomes us as treasured brothers and sisters who are reclothed in the

brightness of his obedience. In our weakness we cannot come to you, but we ask that you would come to us over and over again. Refresh us with truth and draw us once again from the darkness we prefer to the light we so desperately need. As you did Moses, give us a strong desire to see your glory in our world and in our lives every day. Dazzle us with your beauty and goodness until our idols are revealed in all their foolishness. Help us to live not for our own glory, but for the glory of the one who gave himself to redeem us. Prepare us for the day when we will fall at Jesus' feet and will live in the bright light of his glory in our heavenly home forever. In the beautiful name of our Savior we pray, amen.

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**John 1:1-4; 14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### **\*Speak O Lord**

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you  
To receive the food of your holy Word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility;  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail—  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,  
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built  
And the earth is filled with your glory.

## **Prayer for the Church and Congregation**

### ***Give Attention to His Powerful Word***

#### **Scripture Reading**

**John 6:35-40**

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

#### **Sermon**

#### **The Father's Gift to the Son**

Dr. T. D. Gordon

#### **\*Confession of Faith**

#### **The Heidelberg Catechism**

*Q 1. Dear Christians, what is our only comfort in life and in death?*

*A.* That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

*(We will receive our gifts and offerings for the Lord's work during the singing of the next song.)*

### **\*Abide With Me**

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:  
when other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see;  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like thyself my guide and strength can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies:  
heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## ***Receive the Gifts of His Grace***

### **The Lord's Supper**

*All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, who are communicant members of a Bible-believing church, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. While communion is being served, please feel free to join in song or meditate quietly on Christ's sacrifice.*

### **Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?**

Alas! and did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?  
Was it for crimes that I had done he groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity! grace unknown! And love beyond degree!  
*My God why would you shed your blood, so pure and undefiled?  
To make a sinful one like me your chosen, precious child?*

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut his glories in,  
When Christ, the mighty Maker died, for man the creature's sin.  
Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes to tears. *Chorus*

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:  
Here, Lord, I give my self away 'tis all that I can do.  
It was for crimes that I had done he groaned upon the tree.  
Amazing pity! grace unknown! And love beyond degree! *Chorus*

### **May the Mind of Christ My Savior**

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,  
By his love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph only through his pow'r.

May the peace of God, my Father, Rule my life in ev'rything,  
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.  
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,  
Looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,  
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

### **\*Benediction**

### **\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below,  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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