



Lord's Day Service

At Church of the King on July 19th, 2026

The 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15

Call to Worship: Where God Calls Us Into His Presence

*"Give to Jehovah the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him.
Oh, worship Jehovah in the beauty of holiness!" I Chronicles 16:29*

Hear Today's Call to Worship from God's Word: [congregation standing]

"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is Jehovah of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" Isaiah 6:1-3 Come Worship the Holy One!

God's People Respond With a Hymn of Adoration: (based on Psalm 145:10)

O worship the King all glorious above,	O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
O gratefully sing his power and His love.	Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,	His chariot of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.	And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Salutation and Response: [based on Matthew 28:19, Ruth 2:4 and Isaiah 61:10a,b]

*In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
Amen!*

*Jehovah be with you!
And also with you!*

*I will greatly rejoice in Jehovah,
My soul shall be joyful in my God;*

*For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness*

Confession of Sins: Where God Cleanses Us In Christ

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

The Call For Confession From God's Word:

"And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: 'Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, Jehovah of hosts.'" Isaiah 6:4,5

God's People sing our Hymn of Confession:

[congregation standing]

O LORD in Whom I Do Abide

Psalm 131

SEIGNEUR, JE N'AY POINT LE COEUR FIER (L.M.)

Genevan Psalter, 1551

harm. Claude Goudimel, 1564; alt.

W. van der Kamp, 1967; rev.

1. O LORD in whom I do a - bide,
2. But I have set my soul at rest.
3. Hope in the LORD, O Is - ra - el;

My heart and eyes are free from pride.
As, shel - tered at its moth - er's breast.
The just shall in His pres - ence dwell.

I shun great mat - ters, - and I flee
A child may lin - ger qui - et - ly,
Trust in His mer - cy, Him a - dore

From things too mar - vel - ous for me.
My soul is qui - et - ed in me.
From this time forth and ev - er - more.

Silent Confession: *So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against Jehovah." And Nathan said to David, "Jehovah also has put away your sin; 2 Samuel 12:13*

Those who are willing and able are invited to kneel for our time of confession.

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

Lord God our Savior, who has performed the mercy promised to our fathers, and remembered Your holy covenant made in ages past, we ask You to forgive our sins and deliver us from our enemies. Through Your tender mercies, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us, even we who have sat in darkness and the shadow of death, give us Your light to guide our feet into the way of peace. Grant that we might serve Christ our Lord without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our lives. For we pray in the name of our only Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN!

Arise and Receive the Assurance of Pardon & Forgiveness:

"Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged." Isaiah 6:6,7

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for our sins and to be raised for our justification; and for His sake forgives us all our sins. This I declare in the name and authority of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Having confessed our sins with faith in the completed work of Christ on our behalf, we are forgiven; we have been cleansed and clothed in the righteousness of Jesus. And not only that, we are now **in** Christ and **in** Him we are in the heavenly places, in the very midst of the blessed Trinity with the Saints of all the ages, from every tongue, tribe and nation prepared to worship in the beauty of holiness. **Come, let us worship the Lord!**

Come Bless the Father:

Come bless the Fath - er, all you ser - vants of the Son, who stand by the Spir - it in the
House of the Lord. Lift up your hands to the Ho - ly Place and bless your God.
May the Lord _____ bless you from Zi - on, He Who made hea - ven and earth. _____

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up un - to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

It is pro - per and right to do so.

Truly it is proper and right that we should at all times and in all places give praise to you O LORD. And so, with the angels and all the company of heaven and with the Church, as she gathers throughout the world this day, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you & singing:

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks:

[Congregation standing]

My Soul, Thy Great Creator Praise

Selections from Psalm 104

BRIDGEWATER (L.M).

Issac Watts, 1707

Lewis Edson, 1782

1. My soul, thy great Cre - a - tor praise; — When clothed in His ce - les - tial rays, —

He in full maj - est - y — ap -

He in full maj - est - y ap - pears, And like a

He in full maj - est - y ap - pears, And, like a robe, His glo - ry

pears, And like a robe His glo - ry wears.

maj - est - y ap - pears, And like a robe His glo - ry wears.

robe His glo - ry wears, And like a robe His glo - ry wears.

wears, And like a robe His glo - ry wears.

2. The heav'ns are for his curtains spread,
The unfathomed deep he makes his bed.
Clouds are his chariot when he flies
On wingèd storms across the skies.
3. Angels, whom his own breath inspires,
His ministers, are flaming fires;
And swift as thought their armies move
To bear his vengeance or his love.
4. Vast are thy works, Almighty Lord;
All nature rests upon thy word,
And the whole race of creatures stands
Waiting their portion from thy hands.
5. But when thy face is hid, they mourn,
And, dying, to their dust return;
Both man and beast their souls resign;
Life, breath, and spirit, all is thine.
6. Yet thou canst breathe on dust again,
And fill the world with beasts and men;
A word of thy creating breath
Repairs the wastes of time and death.
7. In thee my hopes and wishes meet,
And make my meditations sweet;
Thy praises shall my breath employ,
Till it expire in endless joy.
8. While haughty sinners die accursed,
Their glory buried with their dust,
I to my God, my heav'nly King,
Immortal hallelujahs sing.

The Sacrament of Baptism:

The Stein Family presents **Laura Faith;**
For Baptism into the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

"Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." Luke 18:15-17

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:38, 39

Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. I Corinthians 10:1-4

Hymn of Thanks: *Beneath the Blood-Stained Doorpost*

Based on Exodus 12, words attributed to Harry Ironside, sung to the tune of O Sacred Head Now Wounded

***Beneath the blood-stained doorpost I with my children stand;
A messenger of evil is passing through the land.
There is no other refuge from the destroyer's face;
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost shall be our hiding place.***

***My Savior, for my dear ones I claim Thy promise true.
The Lamb is "for the household"—the children's Savior too.
On earth the little children once felt Thy touch divine;
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost Thy blessing give to mine.***

***O Thou who gave them, guard them, those wayward little feet,
The wilderness before them, the ills of life to meet.
My mother love is helpless, I trust them to Thy care!
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost, oh, keep me ever there!***

Consecration: Where God Equips & Prepares His People

"You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God. Teach me Your way, O Jehovah; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name. I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify Your name forevermore. For great is Your mercy toward me, and You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol." Psalm 86:11-12

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD:

The Greatest of These is Love

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way. 1 Corinthians 12:28-31

1 Corinthians 13 [read in unison]

[13:1] Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Love suffers long and is kind; Love does not envy; Love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

Does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; Does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; Bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; Whether there are tongues, they will cease; Whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; But the greatest of these is love.

God's People Respond With The Singing Of:

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE (12 9. 12 9)

American folk hymn

William Walker, *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, What
2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, To
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, And

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; To God and to the
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm

this that caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
Lamb, who is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

God Speaks to Us Through His Word: Scripture, Prayer for Illumination, and Sermon

"Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Jehovah, and teach out of Your law." Psalm 94:12

"The First Disciples: Andrew and Peter"

From Pastor Zak Graves

Based on John 1:35-42

John 1:29-42 (NKJV)

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **30** "This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' **31** "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." **32** And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. **33** "I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' **34** "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

35 Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. **36** And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" **37** The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. **38** Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?" **39** He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). **40** One of the two who heard John *speak*, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). **42** And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

Notes:

Sermon Hymn of Response:

2 pages

[congregation standing]

Psalm 95

Dec. = Men
Can. = Women

Thomas Tallis

Full

O come, let us sing un - to the LORD; let us heart - i - ly re - joice in the.

Strength of our sal - va - tion. Let us come be - fore His pres - ence with thanks-giv - ing; and show—

Dec. *Can.*

our-selves glad in Him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God; and a great King a -

Dec. *Can.*

bove all gods. In His hand are all the cor - ners of the earth; and the strength of the hills is

Dec. *Can.* *Dec.*

His al - so. The sea is His, and He made it; and His hands pre - par - ed the dry land. O come, let us

Can. *Dec.* *Can.*

wor-ship and fall down, and kneel be - fore the LORD our mak - er. For He is the LORD our God; and

Full *Dec.*

we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the sheep of His hands. To - day if ye will

Can.

hear His voice, hard - en not your hearts as in the pro - vo - ca - tion, and as in the

*Dec.**Can.*

day of temp - ta - tion in the wil - der ness; When your fa - thers tempt - ed Me, prov - ed Me, and saw.

*Dec.**Can.*

My works. For - ty years long was I griev - ed with this gen - er - a - tion, — and said, It

Full

is a peo - ple that do err in their hearts, for they have not known — My ways: un - to whom I

swore in My wrath, that they should — not en - ter in - to My — rest.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the — Ho - ly Ghost; as — it was in the

be - gin - ning, is — now and ev - er shall be, world with - out — end. A - men.

God Receives our Tithes and Gifts as a Tribute Offering: [read in unison]

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," Says Jehovah of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."

Malachi 3:10

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings:

With the singing of Psalm 27:4-5 & the Doxology

Words composed by Brenda Fisher

1: One thing from God have I desired,	2: In troubled times He makes me hide.
That in His house I may inquire,	He hides me secretly inside.
So on His beauty I may gaze.	Within His tabernacle home,
I seek to dwell there all my days.	He sets me high upon a stone.

**3: 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.**

The Great Prayer, Concluding with the Lord's Prayer:

Tony Gonzales

"Jehovah has heard my supplication; Jehovah will receive my prayer." Psalm 6:9

**Our Father,
Which 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 the evil one,
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever: AMEN**
[Matthew 6:9-13]

Communion: Where God Communes With His People

Preparation for Communion: Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and are not under discipline from Christ's Church are welcome at this table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as our Lord our God will call.

Our Confession of Faith - The Apostle's Creed [sung with music by Amber Bartels]

Piano

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of nine systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 8, 16, 25, 35, 43, 52, 60, and 70. The lyrics are: 'I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth: And in Je-sus Christ, His on-ly be-got-ten Son, our Lord; Who was con-ceived by the Ho-ly Spi-rit, born of the vir-gin Ma-ry, Suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, was cry-ci-fied, dead and bur-ied; He de-scend-ed in-to hell, the third day He rose a-gain from the dead; He as-cend-ed in-to heav-en and sit-teth at the right hand of God the Fath-er Al-migh-ty; From thence He shall come to judge the liv-ing and the dead. I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit; I be-lieve a ho-ly cath-olic Church, the com-mun-ion of saints, the for-give-ness of sins; the re-sur-rec-tion of the bo-dy, and the life ey-er-last-ing. A-men.'

I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth:

And in Je-sus Christ, His on-ly be-got-ten Son, our Lord; Who was con-ceived by the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, born of the vir-gin Ma-ry, Suf-fered un-der Pon-tius

Pi-late, was cry-ci-fied, dead and bur-ied; He de-scend-ed in-to

hell, the third day He rose a-gain from the dead; He as-cend-ed in-to

heav-en and sit-teth at the right hand of God the Fath-er Al-migh-ty; From

thence He shall come to judge the liv-ing and the dead. I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit;

I be-lieve a ho-ly cath-olic Church, the com-mun-ion of saints, the for-give-ness of sins; the

re-sur-rec-tion of the bo-dy, and the life ey-er-last-ing. A-men.

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE: (Peace Offering, Gift of Life)

A Word of Encouragement -- Giving of Thanks -- Breaking of the Bread

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks and Celebration: (Sung as a representative of each family comes forward to receive their bread and wine)

Word and Water, Bread and Wine

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It features a melody line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Our tri - une God rules o - ver all, And feeds all creatures great and small.
2. His Word re - stores the blind to sight; Our God has made the dark - ness light.

From sky, from earth, from
Clean wa - ter on our
From sky, from earth, from sky a - gain, From sky, from
Clean wa - ter on our heads was poured, Clean wa - ter
sky heads a - gain, Our God feeds all the sons of men.
was poured, We took the name of Je - sus, Lord.

sky, from earth, from sky a - gain,
wa - ter on our heads was poured,
sky, from earth, from sky a - gain,
wa - ter on our heads was poured,

earth, on from sky a - gain, Our God feeds all the sons of men.
on our heads was poured, We took the name of Je - sus, Lord.

From sky, from earth, from sky a - gain, Our God feeds all the sons of men.
Clean wa - ter on our heads was poured, We took the name of Je - sus, Lord.

3. At this great table, wine and bread
Will weave us now into the Head,
As we grow to a perfect man
And there fulfill salvation's plan.

4. The Lord has spoken living words,
He gave us ears, and thus we heard.
We will not give our sons a stone,
We will not live by bread alone.

5. Salvation comes and — face to face —
He sets before us means of grace.

Music: Oliver Holden (1765–1844)
Text: Douglas Wilson. 2005 ©

We know all this was kindly meant;
We taste the Word and sacrament.

COWPER
8 8. 8 8. w/ repeat

Feasting at the Lord's Table: A simple act of obedience on the 1st day of a new Week
Partaking of the Bread Together -- Giving Thanks -- Partaking of the Wine

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." 1 Corinthians 11:26

Commissioning: Where God Sends Out His People

"Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality." Romans 12:9-13

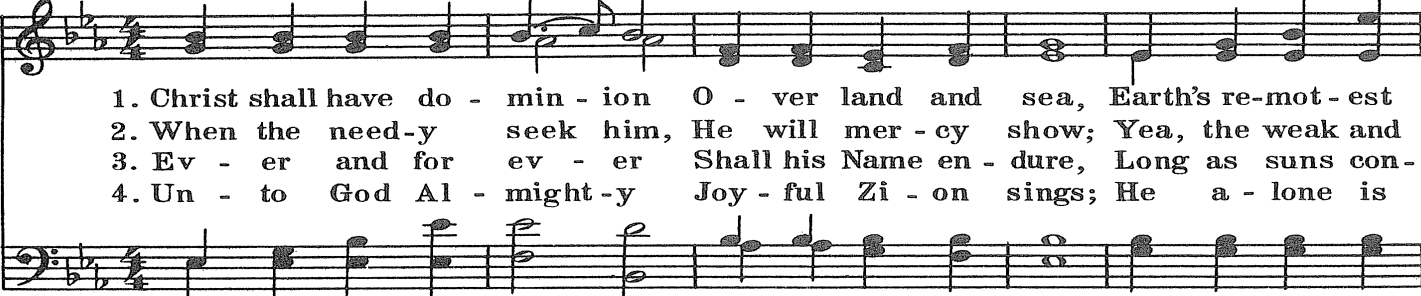
God's People Prepare to Be Sent Forth with Singing:

Christ Shall Have Dominion

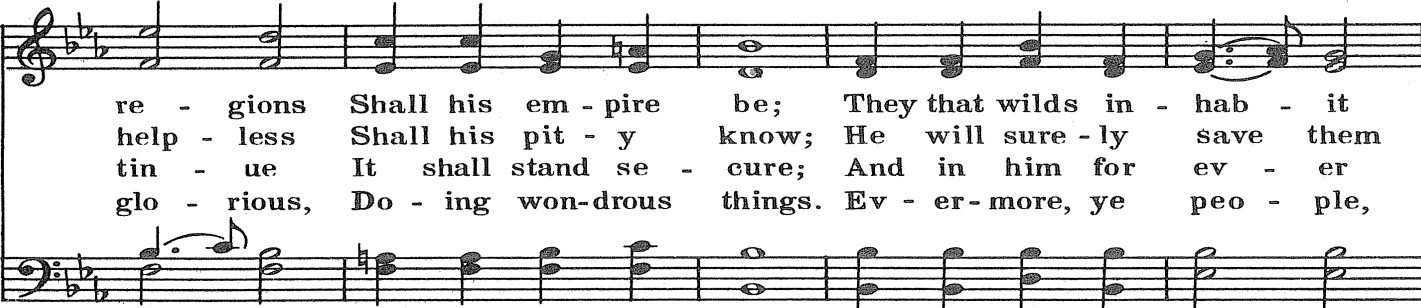
He shall have dominion also from sea to sea . . . Psalm 72:8

From PSALM 72:8-14, 17-19
The Psalter, 1912

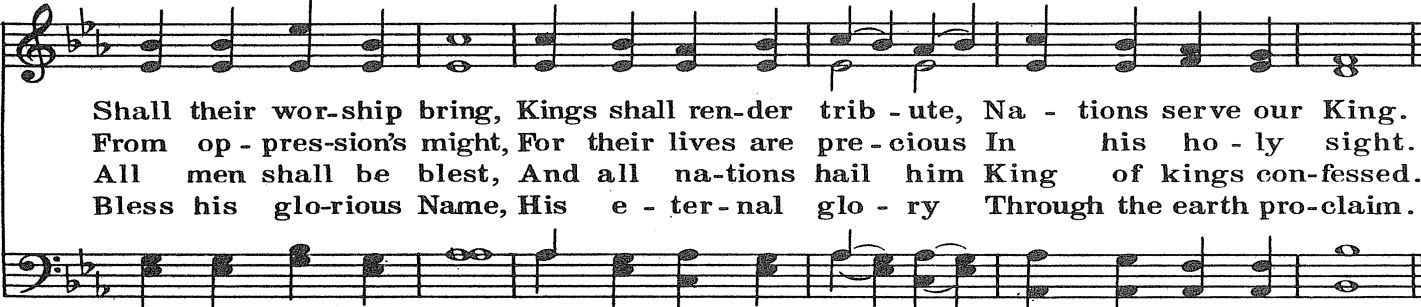
Sir Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874



1. Christ shall have do - min - ion O - ver land and sea, Earth's re-mot - est
2. When the need-y seek him, He will mer - cy show; Yea, the weak and
3. Ev - er and for ev - er Shall his Name en - dure, Long as suns con -
4. Un - to God Al - might-y Joy - ful Zi - on sings; He a - lone is



re - gions Shall his em - pire be; They that wilds in - hab - it
help - less Shall his pit - y know; He will sure - ly save them
tin - ue It shall stand se - cure; And in him for ev - er
glo - rious, Do - ing won-drous things. Ev - er-more, ye peo - ple,

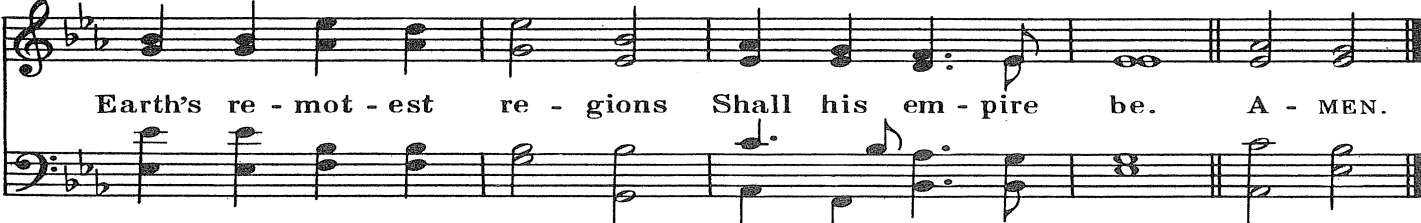


Shall their wor-ship bring, Kings shall ren-der trib - ute, Na - tions serve our King.
From op - pres-sion's might, For their lives are pre - cious In his ho - ly sight.
All men shall be blest, And all na-tions hail him King of kings con-fessed.
Bless his glo-rious Name, His e - ter-nal glo - ry Through the earth pro-claim.

REFRAIN



Christ shall have do - min - ion O - ver land and sea,



Earth's re - mot - est re - gions Shall his em - pire be. A - MEN.

God Blesses His People – The Benediction:

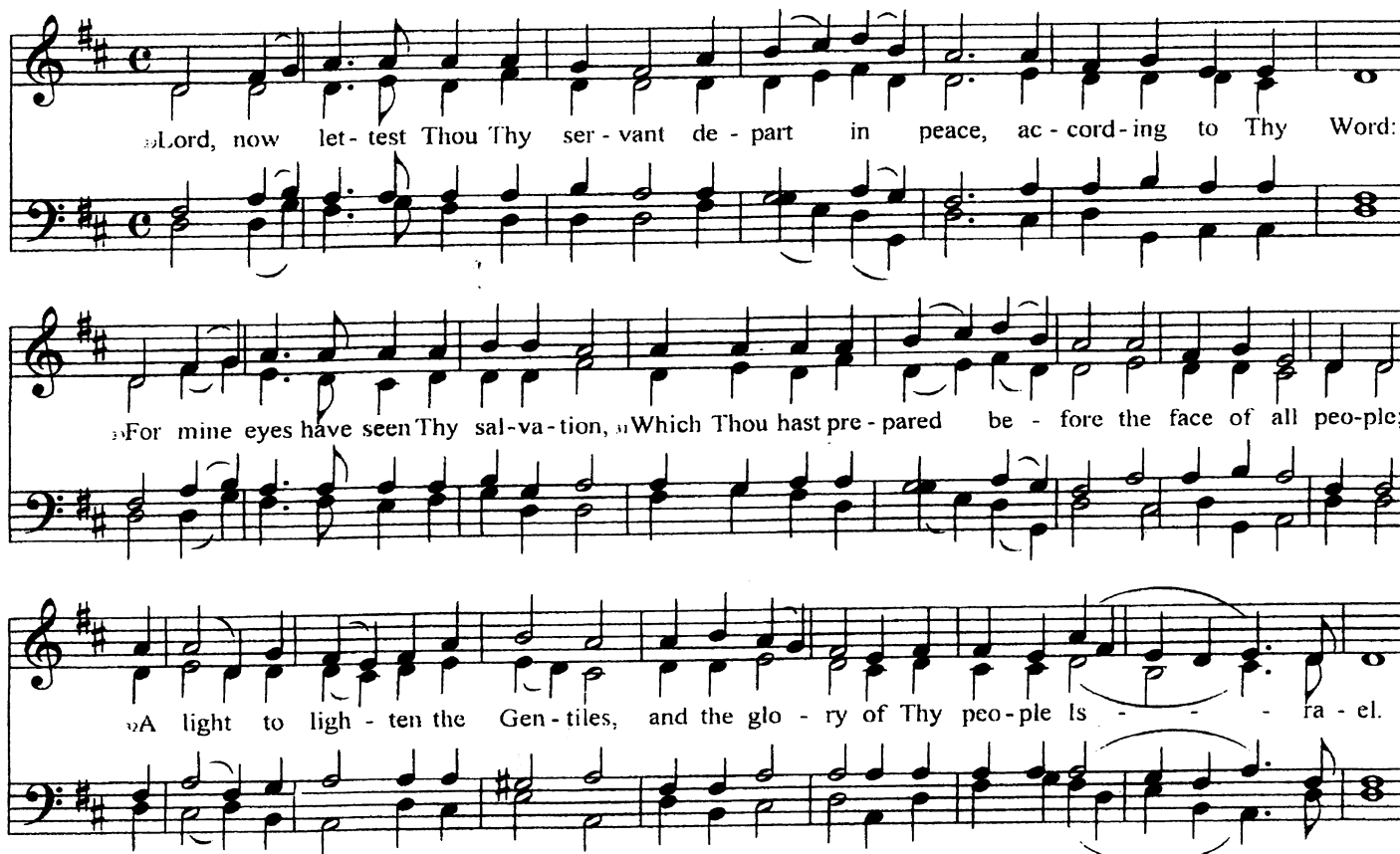
[congregation standing]

*Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them,
and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. Leviticus 9:22*

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.” 2 Corinthians 13:14

God’s People Depart to Serve the Risen & Reigning Savior by Singing:

Simeon’s Prayer & the Gloria Patri



Lord, now let-test Thou Thy ser-vant de-part in peace, ac-cord-ing to Thy Word:
For mine eyes have seen Thy sal-va-tion, Which Thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all peo-ple;
A light to ligh-ten the Gen-tiles, and the glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is-ra-el.

With Lifted Hands: **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**

The Heidelberg Catechism – Lord’s Day 29

78. Do, then, the bread and the wine become the real body and blood of Christ?

No, but as the water in Baptism is not changed into the blood of Christ, nor becomes the washing away of sins itself, being only the divine token and assurance thereof,¹ so also in the Lord’s Supper the sacred bread² does not become the body of Christ itself, though agreeably to the nature and usage of sacraments it is called the body of Christ.³

[1] Matt. 26:29. [2] 1 Cor. 11:26–28. [3] Ex. 12:26–27, 43, 48; 1 Cor. 10:1–4.

79. Why then does Christ call the bread His body, and the cup His blood, or the new testament in His blood; and the Apostle Paul, the communion of the body and the blood of Christ? **Christ speaks thus with great cause, namely, not only to teach us thereby, that like as the bread and wine sustain this temporal life, so also His crucified body and shed blood are the true meat and drink of our souls unto life eternal;¹ but much more, by this visible sign and pledge to assure us that we are as really partakers of His true body and blood by the working of the Holy Spirit, as we receive by the mouth of the body these holy tokens in remembrance of Him;² and that all His sufferings and obedience are as certainly our own, as if we ourselves had suffered and done all in our own person.**

[1] Jn. 6:51–55 (See Question 76).

[2] 1 Cor. 10:16–17 (See Question 78).

The Heidelberg Catechism – Questions 1–11

1. What is your only comfort in life and in death? **That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,[1] am not my own,[2] but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,[3] who with His precious blood [4] has fully satisfied for all my sins,[5] and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;[6] and so preserves me [7] that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head;[8] indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.[9] Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,[10] and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.[11]**[1] Rom. 14:7–8. [2] 1Cor. 6:19. [3] 1Cor. 3:23. [4] 1Pet. 1:18–19. [5] 1Jn. 1:7; 2:2. [6] 1Jn. 3:8. [7] Jn. 6:39. [8] Matt. 10:29–30; Lk. 21:18. [9] Rom. 8:28. [10] 2Cor. 1:21–22; Eph. 1:13–14; Rom. 8:16. [11] Rom. 8:1
2. How many things are necessary for you to know, that in this comfort you may live and die happily? **Three things:[1] First, the greatness of my sin and misery.[2] Second, how I am redeemed from all my sins and misery.[3] Third, how I am to be thankful to God for such redemption.[4]** [1] Lk. 24:46–47; 1 Cor. 6:11; Tit. 3:3–7. [2] Jn. 9:41; 15:22. [3] Jn. 17:3. [4] Eph. 5:8–11; 1 Pet. 2:9–12; Rom. 6:11–14; *Rom. 7:24–25; *Gal. 3:13; *Col. 3:17.
3. From where do you know your misery? **From the Law of God.[1]** [1] Rom. 3:20; *Rom. 7:7.
4. What does the Law of God require of us? **Christ teaches us in sum, Matthew 22, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”[1]** [1] Matt. 22:37–40; Lk. 10:27. *Deut. 6:5. *Gal. 5:14.
5. Can you keep all this perfectly? **No,[1] for I am prone by nature to hate God and my neighbor.[2]** [1] Rom. 3:10–12, 23; 1 Jn. 1:8, 10. [2] Rom. 8:7; Eph. 2:3.
6. Did God create man thus, wicked and perverse? **No,[1] but God created man good and after His own image,[2] that is, in righteousness and true holiness, that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love Him, and live with Him in eternal blessedness, to praise and glorify Him.[3]** [1] Gen. 1:31. [2] Gen. 1:26–27. [3] 2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 3:10; Eph. 4:24.
7. From where, then, does this depraved nature of man come? **From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise,[1] whereby our nature became so corrupt that we are all conceived and born in sin.[2]** [1] Gen. 3 (The whole chapter). Rom. 5:12, 18–19. [2] Ps. 51:5; *Ps. 14:2–3.
8. But are we so depraved that we are completely incapable of any good and prone to all evil? **Yes,[1] unless we are born again by the Spirit of God.[2]** [1] Jn. 3:6; Gen. 6:5; Job 14:4; Isa. 53:6. [2] Jn. 3:5; *Gen. 8:21; *2 Cor. 3:5; *Rom. 7:18; *Jer. 17:9.
9. Does not God, then, do injustice to man by requiring of him in His Law that which he cannot perform? **No, for God so made man that he could perform it;[1] but man, through the instigation of the devil, by willful disobedience deprived himself and all his descendants of those divine gifts.[2]** [1] Eph. 4:24. [2] Rom. 5:12.
10. Will God allow such disobedience and apostasy to go unpunished? **Certainly not,[1] but He is terribly displeased with our inborn as well as our actual sins, and will punish them in just judgment in time and eternity, as He has declared, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”[2]** [1] Heb. 9:27. [2] Deut. 27:26; Gal. 3:10; *Rom. 1:18; *Matt. 25:41.
11. But is not God also merciful? **God is indeed merciful,[1] but He is likewise just;[2] His justice therefore requires that sin which is committed against the most high majesty of God, be punished with extreme, that is, with everlasting punishment both of body and soul.** [1] Ex. 34:6–7. [2] Ex. 20:5; Ps. 5:5–6; 2 Cor. 6:14–16; *Rev. 14:11.