

Order of Public Worship of God

The Thirtieth Day of July, Two Thousand Twenty-Three

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

“Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

- C. S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*

“‘I am with you at present,’ said Gandalf, ‘but soon I shall not be. I am not coming to the Shire. You must settle its affairs yourselves; that is what you have been trained for. Do you not yet understand? My time is over: it is no longer my task to set things to rights, nor to help folk to do so. And as for you, my dear friends, you will need no help. You are grown up now. Grown indeed very high; among the great you are, and I have no longer any fear at all for any of you.’”

- J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Return of the King*



OPENING PRAYER | from St. Augustine

**Great You are, O Lord, and greatly to be praised;
great is Your power, and Your wisdom is infinite.
You would that we praise without ceasing.
You call us to delight in Your praise,
for You have made us for Yourself,
and our hearts find not rest until we rest in You;
To whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit
all glory, praise, and honor be ascribed,
both now and forevermore. Amen.**

† HYMN OF WORSHIP | “Come Christians Join to Sing”

**Come Christians join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia! Amen!
Let all with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice, Alleluia! Amen!**

**Come lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky, Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend, to us he’ll condescend;
His love shall never end, Alleluia! Amen!**

**Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain, Alleluia! Amen!
On Heaven’s blissful shore, his goodness we’ll adore;
Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!**

† CALL TO WORSHIP | from Job 28

“Where shall wisdom be found?
And where is the place of understanding?
Man does not know its worth,
and it is not found in the land of the living.
**From where, then, does wisdom come?
And where is the place of understanding?
It is hidden from the eyes of all living.**
God understands the way to it,
and he knows its place.
For he looks to the ends of the earth
and sees everything under the heavens.

**And he said to man,
‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom,
and to turn away from evil is understanding.’”**

MEMBERSHIP VOWS | *Jeff and Mary Zimmerman*

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God and without hope for your salvation except in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of sinners, and do you receive and depend upon Him alone for your salvation as He is offered through the Gospel?

Do you now promise and resolve in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

Do you promise to serve Christ in His Church by supporting and participating with this congregation in its service to God and its ministry to others to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and to the spiritual oversight of this Church Session, and do you promise to promote the unity, purity, and peace of the Church?

WELCOME INTO THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

**Christ be with you, Christ within you,
Christ behind you, Christ before you,
Christ beside you, Christ to win you,
Christ to comfort and restore you,
Christ beneath you, Christ above you,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in the hearts of those that love you,
Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger.**

~ *Adapted from the Prayer of St. Patrick*

CELEBRATION OF INFANT BAPTISM

Rowan Levi Honore, son of Aaron and Danielle Honore

Parents:

Do you acknowledge Rowan’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God’s covenant promises and benefits for Rowan and by faith do you look to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation as you do your own?

Do you now unreservedly dedicate Rowan to God, and do you promise by relying on God’s power and grace through the Holy Spirit, to live an exemplary life before him?

Do you commit yourself to pray with and for Rowan, to teach him the Scriptures and the great articles of our faith in Jesus Christ?

Do you promise to use every means provided by God, including faithful participation in the life of the Church, to bring Rowan up in the loving discipline of the Lord?

Congregation:

Do you, a member of this congregation, acting for yourself and on behalf of the whole Body of Christ, assume responsibility with these parents for the spiritual nurture of this child?

Do you commit yourselves to set a Godly example before Rowan, to provide, as far as you are able, all that is necessary to the end that he may one day confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WELCOME TO THE COVENANT COMMUNITY

**Jesus Loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, they are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

† HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING | “We Will Feast in the House of Zion”

Refrain:

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
“He has done great things,” we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more.**

**We will not be burned by the fire;
He is the Lord our God.
We are not consumed by the flood—
Upheld, protected, gathered up. (*refrain*)**

**In the dark of night before the dawn,
My soul be not afraid;
For the promised morning, oh how long!
O God of Jacob, be my strength! (*refrain*)**

**Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed,
You are the faithful One;
And from the garden to the grave,
bind us together, bring shalom. (*refrain*)**

“The Breastplate of St. Patrick”

**When my work takes me places I don’t want to go:
Christ before me.
When my heart aches with sorrow as I hit the road:
Christ, be with me.**

**When the care of my family takes all that I have:
Christ within me.
When I’m worn and exhausted, ashamed that I’m mad:
Christ, defend me.**

Refrain:

**I rise up today in a strength that is not my own
I’m held by the promise of God
That I’m never alone.**

**When I’m tossed to the side and I wanna give up:
Christ beside me.
When I’m breaking my back, but it’s never enough:
Christ beside me.**

**When I work hard, but someone else gets the reward:
God’s eyes see me.
When I ask for promotion, but they shut the door:
God’s ears hear me. (*refrain*)**

**When I climb the first steps toward a long-held dream:
Christ above me.
When I leap out in faith and I hope to find wings:
Christ beneath me.**

INVOCATION AND 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,
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors,**

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

† CORPORATE PROFESSION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into Hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead
He ascended into heaven
and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

† DOXOLOGY

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

† GREETING

*Junior Worship begins for children age four through first grade. Please escort children to the following classrooms.
Preschool - Room 10; Kindergarten and First Grade - Room 9. Children will return to sit with their families
before communion.*

READING OF GOD'S WORD | Proverbs 9

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Series: The Book of Suburbs

Sermon: "The Feast of Wisdom"
- Rev. James M. Holland

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**Almighty God,
We confess that we have done what was right in our own eyes,
failing in fear of the Lord who alone knows the hearts of humanity.
We come now to Him who freely pardons all who repent and turn to Him:
Fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace;
forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience;
through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus,
who became to us wisdom from God,
righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
So that, as it is written,
"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

How do we take communion at St. Patrick?

When directed, please come forward to receive the bread and the cup. The white chalices contain wine; the darker ones on the tables have grape juice. The crackers on the tables are gluten-free. The elder will distribute the bread and then follow with the wine chalice. We will practice intinction, where you will dip the bread in the wine. If you prefer grape juice or need gluten-free bread, indicate your preference when the elder comes to you, then go to the table for your elements. After receiving communion, you will proceed to the outside aisle to return to your seats.

Who comes to the Table?

Communion is open to all baptized believers who have made a profession of faith in Jesus. If you have children who have not made a profession of faith, they are not ready to partake of the elements, but please bring them forward to be blessed by one of our elders. If you are not a believer but want to know more about Jesus, you are invited to come forward and simply bypass the table, letting one of the leaders know that you would like to learn more about what it means to know and belong to Jesus.

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE | "Praise the Savior, Now and Ever"

**Praise the Savior, now and ever; praise him, all beneath the skies;
Prostrate lying, suff'ring, dying on the cross, a sacrifice.
Vict'ry gaining, life obtaining, now in glory he doth rise!
Praise the Savior, now and ever: praise him, all beneath the skies.**

**Man's work faileth, Christ's availeth; he is all our righteousness.
He, our Savior, has forever set us free from dire distress.
Through his merit we inherit light and peace and happiness.
Man's work faileth, Christ's availeth; he is all our righteousness.**

**Sin's bond severed, we're delivered; Christ has bruised the serpent's head;
Death no longer is the stronger; Hell itself is captive led.
Christ has risen from death's prison; O'er the tomb he light has shed.
Sin's bond severed, we're delivered; Christ has bruised the serpent's head.**

**For his favor, praise forever unto God the Father sing.
Praise the Savior, praise him ever, Son of God, our Lord and King.
Praise the Spirit; through Christ's merit, he doth us salvation bring.
Praise the Savior, now and ever, praise him all, our Lord and King.**

† BENEDICTION | Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

**"For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?"
"Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?"**

For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

*Scripture tells us to make our needs known to God, and to call others to pray with and for us.
If you would like prayer, elders will be standing in the front of the sanctuary (pulpit side)
immediately following the service to pray with you.*



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ST. PATRICK
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LOVING GOD. LOVING PEOPLE. LOVING LIFE.