

Call to Worship

Read Psalm 68:32–35

O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God;
sing praises to the Lord, Selah
to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel,
and whose power is in the skies.
Awesome is God from his sanctuary;
the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!

Prayer of Adoration

With you, gracious God, we move into this time of worship, grateful that you are never farther than the reach of our need and our prayer. You who tower over the universe are yet intimately present, always renewing the face of the earth, always renewing the faith of your children. Now, in your mercy, make your way past all that worries and distracts us to lodge in us anew and to center our small worship on your great glory. Amen.

[From *The Worship Sourcebook*]

Ordinary Time Call and Response

Leader

O magnify the Lord with me!

Congregation

Let us exalt his name together!

[from Psalm 34:3]

“Psalm 34 (Taste and See)”

Verse 1

I sought the Lord and he answered me
And delivered me from every fear
Those who look on him are radiant
They’ll never be ashamed
They’ll never be ashamed

Verse 2

This poor man cried and the Lord heard me
And saved me from my enemies
The Son of God surrounds he saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Chorus

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt his name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt his name forever

Verse 3

O taste and see that the Lord is good
O blessed is he who hides in him
O fear the Lord O all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Chorus

Bridge (x3)

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise

Chorus (x2)

Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Exhortation

Proverbs 9:1–10

Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
“Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
To him who lacks sense she says,
“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,

and he who reprove a wicked man incurs injury.
Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.
The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Confession

In prayer, confess your sin aloud together and personally in silence.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader

We have confessed our sins. Now, hear the good news! When we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, to all who humbly seek the mercy of God, your Heavenly Father declares, in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.

Together

Thanks be to God!

"On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand"

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

Chorus

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

Verse 3

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Support me in the whelming flood

When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

Chorus

Verse 3

When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

Chorus

Consecration

Prayers of Praise and Petition

Spend time in prayer together.

- Praise God for his sovereignty and meticulous control over all things.
- Praise God for Jesus's power over death and sin, and the new and everlasting life we have received as his people.
- Praise God for the commissioning of Westview Church, the newest daughter church of Cities Church, who officially covenanted together as a church on July 8th.
- Ask God to heal our city of all injustice and prejudice, and to end the destruction of life in all forms.
- Ask God to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Pray that he would grant wisdom to those responsible for making decisions about how to protect human life, especially the most vulnerable among us.
- Ask God, by his Holy Spirit, to give us insight on how we can best love our neighbors and seek the good of our communities.
- Pray for our church and other local churches throughout the city and the world.
- Pray for our missionaries:
 - Samuel and Sarah Chestnutt who are serving in Ireland
 - Steve and Lindsey Discher who are ministering to students in the Philippines
 - Matthew & Kailie who are ministering to those in the Middle East
 - Dieudonné & Dominique Tamfu who are church planting and founding a seminary in Cameroon
 - Ryan & Kassie Cossette and their ministry in Costa Rica
 - Sam Griffin and his ministry with Training Leaders International
 - The Andres and their ministry to the local Somali community
 - The Harmony Community Group and their outreach to the local Chinese community
 - Together for Good and their ministry to protect children from abuse and dangerous situations

- John McCauley & Joelle Parfrey and their on-campus ministry “Students for Life”
- Caitlin Boon & Rachel Beise and their ministries with Athletes in Action
- Ellie Felber and her ministry to local youth with Timberbay

Teaching Text

Read Psalm 34

I will bless the LORD at all times;
 his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
 My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
 let the humble hear and be glad.
 Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
 and let us exalt his name together!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me
 and delivered me from all my fears.
 Those who look to him are radiant,
 and their faces shall never be ashamed.
 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
 and saved him out of all his troubles.
 The angel of the LORD encamps
 around those who fear him, and delivers them.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
 Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
 Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints,
 for those who fear him have no lack!
 The young lions suffer want and hunger;
 but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me;
 I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
 What man is there who desires life
 and loves many days, that he may see good?
 Keep your tongue from evil
 and your lips from speaking deceit.
 Turn away from evil and do good;
 seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous
 and his ears toward their cry.
 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
 to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.
He keeps all his bones;
not one of them is broken.
Affliction will slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Teaching

Psalm 34

Communion

[If not partaking in the Lord's Table, reflect and pray in response to Pastor David's exposition of Psalm 34.]

"He Will Hold Me Fast"

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those he saves are his delight

Christ will hold me fast
Precious in his holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be last
His promises will last
Bought by him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Chorus

Verse 3

For my life he bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

Chorus

Commission

“Now to Him (Jude 24)”

Refrain

Now to him who is able
To keep you from falling
To him who will keep you to the end
To him be the glory, the honor, and power
Forever and ever, amen
(x2)
Forever and ever, amen

Commissioning

Remember the mission that Jesus has given us, his church:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18–20).

Go in peace.