



ORDER OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023

Call to Worship: Psalm 63:1-5, 7

O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh faints for You,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**So we have looked upon You in the sanctuary,
beholding Your power and glory.**

Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise You.

**So we will bless You as long as we live;
in Your name we will lift up our hands.**

My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise You with joyful lips,

**for You have been our help,
in the shadow of Your wings we will sing for joy.**

Invocation

Song: Ancient of Days

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall,
There is still one King reigning over all.

So I will not fear, for this truth remains: That my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus:

*None above Him, none before Him, all of time in His hands,
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand.
All the power, all the glory, I will trust in His name,
For my God is the Ancient of Days.*

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul,
He is here with me, I am not alone.

O His love is sure, and He knows my name,
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus

Though I may not see what the future brings,
I will watch and wait for the Savior King.

Then my joy complete, standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

Chorus

For my God is the Ancient of Days.

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Confession of Sin

Almighty and Merciful God,

**We have erred and strayed from
Your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.**

We have offended against Your holy laws.

We have left undone those things

which we ought to have done;

and we have done those things

which we ought not to have done;

and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent,

according to Your promises declared

to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

And grant, O merciful God, for His sake,

that we may live a holy, just, and humble life

to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter

the holy places by the blood of Jesus,

by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain,

that is, through his flesh,

and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,

with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience

and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,

for he who promised is faithful.

Know that in Jesus,

God embraces you, forgives you,

And strengthens you to live a renewed life.

Thanks be to God!

(from Hebrews 10:19-23)

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds:**

**God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made:**

**Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father.**

**And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son
together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

¹ "Catholic" means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples.

Song: I Will Wait for You

Out of the depths I cry to You; from darkest places I will call.
Incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

Were You to count my sinful ways how could I come before Your throne?
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze – I stand redeemed by grace alone.

Chorus

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You till my soul is satisfied.*

So put Your hope in God alone, take courage in His power to save;
Completely and forever won by Christ emerging from the grave.

Chorus

His steadfast love has made a way, and God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today find healing in his sacrifice.

Chorus

I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, For Your love is my delight.
I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You, For Your love is my delight.

Psalm 67A: O God, to Us Show Mercy

O God, to us show mercy and bless us in your grace;
cause now to shine upon us the brightness of your face;
that so your way most holy on earth may soon be known,
and unto ev'ry people your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you, let all the nations sing;
in ev'ry land let praises and songs of gladness ring;
for you shall judge the people in truth and righteousness,
and through the earth the nations shall your just rule confess.

O God, let people praise you, let all the nations sing,
for earth in rich abundance to us her fruit shall bring.
The Lord our God shall bless us, our God shall blessing send,
and all the earth shall fear him to its remotest end.

Scripture Readings: Mark 3:22-35

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn 497: More Love to Thee, O Christ

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
this is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
now thee alone I seek, give what is best;
this all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee!

Let sorrow do its work, send grief and pain;
sweet are thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
when they can sing with me: more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper thy praise;
this be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
this still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee!

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:1-6

Sermon: "Learning to Listen, Part 2"

Lord's Supper

Song: Gloria Patri

Benediction