

# THE BODY OF CHRIST

EPHESIANS 4:7-16

**EPHESIANS**  

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**SERIES**



**TRINITY**  
Presbyterian Church

# ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, April 10, 2022

*Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.*

*Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.*

## SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Come As You Are

## CALL TO WORSHIP | 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11-14 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ... All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of His church and the kingdom of God.

Holy Holy Holy

## PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

No Weapon

Abide

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

**Q. 13.** Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?

**A.** Since the fall, no mere human has been able to keep the law of God perfectly, but consistently breaks it in thought, word, and deed.

**Q. 14.** Did God create us unable to keep his law?

**A.** No, but because of the disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, all of creation is fallen; we are all born in sin and guilt, corrupt in our nature and unable to keep God's law.

**Q. 15.** Since no one can keep the law, what is its purpose?

**A.** That we may know the holy nature and will of God, and the sinful nature and disobedience of our hearts; and thus our need of a Savior. The law also teaches and exhorts us to live a life worthy of our Savior.

## KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS' DISMISSAL (Infants - 5th Grade)

*Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.*

## GREETING

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | *Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting*

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

## SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

*More Than Conquerors*

## BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
both now and forevermore. Amen.

# SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

## Proclamation of God's Word

**Text:** Ephesians 4:7-16 (ESV)

**Title:** The Body of Christ

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

<sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." <sup>9</sup> (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

**Intro:** When have you felt like you didn't measure up?

## THREE MEASURES

What is the work God has given us and how are we sourced for it?

## OUR SELFISH DISPUTE

What is our consistent pattern when we do not trust Jesus?

## THE MEASURE OF JESUS

In all of this, how does Jesus work for our redemption?

## YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His wisdom and generosity. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He has freely given His Spirit to each believer, and also spiritual gifts in particular according to His wisdom.
2. How have you lived as if God has neglected you, or as if your gifts make you superior to others? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you *and fill you with contentment at His good design*.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His generosity to redeem people like us. Thank Him for bearing the full measure of wrath we deserve for our sin, and filling up the full measure of righteousness in the Father's design.
4. Who do you know that lives as if they will never measure up? Pray for them, asking the Lord to show them mercy and open their eyes to the Grace of Jesus to remove their guilt and secure their hope.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His character of joyfully serving others as Jesus served us. Pray for His power and joy in the use of your gifts and talents to build up others, especially your fellow believers.

