

The Worship of God

on March 29, 2020, 11:00 a.m.



Prayer of Invocation

OUR GRACIOUS GOD, we come to You now to give You the love and honor that You deserve. Be here with us—each in our own homes—binding each strand of our worship together into one glorious tapestry of praise to You. We trust Your mercies, and we rest in Your power. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Hymn of Praise #379

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Piano audio online at bit.ly/BC032920

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it mount of God's redeeming love.*

Call to Worship

(from 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!
Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Prayer of Confession (in unison):

Everlasting Father, You have poured out abundant grace upon us by adopting us to Yourself as sons and daughters, by faith in Jesus. Yet I have squandered Your most precious gifts. By my **careless thoughts** and **aimless living**, I expose **how little I cherish You** and Your perfect ways. LORD, hear my confessions and forgive my sin. By Your steadfast love, restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me by a willing spirit.

Private Confessions (silently before God)

Words of Assurance

Romans 6:22-23

"But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Gloria Patri *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, amen.*

Affirmation of Faith (all in unison)

*(from Apostles' Creed &
Heidelberg Catechism Q55)*

... I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy catholic church;
The communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting.

By "the communion of saints" we understand:
First, that believers, all and everyone, as members of Christ have communion with Him and share in all His treasures and gifts.
Second, that everyone is duty-bound to use his gifts readily and cheerfully for the benefit and well-being of the other members.

Prayers of the People (Name and pray for your and others' specific needs)

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Hymn #433

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

*Christ is made the sure Foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.*

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.*

Prayer of Illumination *(Pray the Holy Spirit would guide you in the Word)*

Scripture Reading

(Romans 12:3-8)

Unfolding the Word *(Read and consider the questions about the text)*

Sending Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 473

John Fawcett, 1782

DENNIS: S. M.
Hans G. Nägeli (1773-1836)
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love:
 2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3. We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4. From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin, we shall be free;

The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims, are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
 And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 And per - fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty. A-MEN.

Romans 12: ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

- 1) How is a Christian to view himself? What might that look like?
- 2) In what ways does the body analogy show the church's unity and diversity?
- 3) Compare these "gifts" to those listed in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11. Where might you fit within these categories of gifting?
- 4) What is God's role in these gifts?
- 5) How could you use these gifts of God's grace given to the body of believers to glorify God this week?

