### PREPARATION TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Let us stand as the Triune God, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now calls His Church into His presence to worship Him. I ask you this morning: Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, where does your help come from?

Our help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-2

Call to me and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust. Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;

Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths; Lead me in Your truth and teach me.

For You are the God of my salvation, for You I wait all the day long. Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant. My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

(End)

Jeremiah 33:3 and Psalm 25

# **Opening Prayer**

(In Unison)

Please stand, if you are able.

Our Father and our God, as sons and daughters of the Almighty, we ascribe to You today glory and strength. We ascribe to You glory due to Your Name. We worship You, our Lord in holy array. Yes, 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.

#### Psalm 144

"I'll Praise the Lord, My Rock"

Please stand, if you are able.

I'll praise the Lord, my rock Who trains my hands for war; Who is my loving God and shield, and my deliverer. Yet we are weak, and fail, no stronger than a breath; Lord, what is man, so small, so frail, and shadowed deep by death?

Now part Your heav'ns, O Lord, come down and show Your might; unveil the latent pow'r of God in nature's storm and light. Descend in this dark hour to scatter all deceit. Revive Your work! Reveal Your pow'r, and lying schemes defeat.

And, while we wait on God for His restoring grace, the new song planted in our soul awakes to His glad praise. You are the King of kings, our strong security; deliver us from those who lie, and set Your servant free!

# GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS, TO REPENT AND TO RECONCILE

## God's Commandments

Exodus 20:1-17

## We Pray and Confess Our Sin

(Prayer led by Pastor)

### God's Assurance to His Repentant People

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10

### Sing

"My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness"

Please stand, if you are able.

My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him Who bore my pain Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace And gave me life again Who crushed my curse of sinfulness And clothed me with His light And wrote His law of righteousness With pow'r upon my heart

My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him Who walks beside Who floods my weaknesses with strength And causes fears to fly Whose every promise is enough For every step I take Sustaining me with arms of love And crowning me with grace

My heart is filled with thankfulness To Him Who reigns above Whose wisdom is my perfect peace Whose every thought is love For every day I have on earth Is given by the King So, I will give my life my all To love and follow Him

#### We Profess Our Faith

Extracts from the Westminster Catechism of Faith

Please stand, if you are able.

# What more do we believe about the Word of God? (Chapter 1, par. 8)

#### Answer

The Old Testament in Hebrew (which was the native language of the people of God of old), and the New Testament in Greek (which, at the time of the writing of it, was most generally known to the nations), were immediately inspired by God. By His unique care and providence, they have been kept pure in all ages and are therefore authentic, so that in all controversies of religion, the Church's final appeal is to them. However, because these original tongues are not known to all the

#### Answer

people of God, who have right to and a legitimate claim to the Scriptures, and who are commanded, in the fear of God, to read and search them, the Scriptures are therefore to be translated into the common language of every nation into which they come, so that, the Word of God dwelling plentifully in all the nations, they may worship Him in an acceptable manner, and so that, through patience and the comfort of the Scriptures, they may have hope.

# Old Testament Scripture Reading

Psalm 45: 10-17

# We Worship God with Our Tithes and Offerings

Conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

1 Peter 1:18-19

# Prayer

(Led by a Ruling Elder)

### The Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Please stand, if you are able.

## New Testament Scripture Reading

I Peter 2:1-12

## **Pastoral Prayer**

(Led by Pastor)

## Hymn 466

"Jesus, Our Lord and King"

Please stand, if you are able.

Jesus, our Lord and King,
To You our praises rise;
To You our bodies we present,
A living sacrifice.

Now justified by grace
And made alive to God,
Formed for Yourself to show Your praise,
We sound Your love abroad.

As dead indeed to sin,
We rise to walk anew,
Henceforth, as not our own, but Yours,
We follow only You.

Baptized into Your death,
With You again we rise,
To newness of a life of faith,
To new and endless joys.

# THE LORD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

# **Scripture Reading**

Acts 4:32-5:16

#### Sermon

"God Keeps His Church Holy"

Pastor Theo van Blerk

# GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND TO HIS WORD

Prayer

### Hymn 45

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Please stand, if you are able.

Crown Him with many crowns! The Lamb upon His throne. Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing of Him Who died for thee, And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love! Behold His hands and side -Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me; Thy praise and glory shall not fail Throughout eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life! Who triumphed o'er the grave; Who rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save. His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n! One with the Father known, One with the Spirit thro' Him giv'n From yonder glorious throne. To Thee be endless praise, For Thou for us hast died. Be Thou, O Lord, thro' endless days Adored and magnified!

#### THE LORD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

#### The Blessing of God's People

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way; the Lord be with all of you.

2 Thess. 3:16

Please stand, if you are able.

Leader: "Christ is Risen!"

All: "He is Risen Indeed!"