

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord's Day, January 7, 2018

The Christian Year: First Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 AM Morning Service

*I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
Psalm 34:1*

[Please turn off cell phones and observe silence when the prelude begins.]

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship Psalm 72:1-2, 10-11

Minister: Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to your royal son!

People: May He judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

Minister: May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render Him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

People: May all kings fall down before Him, all nations serve Him!

Unison: Come! Let us give praise to the Lord!

*Hymn of Adoration No. 226

*As with Gladness Men of Old
(verse 5 a cappella)*

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Invocation

O Son of God and Son of Man: You were incarnate, did suffer, rise and ascend for my sake. Your departure was not a token of separation but a pledge of return. Your word, promises, and sacraments show Your death until you come again. That day is no horror to me, for Your life and death have redeemed me, Your Spirit fills me, Your love animates me, Your word governs me. I have trusted You, and You have not betrayed my trust. You will return to raise this body from the dust, and reunite it to my soul by a wonderful work of infinite power and love. As You have come in history past, so You will come in history future. Give us grace to triumph now in this promised hope, for beyond the grave is resurrection, judgment, acquittal, dominion. O Lord, ever keep us in this faith, ever looking for Your return. Amen.

from "The Second Coming" from The Valley of Vision

*Affirmation of Faith HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, No. 1

Minister: Christian, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

People: That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Savior *Jesus Christ*, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly *Father* not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation, and therefore, by His *Holy Spirit*, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri Tune: Ode to Joy

Glory be to God the Father, and to Christ His Only Son; Praise we, too, the Holy Spirit, binding all the church as one. As it was in the beginning, is for now and evermore; Amen, Amen! Alleluia! Praise to God the Three in One!

The Revelation of God's Will Ex. 20:1-17; Mt. 22:37-40

Unison: "And God spoke all these words saying: 'I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Minister: You shall have no other gods before me.

People: You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Minister: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

People: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Minister: Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

People: You shall not murder.

Minister: You shall not commit adultery.

People: You shall not steal.

Minister: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

People: You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or

his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Unison: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength...and your neighbor as yourself."

Hymn of Confession No. 248

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended (verses 1-2)

Corporate Confession and Silent Confession

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You: our sinful nature, prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned: in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. But, O Lord, have mercy upon us, who are ashamed and sorry for all that has displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins, for the sake of your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit, enable us to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:1, 3, 4

*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 248

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended (verses 3-5)

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology Tune: Old Hundredth

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*Reading of The Holy Scriptures Colossians 4:2-6

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace

"THE BEST USE OF TIME"

*Hymn of Response No. 355

We Are God's People

*Benediction

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*