

# THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

**The Lord's Day, January 26, 2020**

*The Christian Year: The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

## 10:30 AM Morning Service

*"The Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness" – and he was called a friend of God." (James 2:23)*

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

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

#### \*Call to Worship Isaiah 41:8-10, 14, 16

Minister: But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend;

**People:** you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you,

Minister: "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off";

**People:** fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Minister: Fear not, . . . I am the one who helps you, declares the Lord; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.

**Unison:** And you shall rejoice in the Lord; in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.

#### \*Hymn of Adoration No. 94

*How Firm a Foundation*

#### \*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Invocation

Most High God, The universe with all its myriad creatures is yours, made by your word, upheld by your power, governed by your will. But you are also the Father of mercies, the God of all grace, the bestower of all comfort, the protector of the saved. You have been mindful of us, have visited us, preserved us, given us a goodly heritage—the Holy Scriptures, the joyful gospel, the Savior of souls. We come to you in His name, making mention of His righteousness only, pleading His obedience and sufferings. Amen.

*From "God Creator and Controller" in The Valley of Vision*

#### \*Affirmation of Faith HEIDELBERG CATECHISM Q&A 1

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

**People:** That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His

precious blood and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

**Unison:** Thanks be to God!

#### \*Gloria Patri Tune: Ode to Joy

**Praise the Lord, for He is glorious; never shall His promise fail; God hath made His saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.**

**Praise the God of our salvation; hosts on high, His pow'r proclaim; Heav'n and earth and all creation, laud and magnify His name.**

**Psalter Reading** (responsive reading, p. 792) Psalms 25

**Hymn of Praise** No. 498

*Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

#### The Prayers of Intercession

**Unison:** Our Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, we ask that according to the riches of your glory you will grant us to be strengthened with power through your Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith – that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled with all the fullness of you, our God. Now to you, who are able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to you be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

*From Ephesians 3*

#### Silent Prayer

#### Pastoral Prayer

#### Words of Assurance

Minister: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? . . . Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? . . . No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:31-39)

**People:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

\*Hymn of Thanksgiving SH No. 17

*My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness*

#### Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

#### \*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

\*Doxology Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;  
O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Reading of The Holy Scriptures Genesis 18:1-21

\*The Prayer for Illumination  
Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace

*"A FRIEND OF GOD"*

\*Hymn of Response No. 76

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven  
(verse 3 a cappella)*

#### \*The Benediction

#### Postlude

*\*Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

## Cookies & Catechism, immediately following this service

If you would like someone to pray with you,  
an Elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary  
following the service.