



ST. PAUL'S
PRESBYTERIAN

For The Glory of God & The Joy of All Peoples

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

On the Lord's Day Morning
Second Sunday after Christmas
January 1, 2023, at 10:30



To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome

Prelude

What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

Based on the Traditional French Carol

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

Arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

Call to Worship

From Revelation 1, 4, & 5

Minister: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come.

People: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

Minister: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

People: Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

Minister: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! Amen.

God, who calls us into his presence to worship, loves us and has freed us from our sins through the blood of Jesus Christ.

† congregation standing

✠ congregation kneeling

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

† Hymn of Proclamation

Hymn A • Trinity Hymnal #100

Holy, Holy, Holy!

NICAEA

In worship, we join our voices with the heavenly host who never cease to praise God on high.

† Prayer of Adoration

Unison: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

† Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 6:1-7

Pew Bible, page 571

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

✠ Prayer of Confession

Unison: Triune God, in your presence we confess our sin. You are holy, holy, holy, but we are stained by sinful thoughts, words, and deeds. You are supremely worthy of our worship. But we have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, soul, or strength. We have hungered after that which does not satisfy, and preferred many things to you, the Giver of all things. Have mercy upon us and create in us a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from us, but restore to us the joy of your salvation in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Please take a moment to silently confess your sin.

*In the Assurance of Pardon,
tired and weary sinners are
comforted with the good news
of God's grace and forgiveness.*

✠ **Assurance of Pardon**

From I Peter 2:24

Minister: Jesus Christ bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

✠ **Prayers of the People**

Unison: Almighty God, by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you have overcome sin and death and have brought us to yourself. We rejoice that by the sealing of the Holy Spirit, you have bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, the promise of the resurrection, and have bound us to yourself and to your service. Renew us, O Lord, by the same Holy Spirit and grant us faith, hope, and love to persevere in all that you call us to be and to do, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Minister: Most holy and merciful Father, before your Son ascended to your right hand, he told his followers to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey his commands, and promising to be with them always. In obedience to this command, your servant, Jack Silas Birx, comes to receive the sacrament of baptism. May the blood of Christ who through the eternal Spirit, offered himself without sin to God, cleanse him from dead works to serve the living God.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister: And we pray for ourselves, the congregation of St. Paul's Church: Grant us the grace to embrace Jack as our own, promising him our love and encouragement as duty done to you, the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Prayer

Minister: Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over this your servant. Let your Holy Spirit ever be with him and so lead him in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that he may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Baptism is a Sacrament, wherein the washing with water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit signifies and seals our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 94).

Public Reception of New Members

*Peter Houf
Shamus Houf
Jack Birx
Gabi Hill
Zach Sutton
Knox Tweeddale
Kellan Reckard*

Prayer

† Hymn of Consecration

Hymn B • Trinity Hymnal #353

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS



The Heidelberg Catechism is a beloved Protestant confessional document that takes the form of a series of questions and answers for use in teaching the Christian faith. It was originally published in 1563 in Heidelberg, Germany.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

Heidelberg Catechism
Question 1

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

People: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, 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 the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

† **New Testament Lesson**

Revelation 4:1-11
Pew Bible, page 1030

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

Proclamation of God's Word

Rev. Dan Thompson

Before the Throne of God

“Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near” (Revelation 1:3).

RESPONDING IN THANKS

Giving to God & Instrumental Offertory

And Can It Be?

PLEW

Arr.by Dan Forrest

Since the early days of the Church, the observance of Holy Communion has been accompanied by the giving of offerings to the poor. Today's deacons' offering will go to help those in need.

† Doxology

Vikki Cook



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all
 crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n-ly
 host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. All glo - ry
 be to God a - bove, who gave his Son in ho - ly
 love, who sends his Com - for - ter to be his seal for
 all e - ter - ni - ty, his seal for all e - ter - ni - ty.

To give online, visit
www.stpaulsorlando.com/give.

† **Celebration of Communion**

Minister: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord!

People: It is good and right so to do!

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because you gave your only Son to be born for us; who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the virgin Mary, his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your name as we sing,

† Sanctus

Sanctus I

Traditional Text; Musical Setting by Ronald Owen

Ho-ly Ho-ly Ho-ly Ho-ly is the Lord.
Heav'n and earth are full of your Glo-ry God most
High! Bless'd is He that com-eth in the name of the
Lord Ho-san-na in the high-est! Ho-
san-na e-ver-more Ho-san-na ev-er
more Most Ho-ly is the Lord.

Prayer of Dedication

Words of Institution

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the faith:

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The words Jesus used to institute the Lord's Supper are found in the Gospels (Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22) and in 1 Corinthians 11.

The Lord's Supper is a Sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, his death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 96).

The word "benediction" means blessing. With God's blessing upon us, we are sent forth to practice the faith we profess.

Communion Hymn
Hymn C

My God, and is Thy Table Spread
HERRNHUT

Communion Hymn
Hymn D

What Wondrous Love Is This
WONDROUS LOVE

† **Prayer of Thanks**

Unison: Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. We have recalled your mighty acts in holy history. We have seen your power in sending light to conquer darkness, water to give us life, and the bread of heaven to nourish us in love. Send us with your salvation and joy to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

† **Benediction**

† **Sending Forth Hymn**

Hymn E • Trinity Hymnal #358 (Verses 1,5, & 6)

For All the Saints
SINE NOMINE

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Be Thou My Vision
SLANE

Please take a moment to greet those around you.

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Rev. 4:8

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

I love the house where you live, O LORD, the place where your glory dwells Ps. 26:8



1. I love thy king - dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode,
 2. I love thy church, O God: her walls be - fore thee stand,
 3. For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers as - cend;
 4. Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heav'n - ly ways,



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
 dear as the ap - ple of thine eye, and gra - ven on thy hand.
 to her my cares and toils be giv'n, till toils and cares shall end.
 her sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.



5. Jesus, thou Friend divine,
 our Savior and our King,
 thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe
 shall great deliv'rance bring.
6. Sure as thy truth shall last,
 to Zi-on shall be giv'n
 the brightest glories earth can yield,
 and brighter bliss of heav'n.

My God, and is Thy Table Spread

1. My God, and is Thy ta - ble spread, and
 2. Hail, sa - cred feast, which Je - sus makes, rich
 3. O let Thy ta - ble hon - ored be and

does Thy cup with love o'er - flow? Thith - er be all Thy
 ban - quet of His flesh and blood! Thrice hap - py he who
 fur - nished well with wor - thy guests; and may each soul sal -

child - ren led and let them all its sweet - ness know.
 here par - takes that sac - red stream, that heav'n - ly flood!
 va - tion see that here its sa - cred pledg - es tastes!

What Wondrous Love Is This

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1

1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
 2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm

this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my
 Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

For All the Saints

They will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them. Rev. 14:13

Unison

1. For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
 5. But lo! there breaks, a yet more glo - rious day;
 6. From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast,

who thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,
 the saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray;
 through gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,

thy name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 the King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

William Walsham How, 1864, 1875

Tune from the *English Hymnal* by permission of Oxford University Press.

SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.al.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Before the Throne of God

Revelation 4:1-11 | Rev. Dan Thompson

The Big Idea: Though we live in the visible and physical realm of this world, in union with Jesus Christ we are “seated in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 2:6) even now. Our ultimate interests are in the kingdom of heaven, which is invisible to our eyes right now.

*i. At the Center of All Things Is a Throne**ii. Worship Puts Everything in Perspective*

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

Use this plan for your daily Bible reading.

- **Sunday, January 1** Joshua 19:40-48 • Psalm 106 • Daniel 4:19-27 • Matthew 27:45-56
- **Monday, January 2** Joshua 19:49-51 • Psalm 107 • Daniel 4:28-37 • Matthew 27:57-28:10
- **Tuesday, January 3** Joshua 20 • Psalm 108 • Daniel 5 • Matthew 28:11-20
- **Wednesday, January 4** Joshua 21 • Psalm 109 • Daniel 6 • Mark 1:1-13
- **Thursday, January 5** Joshua 22 • Psalm 110 • Daniel 7:1-14 • Mark 1:14-28
- **Friday, January 6** Joshua 23 • Psalm 111 • Daniel 7:15-28 • Mark 1:29-39
- **Saturday, January 7** Joshua 24:1-28 • Psalm 112 • Daniel 8:1-14 • Mark 1:40-2:12
- **Sunday, January 8** Joshua 24:29-33 • Psalm 113 • Daniel 8:15-27 • Mark 2:13-22

WEEKLY SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use these questions to reflect more deeply on this week's sermon.

1. How does the worship scene in Revelation 4 shape your understanding of what happens when we gather on Sundays for corporate worship?

2. What role do you play in corporate worship?

There is a throne in heaven that no one can occupy but you, and there is a crown in heaven that no other head can wear but yours, and there is a part in the eternal song that no voice can ever compass but yours, and there is a glory to God that would be wanting if you did not come to render it, and there is a part of infinite majesty and glory that would never be reflected unless you should be there to reflect it! (C.H. Spurgeon)

3. How did this vision of the throne in heaven help the apostle John or persecuted and suffering Christians in the early church? How does it help us in our time and place in history?

MONTHLY SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

**“I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some”
(1 Corinthians 9:22).**

ABOUT WORSHIP

In his encounter with the woman of Samaria, Jesus explained that “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24). The reason Jesus says true worshipers must worship in this way is because God himself “is spirit.” Here we discover the simple yet profound principle that true worship is a response to God as he has personally revealed himself. Thus, conformity to God’s character is the key to true worship. “Great is the LORD,” as the psalmist puts it, “and greatly to be praised” (Psalm 48:1)! In worship, we seek to reflect this divine reality, declaring with our lips and demonstrating with our lives that God is supremely precious and therefore worthy of all glory and honor and praise.

THE SHAPE OF WORSHIP



Entering God’s Presence—We gather in response to God’s call to worship, joyfully offering praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. With reverence and awe, we confess our sins and receive God’s forgiveness, which is declared in Jesus’ name.



Renewing Our Faith—Worship continues with a focus on God’s Word. Our faith is renewed as we publicly confess the truth of God, join our hearts and voices in prayers and hymns of praise to God, and hear the good news of God powerfully proclaimed.



Responding in Thanks—As hearing becomes doing, we respond to the proclamation of God’s Word. Songs of praise continue to be raised and the gifts and offerings of God’s people are collected. On Communion Sundays we are invited to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. With God’s blessing upon us, we are sent into the world to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ!

Why Do We Worship in This Way?

In this section, we answer a question about worship each week.

Question: Why do we have people publicly affirm vows when they are received as communing members?

Answer: Because the God we worship always speaks truthfully, we, his people, should be people of our word: our “Yes” or “No” should be all people need to know we speak truthfully. Nevertheless, there is a time and place for making solemn vows before God and the church. In this way, the person making a vow (such as a church membership vow) calls God to be a witness to what he promises (see Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 22).

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted you have joined us for worship. Our hope is that you find our worship service glorifying to God and personally refreshing.

We would love to connect with you. Please stop by our New Visitor Table in the Narthex after the service so that we may greet you in person and provide you a *Welcome Bag*. To connect with us, please use the QR code below to fill out a *Connect Card*.

*Use your phone's camera to quickly access the following resources
or navigate to the URL below each QR code.*



CONNECT CARD
stpaulsorlando.com/connect



CHURCH APP
stpaulsorlando.com/app



GIVE ONLINE
stpaulsorlando.com/give

Our Vision

To see the invisible kingdom of heaven made visible,
for the glory of God and the joy of all peoples.

Our Mission

To grow in grace and give away our lives
in the following seven major ministry areas:

Worship that exalts God in Christ and promotes unity in the Spirit

Discipleship that is rooted in the Scriptures and centered in the gospel

Community that is characterized by discipleship and care for one another

Local Missions that promotes the common good and evangelizes the lost

Global Missions that participates in church planting and spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth

Children's Ministry that partners with parents to build children up in the faith through loving care and Reformed biblical teaching

Youth Ministry that promotes maturity, joy, and identity in Christ

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