

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

*This is the day that the LORD has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

Please greet those around you before the announcements begin.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Time of Greeting (Sharing God's Welcome)**

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### **Moments of Meditation**

While the music is being played, quietly prepare your heart for worship.

“We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;  
sing praises to His Name, He forgets not His own.”

--trans. T. Baker

*We Gather Together*

arr. Rocherolle

### **Call to Worship**

Revelation 14:13-14; 15:3-4

### **\*Hymn of Praise**

*For All the Saints*

No. 358

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who Thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;  
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,  
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and win with them the victor’s crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;  
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;  
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;  
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
the King of glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

#### **Scripture Reading**

**Congregation on bold print**

Psalm 74

(Hymnal page 812)

Why have you rejected us forever, O God?

**Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture?**

Remember the people you purchased of old, the tribe of your inheritance, whom you redeemed – Mount Zion, where you dwelt.

**Turn your steps toward these everlasting ruins, all this destruction the enemy has brought on your sanctuary.**

Your foes roared in the place where you met with us; they set up their standards as signs.

**They behaved like men wielding axes to cut through a thicket of trees.**

They smashed all the carved paneling with their axes and hatchets.

**They burned your sanctuary to the ground; they defiled the dwelling place of your Name.**

They said in their hearts, “We will crush them completely!” They burned every place where God was worshiped in the land.

**We are given no miraculous sign; no prophets are left, and none of us knows how long this will be.**

How long will the enemy mock you, O God? Will the foe revile your name forever?

**Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the folds of your garment and destroy them!**

But you, O God, are my king from of old; you bring salvation upon the earth.

**It was you who split open the sea by your power; you broke the heads of the monster in the waters.**

It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert.

**It was you who opened up springs and streams; you dried up the ever flowing rivers.**

The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon.

**It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.**

Remember how the enemy has mocked you, O Lord, how foolish people have reviled your name.

**Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; do not forget the lives of your afflicted people forever.**

Have regard for your covenant, because haunts of violence fill the dark places of the land.

**Do not let the oppressed retreat in disgrace; may the poor and needy praise your name.**

Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; remember how fools mock you all day long.

**Do not ignore the clamor of your adversaries, the uproar of your enemies, which rises continually.**

We have not known Thee as we ought, nor learned Thy wisdom, grace, and pow'r;  
the things of earth have filled our thought, and trifles of the passing hour.  
Lord, give us light Thy truth to see, and make us wise in knowing Thee.

We have not feared Thee as we ought, nor bowed beneath Thine awesome eye,  
nor guarded deed and word and thought, remembering that God was nigh.  
Lord, give us faith to know Thee near, and grant the grace of holy fear.

We have not loved Thee as we ought, nor cared that we are loved by Thee;  
Thy presence we have coldly sought, and feebly longed Thy face to see.  
Lord, give a pure and loving heart to feel and own the love Thou art.

We have not served Thee as we ought; alas! the duties left undone,  
the work with little fervor wrought, the battles lost, or scarcely won!  
Lord, give the zeal, and give the might, for Thee to toil, for Thee to fight.

When shall we know Thee as we ought, and fear and love and serve aright!  
When shall we, out of trial brought, be perfect in the land of light!  
Lord, may we day by day prepare to see Thy face, and serve Thee there.

**Assurance of Pardoning Grace**

Revelation 1:4-6

<sup>4</sup> John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder; He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:  
He has washed us with His blood; He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,  
called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:  
He has washed us with His blood; He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down!  
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown:  
He who washed us with His blood soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;  
when through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:  
He who washed us with His blood has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;  
here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky.  
"You have washed us with Your blood; You are worthy, Lamb of God!"

### **New City Catechism Question # 11**

**What does God require in the sixth, seventh, and eighth commandments?**

Sixth, that we do no hurt, or hate, or be hostile to our neighbor, but be patient and peaceful, pursuing even our enemies with love. Seventh, that we abstain from sexual immorality and live purely and faithfully, whether in marriage or in single life, avoiding all impure actions, looks, words, thoughts, or desires, and whatever might lead to them. Eighth, that we do not take without permission that which belongs to someone else, nor withhold any good from someone we might benefit.

### **Prayer of Intercession**

\*Choruses of Preparation

*Behold Our God*

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has num-bered  
 Who has giv-en coun-sel to the Lord? Who can ques-tion  
 Who has felt the nails up-on His hand, bear-ing all the

ev'-ry grain of sand? Kings and na-tions trem-ble at His voice.  
 an-y of His words? Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
 guilt of sin-ful man? God e-ter-nal, hum-bled to the grave.

All cre-a-tion ris-es to re-joice. Be-hold our  
 Who can fath-om all His won-drous deeds?  
 Je-sus, Sav-ior, ri-sen now to reign!

God, seat-ed on His throne. Come, let us a-dore Him. Be-hold our

King. Noth-ing can com- pare, come, let us a-dore Him.

Sermon Outline:

1. The Wrestling
2. The Grip
3. The Wound
4. The Blessing

**\*Hymn of Response**

*God Moves in a Mysterious Way*

No. 128

God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;  
He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill  
He treasures up His bright designs, and works His sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread  
are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust Him for His grace;  
behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding ev'ry hour;  
the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan His work in vain;  
God is His own interpreter, and He will make it plain.

**\*Benediction**

**\*Gloria Patri**

No. 735

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.

**\*Postlude**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

arr. Berry

**\* Congregation:** Please stand as able.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Piano**  
**Scripture Reading**  
**Scripture Reading and Intercessory Prayer:**

Emily Katayama  
Alice Lindborg  
Bruce Hrivnak, Elder

## Weekly Calendar

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>
<b>SUN 11/25</b>	9:00 AM	Opening Exercises
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Congregational Meeting
<b>TUES 11/27</b>	6:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
	7:00 PM	Session Meeting
<b>WED 11/28</b>	9:30 AM	Ladies' Bible Study
	11:00 AM	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>SUN 12/02</b>	9:00 AM	Opening Exercises
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship Service & The Lord's Supper

## Important Upcoming Events

<b>THURS 2/07</b>	6:30 PM	Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Class
<b>SAT 2/09</b>	6:30 PM	Annual Variety Show

## Serving the Lord

	<i>11/25</i>	<i>12/02</i>	<i>12/09</i>
S.S. Nursery	L. Martin	L. Marshall	B. Schoon
AM Nursery	LE Greene, Sara M.	A. Lindborg, Cordie A.	Briana M., Chrissa M.
Greeters	O'Neal	Hale / Grass	Sederberg
Bring Treats	Lash	O'Neal	Schoon
Server & Clean-Up	Lash	O'Neal	Schoon
Audio	L. Marshall	Jackson G.	J. Martin
Elder of the Week	Hrivnak	Schoon	Stoltzfus
Deacon of the Week	Lash	Martin	Stechly



## December Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup> Amberleigh Greene	8 <sup>th</sup> Kitty Hess	8 <sup>th</sup> Benjamin Marshall
13 <sup>th</sup> Bryan O'Neal	16 <sup>th</sup> Jerry DeGroot	18 <sup>th</sup> Kathryn Robbins
25 <sup>th</sup> Ashley Stechly	26 <sup>th</sup> Matthew Vanderstar	29 <sup>th</sup> Grace Vanderstar
30 <sup>th</sup> Scott Severson		

## Announcements

☞ **Congregational Meeting After the Morning Worship Service:** The Session has called a congregational meeting for shortly after the worship service this morning. All members are requested to attend. The meeting will deal with Pastor Greene's resignation, to take effect at the end of the year, and then discuss some initial plans as we move forward in the new year and begin the process of searching for a new pastor. It is not anticipated that this will be a long meeting, but it will be a very important one.

☞ **Children's Bible Time:** The Worship Committee along with the Session has decided to suspend CBT at present. We do not have many children attending at this time so this will be revisited if there appears to be the need in the future.

☞ **New adult SS class:** Join us in our study of II Tim, taught by Bryan O'Neal.

☞ **Community Ministry Suggestions:** The church would like to be more actively involved in some local ministries and/or organizations. If you volunteer at a ministry or organization or you have heard of one that interests you, please write its name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

☞ **Matching Gift for McAuleys:** Luke McAuley has been asked to present to a group of missionary doctors in Thailand about the wheelchair program that he has organized in Kenya. He was encouraged to take his entire family as a respite for them. Of course, this has an expense of \$10,000 for airfare, etc. for them all. He has received about \$3500 and has an additional need of \$6500. Currently there is within our church a matching gift of \$1500 that is available. If you would like to consider contributing to that match, please write in the memo section of your check "McAuley Gift." Please understand that this should be in addition to your regular monthly giving to the church.

☞ **McAuley Christmas Gift:** An individual from Jacob's Ladder is going to Kenya on December 2. She says she has room to take items to the McAuleys. Luke and Amanda are putting together their Amazon Wish List. Please consider a gift for this as well. In the memo section put "McAuley Christmas."

☞ **\$5,000 Matching Gifts:** If you desire to give above your normal monthly gift, please write "Matching Gift" in the memo of your check going toward these two \$5,000 matching gifts or include a note with your cash gifts. If you have questions, please see one of the deacons.