

Lord's Day Worship

The Church of the Redeemer



**Last Sunday in Advent
December 18, A.D. 2011**

When you came in, you received two booklets:

- ❖ *This* one is changed weekly and includes the hymns, songs, and Scripture readings for this week.
- ❖ The *other* stays the same each week. It's the liturgy we follow – the shape of our Sunday worship – and comes from the *Book of Common Prayer*. Its language is not our informal, everyday language, but a more formal, elevated language that connects us to the majesty of God and to the larger body of Christ both on earth and in heaven that worships God together in one Spirit.

Please *don't* get stressed about whether you're "doing everything right". Like most things, both liturgical and spontaneous worship are things we grow into with time, practice, and devotion.

Do focus on the words we sing and pray.

Do join your heart and voice with ours toward God.

Do receive the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

We're so glad you came to worship the Lord with us!

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Words: Walter C. Smith, Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life, 1876.
Music: St. Denio, Welsh melody, from Canadau y Cyssegr, by John Roberts, 1839*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unshaking, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
But-of all Thy rich graces this grace, Lord, impart
Take-the veil from our faces, the vile from our heart.

All laud we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee,
And so let Thy glory, Almighty, impart,
Through Christ in His story, Thy Christ to the heart.

The Word of God (Liturgy, 1)

The Collect of the Day

STIR up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Isaiah 61

¹ **T**HE Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;^[a]
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;^[b]
² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.^[c]
⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁵ Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks;
foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers;
⁶ but you shall be called the priests of the LORD;
they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God;
you shall eat the wealth of the nations,
and in their glory you shall boast.
⁷ Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion;
instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot;
therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;
they shall have everlasting joy.

⁸ For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;^[d]
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹ Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful
headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

Footnotes:

- a. Isaiah 61:1 Or *afflicted*
- b. Isaiah 61:1 Or *the opening* [of the eyes] *to those who are blind; Septuagint and recovery of sight to the blind*
- c. Isaiah 61:3 Or *that he may display his beauty*
- d. Isaiah 61:8 Or *robbery with a burnt offering*



Luke 1:46-55 Magnificat

MY soul doth magni | fy the Lord,
* and my spirit hath rejoiced in | God my **S**aviour.

2 For | he • hath re•garded
* the lowliness | of his **h**andmaiden.

3 For be | hold from henceforth
* all generations shall | call me **blessed**.

4 For he that is mighty hath | magni•fied me;
* and | holy is his name.

2nd half

5 And his mercy is on | them that fear him
* throughout | all • gener**ations**.

6 He hath showed | strength • with his • arm;
* he hath scattered the proud in the imagi | nation of their
hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty | from their seat,
* and hath ex | alted • the | humble • and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry with | **good** things;
* and the rich he hath | **sent** | empty • away.

9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant | **I**srael;
* as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his | seed for **ever**.

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.**

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

¹²**W**E ASK you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle,^[a]

encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.
¹⁵See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

²⁵ Brothers, pray for us.

²⁶ Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss.

²⁷I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers.

²⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Thessalonians 5:14 Or *disorderly*, or *undisciplined*

Blessed Be Your Name

Matt and Beth Redman © 2002 Kingsway's Thankyou Music.
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Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where Your streams of abundance flow,
Blessed be Your name.
And blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness,
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll
turn back to praise.
And when the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say,

Blessed be the name of the Lord;
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord;
Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's "all as it should be",
Blessed be Your name.
And blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering,
Blessed be Your name.

You give and take away.
You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say,
Lord, blessed be Your name!

My Hope

Darlene Zschech ©2002 Hillsong Music Australia.
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You are righteous;
You love justice,
And those who honour You
Will see your face.

I will arise and lift my eyes to see
Your majesty,
Your holiness;
And all I am will bless you!

My hope is in the name of the Lord
Where my help comes from.
You're my strength, my song.
My trust is in the name of the Lord.
I will sing your praise;
You are faithful.

Be Unto Your Name

Lynn DeShazo & Gary Sadler © 1998 Integrity Music.
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We are a moment, You are forever.
Lord of the ages, God before time.
We are a vapor, You are eternal.
Love everlasting, reigning on high.

CHORUS

Holy, holy Lord God Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Highest praises, honor, and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,
Jesus Redeemer, mighty to save.
You are the love song, we'll sing forever,
Bowing before You, blessing Your name.

Gospel Procession: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Words: Tyler Crocker from Mark 1:3; Music: Tyler Crocker and Paul C. Edgerton
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Prepare ye the way of the Lord!
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
And make his paths straight!
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

O KEY of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel;*
that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest, and no man
openeth:

Come and bring the prisoner out of the prison-house,*
and him that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.

St. John 1:6-28

⁶THERE was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through

him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own,^[b] and his own people^[c] did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God,^[d] who is at the Father's side,^[e] he has made him known.

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight^[f] the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Footnotes:

- a. John 1:4 Or *was not any thing made. That which has been made was life in him*
- b. John 1:11 Greek *to his own things*; that is, to his own domain, or to his own people
- c. John 1:11 *People* is implied in Greek
- d. John 1:18 Or *the only One, who is God*; some manuscripts *the only Son*
- e. John 1:18 Greek *in the bosom of the Father*
- f. John 1:23 Or *crying out, "In the wilderness make straight*

O DAY-Spring*,

Brightness of Light everlasting, and Sun of Righteousness:

Come and enlighten him that sitteth in darkness*
and the shadow of death.

Nicene Creed (Liturgy, 4)
Sermon, Offertory
Holy Communion (Liturgy, 7)

Turn your Eyes upon Jesus

Words & Music: Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.

Post-Communion Prayer (Liturgy, 14)

Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel

Translated: John+ Neal, 1818-66 Music: French Processional, Veni Emmanuel

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Pastoral Blessing (Liturgy, 15)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; Music: Stuttgart, 1715

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

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