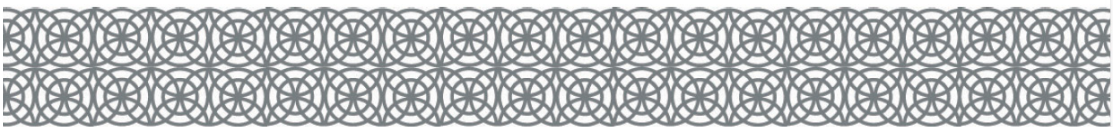


SUNDAY EVENING

Vespers



CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 14, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

Lord's Day Vespers

EVENING WORSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.

EVENING VESPER MEDITATION

Almighty God, we give You thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of vesper light; and we implore You in Your great mercy that, as You enfold us with the radiance of Your light, so You would shine into our hearts the brightness of Your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by Your brightness we may know You to be the true God and Eternal Light, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.



Prelude

Call to Worship

1 Peter 1:3, 2:9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. He has called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light.

Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

(see page 6)

Congregational Prayer

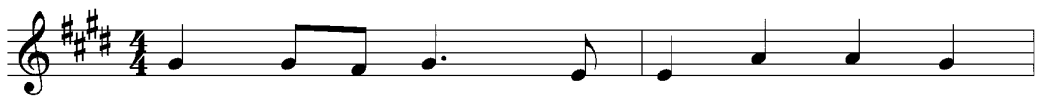
Adapted from Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Minister: We call to You O Lord. You are the truth –
People: And all things are true in You, from You and through You.
Minister: You are the wisdom –
People: And all things are wise in You, from You, and through You.
Minister: You are the blessedness –
People: And all things are blessed in You, from You and through You.
Minister: You are the good –
People: And all things are good in You, from You and through You.
Minister: Through You, Lord, we flee evil and follow the good.
People: Through You, we do not give up in the face of disaster.
Minister: Through You, the baits and enticements of evil have no power to hold us.
People: In You, Lord, we are complete.
Minister: Death is swallowed up in victory, and You turn us to Yourself.
People: You cleanse us and prepare us for rewards in Heaven.
Come to us in Your mercy we pray.

Evening Prayer

Prayer Response

We Long to See You



Al - migh - ty God we long to see You.



O - pen our hearts and make them pure. Spi - rit, please wash us



in your mer - cy; come teach our souls to love Your truth.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 34 (selected verses)

Minister: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

People: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His Name together!

Minister: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!

People: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Minister: Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.
The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and His ears toward their cry.

**People: When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.**

Minister: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

**People: The LORD redeems the life of His servants;
none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**

Hymns

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

(see page 7)

Eternal Weight of Glory

(see page 8)

All I Have Is Christ

(see page 9)

At the last stanza of "All I Have Is Christ," children are dismissed to attend their classes.

Evening Scripture Lesson

Psalm 119:105

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Homily

GOD'S WORD: LAMP & LIGHT

Mr. Howell

I. Clear Direction

II. Conscientious Conviction

III. Cheerful Comfort

Prayer

Benediction


Congregational Response *The Joy of Jesus (Love of Our Lord)*

Music and Words by
Rich Mullins, Lowell Alexander and Phil Nash



Sermon Notes

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small,
4. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

1. Je - sus! what a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus! lov - er
2. Je - sus! what a strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my -
3. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive him, more than all in

of my soul; friends may fail me, foes as - sail me, he, my
self in him; tempt - ed, tried, and some - times fail - ing, he, my
him I find; he hath grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am

Refrain

Sav - ior, makes me whole.
strength, my vic - t'ry wins. Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!
his, and he is mine.

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Friend! Sav - ing, help - ing,

keep - ing, lov - ing, he is with me to the end.

Eternal Weight of Glory



Now the days and hours and mo - ments of our su - ffering seem so -
Oh e - ter - nal weight of glo - ry Oh in - he - ri - tance di -
We will see our woun - ded Sa - vior, we'll be - hold Him face to -



long, and the toil - some wait and won - d'ring threa - ten si - lence to our song. Now our
vine, we will see our Lord re - dee - ming e - very past and fu - ture time. All our
face, and we'll hear our an - guished sto - ries sung as vic - t'ry songs of grace.



pain is real and pre - ssing where our faith is thin and weak but our
pains will be trans - fi - gured like the scars of Christ our Lord we will



hope is set on Je - sus and we cling to Him our strength. For be -
see the weight of glo - ry and our bro - ken years re - stored.



hold I tell a mys - tery: At the trump - et sound we'll wake! Death is swa - llo - wed up in



vic - t'ry when we meet our King of grace. E - v'ry year we thought was was - ted, ev - ery



night we cried how long, all will be a pas - sing mo - ment in our Sa - vior's vic - tory song.

All I Have is Christ

Words and Music by
Jordan Kauflin



1. I once was lost in dark - est night yet thought I knew the
2. But as I ran my hell - bound race, in - diff - 'rent to the
3. Now Lord I would be Yours a - lone and live so all might



way; the sin that pro - mised joy and life had led me to the grave. I had no
cost, You looked u - pon my help - less state and led me to the cross; and I be -
see the strength to fol - low Your com - mands could ne - ver come from me. O Fa - ther



hope that You would own a re - bel to Your will, and if You had not loved me
held God's love dis - played, You suf - fered in my place, You bore the wrath re - served for
use my ran - somed life in a - ny way You choose and let my song for - ev - er



first I would re - fuse you still. *(go to verse two)* Hal - le - lu - jah! All I have is
me, now all I know is grace!
be my on - ly boast is You.



Christ! Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus is my life!

Making a Joyful Noise

Devotional Thoughts on Congregational Singing

*Let God speak directly to His people through the Scriptures,
and let His people respond with grateful songs of praise.*

–Martin Luther

Commanded to Sing- What and How We Sing

We have much creative freedom in our music and in our songs, which is magnificently displayed in the diversity of sounds and styles expressed in the Church all over the world. But the Bible is more specific about what we should sing.

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16).

One of the ways the Word of Jesus can dwell in us richly is for us to sing it to one another. Fundamentally, we are to sing about God, revealed in Christ and supremely in His suffering and His glory. The songs we sing should not brush along the surface, or pluck phrases out of context, or focus exclusively on ourselves, or describe Jesus in a way His Word does not (or even worse in contradiction to His Word). If you are singing as a member of the assembly of the saints, then don't just sing, but think. What are you singing? How does it point you to Jesus as He reveals Himself in His Word? Which lines in the lyrics flood you with joy because they move you to consider Christ afresh, and how will you sing them to others and back to yourself this week?

The Colossians passage above also speaks to how we sing. We are not to sing with a begrudging heart – “I sing because I must” – but rather “with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” We sing because He is marvelous. It is impossible to sing what you are excited about in your spirit and grateful for in your heart in a way that is tepid, tentative, and withdrawn. Deeply felt thankfulness produces a sound from our voices that is robust and enthusiastic. So, as we obey the command to sing, we are (or should be) unleashing a congregational sound of conviction. If we aren't, our children or visitors looking on have every right to question whether what we are singing is truly important to us.

Liberally taken from *Sing!, How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church*, by Keith and Kristyn Getty, Chapter 2, pp 16-19.



Visitors

We are honored to have you as our guest today. Please complete the information on our Friendship Register (by scanning the QR code) so that we may respond properly to your visit.



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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