

**Fourth Sunday After Advent
January 29, 2023 Worship Bulletin**

Gathering for God's Word

Prelude

*Welcome & Passing the Peace of Christ

*Song of Praise

“Forever”

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus

Forever, God is faithful
Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us, Forever
Forever, God is faithful
Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us, Forever, Forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God, we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise
Sing praise, sing praise

Words & Music: Chris Tomlin

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CCLI#1963157

Announcements

Time of Silence & Ringing of the Bell

Preparing for God's Word

*Call to Worship

[based on Revelation 15: 3-4]

Leader: Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty!

People: Just and true are your ways, King of the ages.

Leader: Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name?

People: For you alone are holy and all the nations will come and worship you!

*Hymn of Adoration

#263, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" vs. 1, 2, 3

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race

Ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail him who saves you by his grace,

And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him who saves you by his grace,

And crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe

On this terrestrial ball

To him all majesty ascribe,

And crown him Lord of all.

To him all majesty ascribe,

And crown him Lord of all!

Text: Stanzas 1-3 Edward Perronet-1779, stanzas, 2-3, alt. John Rippon, 1787

Stanza 4, John Rippon, 1787

Music: Oliver Holden, 1793; desc. Michael E. Young 1979

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Prayer of Confession

[time of silent confession]

Leader: Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret,

People: Forgive us;

Leader: For the things we have failed to do that we regret,

People: Forgive us;

Leader: For all the times we have acted without love,

People: Forgive us;

Leader: For all the times we have reacted without thought,

People: Forgive us;

Leader: For all the times we have failed to care,

People: Forgive us;

Leader: For all the times we have failed to forgive,

People: Forgive us.

Leader: For all the hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,

People: Almighty Father, forgive us, help us truly repent, and give over to you all our regrets. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

[based on John 3: 16-17]

Leader: Hear the Good News; "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

People: Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Leader: Praise God!

Hearing God's Word

Children's Message

Ages 12 and under gather up front as congregation sings, #188, "Jesus Loves Me."

After the Children's Message, the children may return to sit with their families.

*Hymn of Preparation

#647, "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"

Let the poor say, "We are rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"

Let the poor say, "We are rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us"

Give thanks. Give Thanks

Text & Music: Henry Smith, 1978, alt.

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Prayer of Illumination

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: a not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, 29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Sermon

“One... One Way Thru Jesus Christ”

Responding to God’s Word

Affirmation of Faith

[The Apostle’s Creed]

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Anthem

“Jesus is Lord,” Chicago Church of Christ

*Response

#606, The Doxology, “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

[various prayers]

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn of Response

#518, “Lamb of God

Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Refrain:

Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
I love the Holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious Blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Your gift of love we crucified
We laughed and scorned Him as he died
The humble King we named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died
But you have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod

And to be called a lamb of God

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***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

#2066, "Praise the Name of Jesus," Sing the Faith Hymnal

Praise the name of Jesus,

Praise the name of Jesus.

He's my Rock, He's my Fortress,

He's my Deliverer.

In Him shall I trust.

Praise the name of Jesus.

Words & Music: Roy Hicks, Jr.

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***Postlude**

***Please Stand if Able**