

An Order for the Worship of God

5th Sunday in Lent March 29, 2020 10:45 a.m. LiveStream

Gathering Music

Invocation

Opening Voluntary *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*
Dale Wood

Call to Worship Jan McNair

Leader: God of all Creation, God of this present hour,

All: **We lift our voices in praise.**

Leader: We praise you with voices rich in gratitude.

All: **We praise you with voices
hoarse with questions.**

Leader: We praise you with voices soft with worry.

All: **We praise you with all that we are.
We trust you for all that we hope to be.**

Hymn *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.
Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy word and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 58:6-11

Prayer

**Loving God, be with us in our worship
that we might be reminded of the sound of your voice,
the warmth of your presence,
the light of your love,
the sound of your calling.**

**May we listen and learn of these things
in the calm and quiet of our homes,
so that we might know them
in the midst of the daily noise, chaos and confusion.**

**Let us know you here, O God,
so we can recognize you
when we meet you elsewhere.**

**May we serve you by worshiping you,
and worship you by serving you. Amen.**

A Time for Children

Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon

Disciplines: Service/Works of Mercy
Dr. C. Mark Gooden

Response

**Everlasting God,
you are the source of our common life.**

**You bring us together, you are with us
when we are apart.**

You are faithful to us when we seek your presence.

**You are faithful to us when we don't know
which way to turn in our wandering.**

**Often we get things just like we want them,
then something happens that throws everything
into a different light forevermore.**

**In this time of change, help us recognize
what is essential to our common life
as a community of faith.**

**When we cannot see the road ahead,
help us to trust your promises.**

**As we travel together, help us to remember
our identity as your people.**

**May we listen carefully when we hear our calling:
"Live now."**

"You are the church."

"You are on mission with me."

"You need each other."

"Christ needs your hands and feet in the world."

**God, empower us for the future
with all we need to be the church today. Amen.**

Hymn *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

Lord, whose love through humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

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Benediction

Voluntary *Praise to the Lord* Johann Walther

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