

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MAY 3, 2009

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whomsoever will come.

Jesus taught us that if our brother has something against us, we ought to go and be reconciled to him before we do anything else in gathered worship. Please do that without delay if necessary.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice the Lord is King

Early Methodists were persecuted and lived lives of hardship. Charles Wesley, who with his brother John started the Methodist movement, wanted to encourage his followers. He wanted them to be a singing, joyful people and not get discouraged and lose hope. Paul's letter to the Philippians gave Wesley the text for "Rejoice, the Lord Is King." Although Paul was imprisoned when he wrote this letter, he wrote a message of joy and encouragement, stating "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice." We have different reasons for singing it today. He is the King, redeeming the earth, and we are here to celebrate Him!

Lord Most High

There's an echo in this song the ladies usually sing. Consider how we sing "from the ends of the earth", and there is an echo. "To the depths of the sea" and another echo. "Throughout the endless ages, You will be crowned with praises". The echoes are no mistake or coincidence. What an honor to sing to THE Lord most high, and echo His praises across the earth!

This Kingdom

Perhaps this song took you by surprise last week. It is such a grounded song, full of glory to God, acknowledgement of Jesus, and Kingdom focused, we must sing it again, quickly adding it to our repertoire of praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

TITHES AND OFFERINGS*

Offertory- "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Abigail Tosh, piano

INSTALLATION OF ELDER JON GROH

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON: DR. JOHN SITTEMA

"Worship as the Purpose of Creation" Psalm 148; Col 1:15-23

You are Worthy

Previously known (and perhaps presently) as *Thou art Worthy*, this hymn lavishes worth and honor on God because He made all things, and for His pleasure He made them. Your existence and the existence of the earth please Him. He wants to save His creation, and so has through Jesus Christ. We have included modern language adopted by the CRC Psalter. Feel free to sing "Thou art".

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

WORSHIP WORDS

The path to deeper worship is a clearer theology.

"As worship begins in holy expectancy, it ends in holy obedience. Holy obedience saves worship from becoming an opiate, an escape from the pressing needs of modern life." - *Richard Foster*