

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MAY 31, 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

I Peter 2:24-25 “²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

New Doxology

Let us begin in praise to God, the giver of all blessing, the Giver of life, the Savior of souls, and the King eternal. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

“Tune my heart to sing thy grace”...we need that tuning. Does it ever seem to you that it takes a moment or two (or maybe a song or two!) to align your thoughts with the Spirit? We sing “come” because we need Him to teach us the song our hearts are to sing.

CONFESSION OF SIN, PRAYER FOR MERCY

Meekness and Majesty

Jesus left His throne, in the frailty of flesh; His glory was veiled as He came to serve, not to be served, giving His life that we may live. The contrast creates a yearning to praise Him, to adore Him, to be in awe of His love. He came in meekness and rules as Majesty.

Majesty

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

TITHES AND OFFERINGS*

Offertory- “Ancient Words”

SERMON: DR. JOHN SITTEMA

“How Jesus Prays for the Church” John 17:6-19

Before the Throne of God Above

Jesus stands before the Father, His blood our plea, his sacrifice our passage. Nothing can separate us from the love of the Father. Thanks be to God for His son, Jesus, our Savior!

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

*(children ages 5-8 may now exit for Children’s Worship)

WORSHIP WORDS

The path to deeper worship is a clearer theology.

We are to shine as the sun; we are to be given the Morning Star. I think I begin to see what it means. In one way, of course, God has given us the Morning Star already: you can go and enjoy the gift on many fine mornings if you get up early enough. What more, you may ask, do we want? Ah, but we want so much more...we do not want merely to see beauty, though, God knows, even that is bounty enough. We want something else which can hardly be put into words-to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive into it ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it.

-C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory (edited for space)