

Reflection

"If His name is 'Wonderful,' then there will be nothing dull about His reign!"

Warren W. Wiersbe
Be Comforted

Call To Worship

We confess the supremacy of God in Christ through both responsive reading and song.

Our Spoken Call to Worship

From Isaiah 11:1-4 (CSB)

Then a shoot will grow from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots will bear fruit.

**The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him —
a Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
a Spirit of counsel and strength,
a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.**

His delight will be in the fear of the Lord.

**He will not judge
by what he sees with his eyes,
he will not execute justice
by what he hears with his ears,
but he will judge the poor righteously
and execute justice for the oppressed of the land.**

Come, let us worship the Lord!

Our Sung Call to Worship Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Verse 1

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-gone was the night.

Verse 2

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Savior,
When half-gone was the night.

Verse 3

This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor,
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us,

And lightens ev'ry load.

*Words by Theodore Baker & Harriet Krauth Spaeth
Music Geistlich Kirchengesang
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Confession

We confess our need for mercy through both responsive reading and song.

Our Spoken Confession

Adults read the standard print.

*Children respond with **bold print**.*

Lord God, our lives are filled with sin;
we dwell in a land of darkness.

[children] Come save us, Lord Jesus!

We forget our neighbor's needs
and do not love you above all else.

[children] Come save us, Lord Jesus!

Forgive us, fill our hearts with faith,
and make us ready for your return.

[ALL] Come save us, Lord Jesus! Amen!

Time of silent confession.

Our Sung Confession

Lord, From Sorrows Deep I Call

Verse 1

Lord, from sorrows deep I call
when my hope is shaken;
torn and ruined from the fall,
hear my desperation.
For so long I've pled and prayed,
"God, come to my rescue!"
Even so, the thorn remains;
still my heart will praise You.

Verse 2

Storms within my troubled soul,
questions without answers;
on my faith these billows roll—
God be now my shelter.
Why are you cast down my soul?
Hope in Him who saves you.
When the fires have all grown cold,
cause this heart to praise You.

Verse 3

Should my life be torn from me,
every worldly pleasure;
when all I possess is grief,
God be then my treasure.

Be my vision in the night;
be my hope and refuge.
'Til my faith is turned to sight,
Lord my heart will praise You.

Ending

Oh my soul, put your hope in God,
my help, my rock, I will praise Him.
Sing, oh sing, through the raging storm;
You're still my God, my salvation. (Repeat)

Words and music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell

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Messenger Hymns*

Assurance and Peace

We profess our assurance of salvation and peace in Christ through both responsive reading and song.

Remember the Gospel & The Lord's Supper

This is the Lord's declaration:

"Look, the days are coming
when I will fulfill the good promise
that I have spoken concerning the house of Israel
and the house of Judah.

In those days and at that time I will cause
a Righteous Branch to sprout up for David,
and he will administer justice
and righteousness in the land.

**In those days Judah will be saved,
and Jerusalem will dwell securely,
and this is what she will be named:
The Lord Is Our Righteousness."**

People of God: Jesus Christ, our Lord,
whose arrival we announce in this season,
is our righteousness.
In Christ, we are made right with God.

Thanks be to God!

Distribution of the elements. Singing of "Come Adore the Humble King"

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Singing of "Christ our Hope in Life and Death"

Come Adore the Humble King

Verse 1

Come adore the humble King,
lowly in the manger;
Fall before His majesty,
Hail the little Savior.
Hope what hope no tongue could tell,
God has come with us to dwell;

His name is Emmanuel,
O praise the humble King.

Verse 2

Come adore in humble state,
He the song of angels;
Join the wise who call His name
and with all creation.
Who oh who would condescend,
God unknown now calls us friend;
Love that none could comprehend,
O praise the humble King.

Verse 3

Come adore the King who came
to our world to save us;
Born to heal our prideful race,
crown us with forgiveness.
Fall oh fall before the One
who in mercy left His throne.
Christ, the Lord, God's only Son;
His glories now we sing,
O praise the humble King.

Tag

Come adore, come adore, come adore the King.
Bow before, come adore the Name above all names. (Repeat)

Words and Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell

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Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Verse 1

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong.
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand. (Chorus)

Chorus

O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

Verse 2

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is his grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? (Chorus)

Verse 3

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ, he lives! Christ, he lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore. (Chorus)

*Words and music by Keith Getty, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Papa, Matt Bowell, & Matthew Merker
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Thanksgiving and Petition

We Give Thanks in Prayer and Offer Petitions to God

We express our gratitude to God our Father for Christ's work on the cross for us and bring our requests before him. In bringing our requests, we confess that we believe God truly is a good father, who cares about our needs and gives us what he knows is best.

We Give Thanks by Giving

*We give financial offerings to support the work of the church because of our gratitude to God. By giving we confess we are trusting in God's provision for us as well.
On the first Sunday of each month we have two offerings—one for the general fund and a second one for the benevolence ministry of our church.
You may give electronically at gabcomes.org/giving/ or place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary or send a check in the mail.*

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:1-7 (ESV)

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish.

In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

³You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴For the yoke of his burden,

and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult

and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born,

to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the word of the Lord.
**The grass withers, and the flower falls,
but the word of the Lord endures forever.**

Sermon

Isaiah 9:6 - Jesus: Wonderful Counselor - Pastor Michael Felkins

Sermon Discipleship Questions

1. What encouraged you?
2. What convicted you?
3. Is there anything in your life that needs to change?

Sending

Having heard and confessed the Gospel, we are sent into the world on mission in Christ, which we express in spoken word.

Blessing

From Romans 15:13 (ESV)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may
abound in hope.

Amen.