

The Lord's Service

December 2, 2018

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

*Song of Praise with Greeting

Creation Sings

Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn and run the course of day
Till evening falls in crimson rays.

His fingerprints in flakes of snow,
His breath upon this spinning globe,
He charts the eagle's flight; commands the newborn baby's cry.

Chorus: Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing,
Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation's King.

Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace
Unveiled the Father's plan of reconciling God and man.

A second Adam walked the earth,
Whose blameless life would break the curse,
Whose death would set us free to live with Him eternally.
(Chorus)

Creation longs for His return,
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage are birth pains of a coming age.

When He renews the land and sky,
All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: the glories of our God and King!
(Chorus)

(2009 Thankyou Music)

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, prepare to meet the gracious God in worship.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Jerry Finley Family

*Call to Worship

Psalm 147.7-12

LEADER: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody
to our God on the lyre!

PEOPLE: **He covers the heavens with clouds; He
prepares rain for the earth; He makes grass
grow on the hills.**

LEADER: He gives to the beasts their food, and to the
young ravens that cry.

PEOPLE: **His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor His pleasure in the legs of a man,**

LEADER: But the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear
Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love.

PEOPLE: **Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your
God, O Zion!**

*Hymn

No. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Invocation

Elder Tony DeMarco

God Cleanses Us

Reading of the Law of God

Exodus 20.2, 8-11

LEADER: I am the Lord your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

PEOPLE: **Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.**

LEADER: On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

PEOPLE: **For in six days, the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**

*Whether seated or kneeling,
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You in
thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in Your will,
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved.”

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

*Hymn

Glory Be to God the Father

Coronae, 87.87.47

J=115

1.Glo-ry be to God the Fa-ther! Glo - ry be to God the Son! Glo - ry be to
 2.Glo-ry be to Him who loved us, Washed us from all sin and stain! Glo - ry be to
 3.Glo-ry to the King of an-gels! Glo - ry to the Church-'s King! Glo - ry to the
 4.Glo-ry, bless-ing, praise e - ter - nal! Thus the choir of an - gels sings, Hon-or, rich-es,

God the Spir - it! God Al - might - y, Three in One! Glo - ry, glo - ry,
 Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign! Glo - ry, glo - ry,
 King of na - tions! Heaven and earth, your prais-es bring; Glo - ry, glo - ry,
 power, do - min - ion! Thus its praise cre - a - tion brings; Glo - ry, glo - ry,

While e - ter - nal a - ges run!
 To the Lamb that once was slain!
 To the King of Glo - ry sing!
 Glo-ry to the King of kings!

God Consecrates Us

New Testament Reading Elder Mark Lander
John 1.19-30 (p. 886)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Choir

Alleluia Incantation

(Andrew Miller)

*Doxology

No. 731

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Bennett

*Hymn

No. 193

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 40.1-11 (p. 599)

Sermon

Pastor Jones

COMFORT, IN THIS LIFE AND THE NEXT

*Hymn

No. 197

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

*Confession of Faith (in unison) Belgic Confession, 17

We believe that our most gracious God,
in His admirable wisdom and goodness,
seeing that man had thus thrown himself
into temporal and eternal death
and made himself wholly miserable,
was pleased to seek and comfort him,
when he trembling fled from His presence,
promising him that He would give His Son,
Who should be made of a woman,
to bruise the head of the serpent,
and would make him happy.

*Gloria Patri

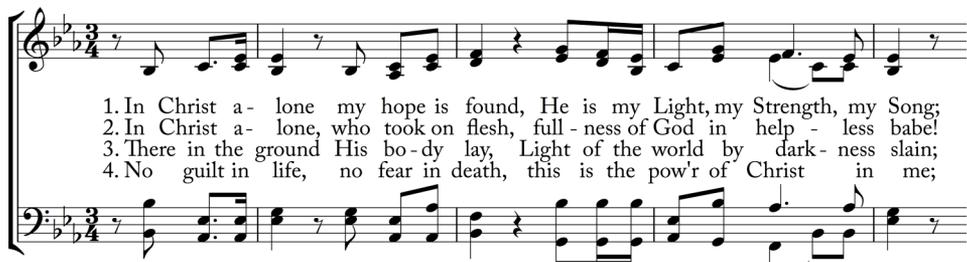
No. 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

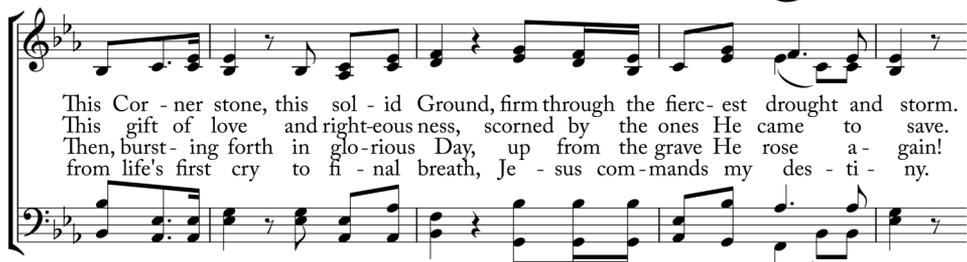
The Institution

Distribution Hymn

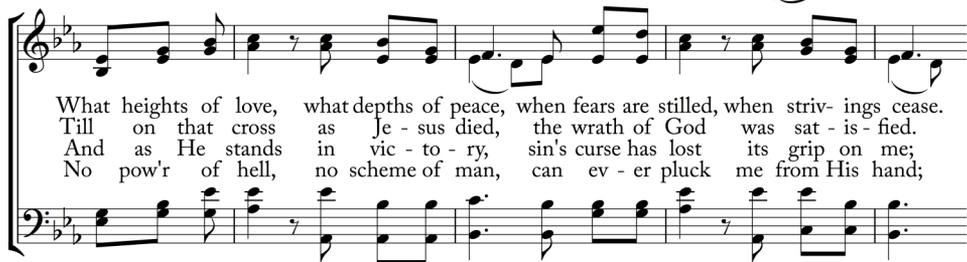
In Christ Alone



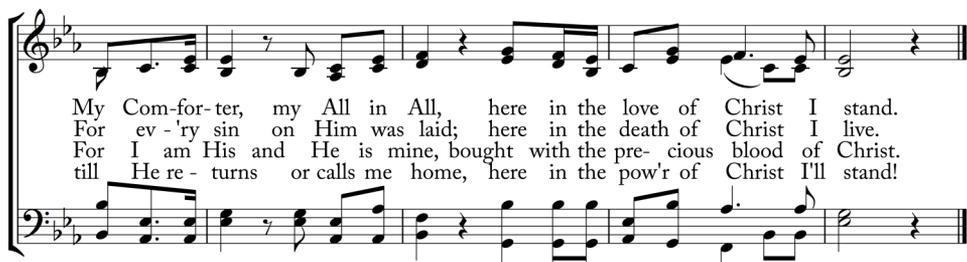
1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my Light, my Strength, my Song;
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less babe!
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the world by dark - ness slain;
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;



This Cor - ner stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
This gift of love and right - eousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose a - gain!
from life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease.
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied.
And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand;



My Com - for - ter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.
For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

Amazing Grace! (vs. 1-3, 6)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Pastor Jones

Postlude