



*October 5, 2025*  
**At Home Bulletin**

## **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**Bless the Lord, and forget not all His benefits,  
Who forgives iniquity and heals our diseases,**

Who redeems our lives from the pit,

**Who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy,**

Who satisfies us with good so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,  
Bless His Holy Name!**

*Psalm 103*

## **INVOCATION**

### **SONGS OF PRAISE**

#### ***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 reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
ponder anew what the Almighty will do,  
if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,  
decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.  
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief,  
spreading his wings to o'ershade 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 fore'er we adore him.

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#### ***Psalm 147***

Tune: Lead On O King Eternal

### **GOD'S LAW AND OUR CONFESSION**

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." *Deuteronomy 6:4-5*

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?  
**Lord we have turned away from you, our only hope.**

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us,  
**yet we act as if there is no reason for hope.**

Your Son sacrificed for us, rose victorious over sin and death.

**Forgive us Lord for our cynicism, our doubt, and our hopelessness.**

We confess that we find it easier to trust in our gadgets,  
our bank account, and our reputations than in the hope of the Eternal King.  
We claim to have the hope of the gospel,  
but despair at the prospect of suffering and persecution.

**Awake in us afresh a hopeful trust in you.**

**You are our only hope for forgiveness and restoration.**

**Restore to us a love of holiness and delight in your way.**

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***Psalm 103:8-12***

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

What is justification?

**Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardons all our sins and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.**

What is adoption?

**Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of the sons of God.**

What is sanctification?

**Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.**

What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?

**The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.**

*Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 33-36*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

### PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil: For yours is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### SONG OF PREPARATION

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing  
Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe  
His craft and power are great and armed with cruel hate  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide our striving would be losing  
Were not the right man on our side the man of God's own choosing  
Dost ask who that may be Christ Jesus it is He  
Lord Sabaoth His name from age to age the same  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us  
The prince of darkness grim we tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure for lo his doom is sure  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs no thanks to them abideth  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth  
Let goods and kindred go this mortal life also  
The body they may kill God's truth abideth still  
His kingdom is forever.

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## SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 4:1-14

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

“God of the Despised”

Pastor Ian Hard

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

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## CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*If you are following along at home, please refrain from taking Communion as it is a form of worship meant to be celebrated in the physical presence of the body of Christ.*

## MERCY OFFERING

## HYMN OF SENDING \*

### *He Will Hold Me Fast*

When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost His Promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost He will hold me fast. (*chorus*)

For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last. (*chorus*)

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## BENEDICTION

**Sermon NOTES:** God of the Despised