

BEVERLY HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pattern of Worship

Because Jesus Christ was raised from the dead on the first day of the week, the church has always gathered to worship on Sunday ("the Lord's Day"; cf. John 20:1,19,26, Acts 20:7, etc.) in celebration of Christ's resurrection and victory over death. Christians gather at many different times throughout the week, but Lord's Day worship is the essential fountainhead from which all other Christian worship, service, and fellowship flow.

The patterns seen throughout Scripture inform our Lord's Day worship. Scripture has much to say as to how the church should worship. Worship is much more than a matter of preference.

The pattern of our liturgy follows the basic biblical structure of sacrificial worship. This pattern is found in both old and new testament Scriptures, but perhaps the clearest place to see this shape is in Leviticus 9, the first corporate worship service at the newly constructed tabernacle.

While Jesus abolished animal sacrifice, He did not abrogate the way of sacrifice (e.g., Rom. 12:1-2; Heb. 13:15, etc.). New covenant worship is still described in sacrificial categories and the church is described as the true temple. As Augustine observed, whatever is fulfilled in Christ (the Head) is also fulfilled in the ongoing life of the church (Christ's body). Therefore, in Christ, our worship service represents the fulfillment and transformation of old covenant liturgical types. The basic pattern is as follows:

The Lord Gathers Us: The people are called to worship (Lev. 9:5). Our worship is a response to God's summons. He always takes the initiative. We draw near only because He first invites us.

The Lord Cleanses Our Sin: The sin offering (Lev. 9:15) highlights confession of sin and absolution. Without an initial confession of sin, we are worshipping God with unclean hands and lips. But having been washed, we may enter God's presence.

The Lord Sanctifies Our Lives: The ascension offering (Lev. 9:16) corresponds to our entrance into God's heavenly sanctuary (cf. Heb. 10:19ff) and consecration. The ascension offering consists in a burst of sung praise, since we have received cleansing and access to God's throne room. We enter God's courts with thanksgiving and joy. This offering also includes the reading and preaching of the Word, as we are consecrated to God's service by His truth (Jn. 17:17; Heb. 4:12).

The Lord Receives Our Gifts and Hearts: The tribute offering (Lev. 9:17) follows, represented by the collection of tithes and offerings. We offer ourselves in the ascension offering; we offer our lives, our hearts and our prayers in the tribute offering. Our lives are not acceptable to God apart from the blood sacrifice of Christ, but in Christ, God accepts us and the fruit of our labors.

The Lord Meets Us at the Table: The peace offering was at the center of every feast and festival in the old covenant and is the climax of the liturgy (Lev. 9:18-21). This offering is the communion meal we eat in God's presence. The Lord's Supper, of course, is our peace offering in the new covenant, as God shares His table with us.

The Lord Scatters Us into the World: Finally, we are commissioned. We are sent out with God's benediction (Lev. 9:22-23). At the tabernacle, Aaron raised his hands and blessed the people as he dismissed them (Num. 6:22-27). We are sent out to serve God in the world, carrying His blessing as we go.

BEVERLY HEIGHTS TOGETHER

Welcome and Greeting Mr. Peter A. Chace

Announcements

THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude I Need Thee, Jesus Dykes/Lowry

Jinna Park, Accompanist and Organist

The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.

Invitation to Worship

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always!

People: And again I say rejoice!

Congregational Introit Psalm **37C** v. 9 Steps a Man Takes

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Psalm of Praise 100E vv. 1-4 In All the Land Rejoice

Responsive Reading Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into His presence with singing!

People: Know that the LORD, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we

are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him;

bless His name!

People: For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His

faithfulness to all generations.

THE LORD CLEANSES OUR SIN

Unison Confession of Sin

The psalmist testifies: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what He has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; He has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

Silent Confession of Sin

Unison Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Thanks be to God!

Unison Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 2:1-18

Mr. Peter Chace, Candidate Under Care

Responsive Psalm 84C

vv. 1, 3

Your Dwelling Places, LORD

Special Music

This Is My Father's World Justine Campagna, violin; Jinna Park, piano

arr. Funderburk



Congregational Response No. 731

Doxology

Scripture Reading Psalm 84:1-12

Sermon

Joy on the Other Side In-House Joy

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS

Call for the Offering and Offertory

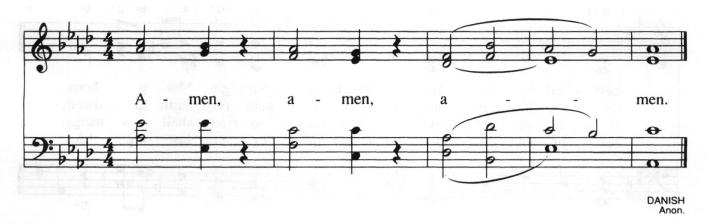
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Haves

Congregational Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Threefold Amen



THE LORD MEETS US AT THE TABLE

The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus on the night of His betrayal. It is to be celebrated until the end of the world as a perpetual remembrance of what He did for mankind on the cross. The Lord's Supper is a seal of all those benefits of Calvary for believers and signifies their spiritual growth and nourishment. It is a bond and pledge of the communion of believers with Jesus Christ and with each other as parts of the Church.

The Session is responsible for determining the frequency of celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is proper to observe it as often as each Lord's Day, but it should be observed at least quarterly. The Session should exercise care that the sacrament be not neglected.

According to the EPC Book of Order, ordinarily, only a lawfully ordained Minister may administer the sacraments. Since Pastor Devlin is away this Sunday, we will not celebrate the Lord's Supper today.

THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM

Ascribe Unto the Lord Closing Psalm **96D** vv. 5, 8

Dismissal

Postlude The Lord Is My Light Bowdish

Won't it get old?

Some insights from Dr. Kyle Bennett on the nature of ritual

My sons, Calvin and Miles, have been playing baseball. It's Miles' second year and Calvin's first. Without fail, I find them in the backyard playing catch, running the bases, pitching to each other, and consummately antagonizing each other. They've gotten really good at all of these activities, especially antagonizing.

Watching them reminds me of the old adage, "Practice makes perfect." It's true. Those who practice a profession get proficient at it.

If you want to field grounders well, you have to spend your days scooping them up. If you want to knit scarves, you have to crochet regularly. If you want your kids to obey you, you have to correct them daily.

The logic of practice also applies to religious rites like confessing our sins, hearing the Word of God and partaking of the Lord's Supper. If you want to get comfortable confessing your sins, or being attentive to God's word, or being nourished by His body and blood, you have to practice it.

Some in the Church find this line of thinking dubious. Practice?! What are you talking about? Won't partaking of the Lord's Supper on a regular basis render it meaningless? Won't frequency of confession lead to insincerity? Won't hearing a sermon multiple times desensitize us to its message?

Yet we don't refrain from saying "I'm sorry" to our spouses out of fear of it becoming disingenuous. We don't kiss our kids infrequently out of concern for it becoming rote routine. We don't object to having close friends over for dinner parties because we're worried our friendship will be taken for granted.

The same road cannot lead to both perfection and perdition. Whether plain practices or religious rites, the logic stands: practice makes perfect.

Some in the Church have an "absence-makes-the-heart-grow-fonder" view of our Savior's sacraments. This view assumes that novelty and spontaneity are what make things meaningful. And that infrequency breeds sincerity. It believes that Godgiven gifts like the Lord's Supper are too holy to touch on a regular basis.

But our Lord doesn't share this view. He isn't absent, nor does He want to be. In fact, He wants to be more present to us. Which is why He sent the Holy Spirit and gave us the Church and why He instituted His sacraments. He wants to be more present to us through these gifts!

As a sacrament, the Lord's Supper is a means by which Christ is mediated to us. It "holds forth" Christ and His salvation and grace to us, as the Westminster Shorter Catechism puts it. It – along with confession, preaching of the Word, and prayer – is necessary for the Church. We need them to know Christ and live in Him.

The more we confess our guilt and sins, the quicker we will recognize His grace and express gratitude. The more often we listen to His words and meditate on them, the more He will inhabit our thoughts and dreams. The more we partake of His body and blood, the more we will remember, profess and long for Him.

There is a beauty captured in the contours of practice. There is an attraction to things done well. There is a fullness found in purpose. We were designed to be full of our Creator. We were meant to eat and drink our Savior. We were made to feast for eternity.

"Practice makes perfect."

The next few months here at Beverly Heights will be a "Summer of Psalms and Sacraments," during which we will engage more deeply in the practice of what distinguishes us as Christians. Eat His body with regularity, drink His blood routinely, and hear His Word with repetition.

Sing His praises with resound. And watch your life overflow with His presence and grace!

This Week

SUNDAY, JULY 16

7:30 AM Men's Bible Study

9:00 AM Christian Ed for all ages

10:00 AM Beverly Heights Together Worship

MONDAY, JULY 17

Church Offices Closed

8:30 AM Revelation Fitness fundraiser

TUESDAY, JULY 18

7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

THURSDAY, JULY 20

FRIDAY, JULY 21

10:00 AM Playground Playgroup

SATURDAY, JULY 22

8:30 AM Revelation Fitness workout

SUNDAY, JULY 23

7:30 AM Men's Bible Study

9:00 AM Christian Ed for all ages

10:00 AM Beverly Heights Together Worship

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church

1207 Washington Road & Mt. Lebanon, PA **15228** www.beverlyheights.org **412-561-5100**

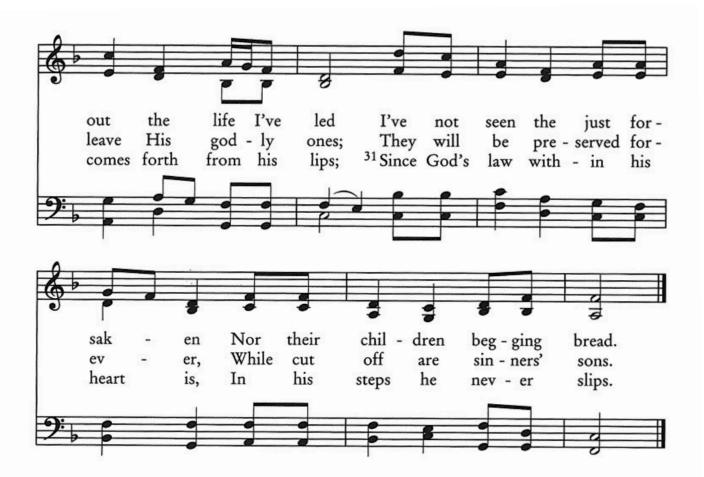
Gathered By His Love For Us ~ Scattered By Our Love For Him

37C Psalm 37:23-31

Steps a Man Takes

Indeed we count them blessed who endure....
The Lord is very compassionate and merciful. —James 5:11

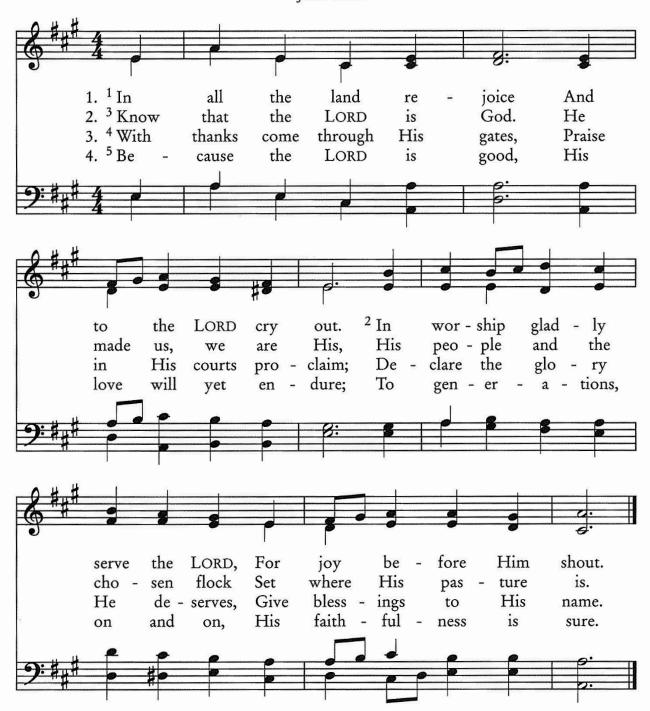




100E

In All the Land Rejoice

There shall be one flock and one Shepherd.
—John 10:16



Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

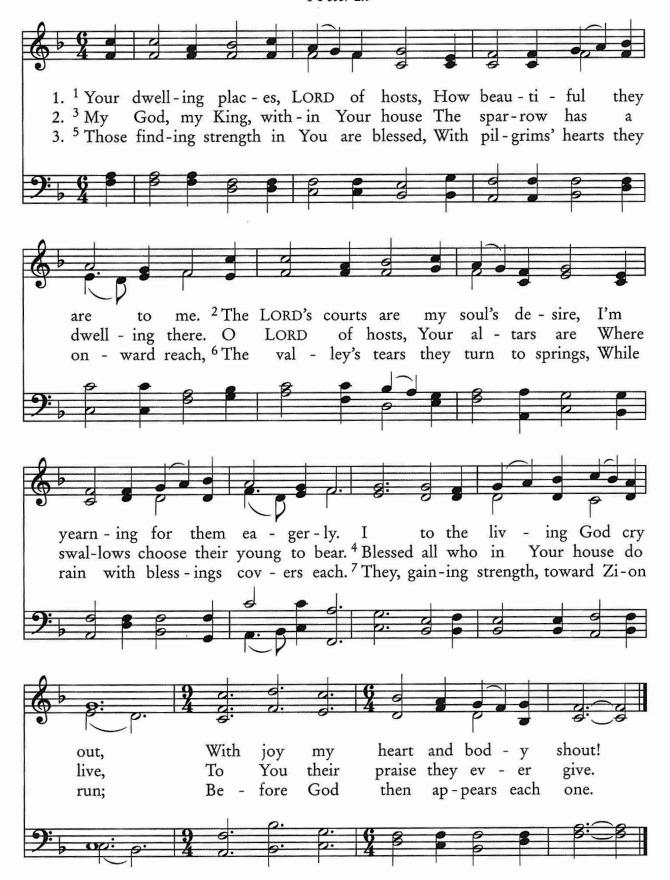


84C Psalm 84:1-7

Your Dwelling Places, LORD

You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house.

—1 Peter 2:5



Ascribe Unto the LORD

96D Psalm 96:7-13

"Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
—Revelation 22:20

