

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

PROVIDENCE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Bible House, Level 4, Seminar Room 1

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*A household for our triune God,
where each member shines forth His holy, life-giving presence.*

**THE LORD'S DAY OF APR 28,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2019
9.15 AM**

“But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.”
(Habakkuk 2:20)

WE PREPARE TO MEET WITH GOD

Welcome

Preparatory Devotional & Prayer

Asterisks (*) denote portions for congregation to stand.
Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV).
Congregational readings are in **bold**.

GOD SUMMONS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

The Greeting of God

The Call to Worship: *Psalms 145:1-3*

- ¹ I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- ³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S SUMMONS

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 731, "Doxology"*

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise: *Trinity Hymnal 44, "How Great Thou Art"*

GOD DECLARES HIS LAW

Reading of the Law: *Matthew 5:13-16*

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LAW

Silent Prayer of Confession

Confession of Sin (Unison):

**Our Father in heaven,
you have made us salt to the earth,
light to the world,
a city on a hill,
a people glorifying you.**

But we have often fled from your calling.

We have preferred the world's approval to life in our Lord Jesus.

Out of fear and rebellion, we have withheld your light and salt.

Renew our hearts.

Make us willing to serve you.

Through Jesus our Lord,

who died for sinners (Rom 5:6)

and fulfilled all righteousness (Mt 3:15),

forgive our many sins.

Amen.

GOD DECLARES HIS GOSPEL

Reading of the Gospel: *1 Peter 2:24*

²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Confession of the Gospel (Unison): *Based on Calvin's Institutes II:XVI:19*

Almighty God,

we are greatly sinful and unable to save ourselves.

But we trust in the Savior you have graciously given—Jesus Christ our Lord.

We trust in Christ's obedience for our righteousness,

his death for our release from the Law's curse,

his resurrection for our immortality,

his ascension for our reconciliation with you,

his rule for our final victory and peace.

We trust in Christ alone for salvation. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *Hebrews 5:7-9*

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: *Trinity Hymnal 241, "Thou Dost Reign on High"*

GOD TEACHES US HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *Ephesians 2:11-21*

¹¹ Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands- ¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

Prayer for Understanding

Preaching of the Word of God:

“Gentiles - Once Separated. Now Grafted Into God’s Household”—Pastor Sherman Tjiong

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn of Response: *Trinity Hymnal 470, “How Vast the Benefits Divine”*

A Prayer of Response

Thanksgiving

Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Republic of Singapore

The Holy Church of Jesus Christ

The Lord’s Prayer (Unison): *Matthew 6:9-13*

Our Father 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 also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Offering

*The Confession of Faith (Unison): *The Apostles' Creed*

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

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;

the holy catholic⁺ Church;

+universal

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

*Hymn of Consecration: *Trinity Hymnal 518, "Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground"*

GOD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSINGS

*Benediction

Book Title: The Mortification of Sin

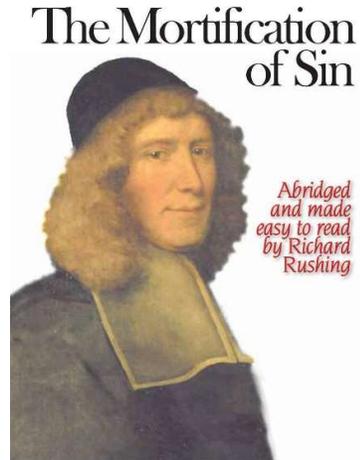
Author: John Owen (Abridged by Richard Rushing)

Length/Year Published: 130 pages/2004 (Originally published 1656)

In *The Mortification of Sin*, Owen provides a practical treatise-length treatment on how believers can succeed in their struggle against sin. It is a thorough exposition of Romans 8:13, ‘If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.’ Beginning with establishing why mortification—i.e., the ‘killing of the body of death ‘day by day’’ (p. 34)—is essential for every Christian, he proceeds to clarify what true mortification is and follows up by giving biblical, clear and helpful directions to the Christian struggling with sin.

In all his writings, Owen never comes across as an ivory-towered theologian obsessed only with technical exegesis, nor an over-bearing and legalistic Puritan who sets up an unattainable spiritual ideal. Contrariwise, he is acutely sensitive to the ordinary Christian’s fight against sin as he earnestly pleads for them to play their part in sanctification. His heart’s desire, through this work, is that ‘mortification and universal holiness may be promoted in my heart and in the hearts and lives of others, to the glory of God; and that this way the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ may be adorned in all things.’ (p. ix)

For a time such as today, when many views on Christian living are popularised, Owen’s classic work gains particular importance as a representative of serious, biblical Christianity. Owen was a realist in his teaching concerning indwelling sin; he refused to offer promises about the outcome of duties that are contrary to experience and Scripture.¹ It is for this reason that this work has been very instrumental for the spiritual growth of many, from the likes of J. I. Packer (who said “I owe more, I think, to John Owen than to any other theologian, ancient or modern, and I am sure I owe more to his little book on mortification than to anything else he wrote.”²) down to laymen such as myself, and I trust that it will be so for anyone willing to take it up and read.



¹ Hannah, John D. “John Owen and the “Normal” Christian Life: Or Sanctification in an Era of Confusion.” *Grace Online Library*, n.d., <https://graceonlinelibrary.org/salvation/sanctification/john-owen-and-the-normal-christian-life-or-sanctification-in-an-era-of-confusion-by-john-d-hannah/>

² Taylor, Justin. “How “Let Go and Let God” Almost Ruined J. I. Packer’s Spiritual Life.” *The Gospel Coalition*, 11 July, 2012, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/how-let-go-and-let-go-almost-ruined-j-i-packers-spiritual-life/>