

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 MAY 31,
THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2020
9.30 AM**

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

WORSHIP ORDER

Prelude

Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version (ESV).
Congregational readings are in **bold**.

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

The Greeting of God

The Call to Worship: Psalm 28:6-7

6 Blessed be the Lord!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

7 The Lord is my strength and my shield;

in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise: Trinity Hymnal #166, "*Wondrous King, All-Glorious*"

Wondrous King, all glorious,
Sovereign Lord victorious,
O, receive our praise with favor!
From thee welled God's kindness
Though we in our blindness
Strayed from thee, our blessed Saviour.
Strengthen thou,
Help us now;
Let our tongues be singing,
Thee our praises bringing.

Heavens, spread the story
Of our Maker's glory,
All the pomp of earth obscuring.
Sun, thy rays be sending,
Thy bright beams expending,

Light to all the earth assuring.
Moon and star,
Praise afar
Him who glorious made you;
The vast heavens aid you.

O my soul, rejoicing,
Sing, thy praises voicing,
Sing, with hymns of faith adore him!
All who here have being,
Shout, your voices freeing,
Bow down in the dust before him.
He is God
Sabaoth;
Praise alone the Saviour,
Here and there for ever.

Hallelujahs render
To the Lord most tender,
Ye who know and love the Saviour.
Hallelujahs sing ye,
Ye redeemed, O, bring ye
Hearts that yield him glad behavior.
Blest are ye
Endlessly;
Sinless there for ever,
Ye shall laud him ever.

GOD RENEWS US IN HIS SON

Call to Repentance: Exodus 20:4-6

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Prayer for Forgiveness

Promise of Forgiveness and Assurance: Hebrews 2:14-15

14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

GOD FEEDS US WITH HIS WORD

Reading of the Word of God: *Lamentations 3:19-33*

19 Remember my affliction and my wanderings,
the wormwood and the gall!

20 My soul continually remembers it
and is bowed down within me.

21 But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;

23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

24 “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

25 The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul who seeks him.

26 It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

27 It is good for a man that he bear
the yoke in his youth.

28 Let him sit alone in silence
when it is laid on him;

29 let him put his mouth in the dust—
there may yet be hope;

30 let him give his cheek to the one who strikes,
and let him be filled with insults.

31 For the Lord will not
cast off forever,
32 but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
33 for he does not afflict from his heart
or grieve the children of men.

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of the Word of God: “Days of Trouble: Heart Truths for the Troubled Soul”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

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.

Hymn of Consecration: #56, “*When All Your mercies, O My God*”

(Stanza, 1, 3, 5, 6)

1 When all your mercies, O my God,

my rising soul surveys,

transported with the view, I'm lost

in wonder, love, and praise.

3 When worn with sickness, oft have you

with health renewed my face;

and when in sins and sorrows sunk,

revived my soul with grace.

5 Through ev'ry period of my life
your goodness I'll pursue;
and after death, in distant worlds,
the glorious theme renew.

6 Through all eternity to you
a joyful song I'll raise;
for oh, eternity's too short
to utter all your praise.

GOD SENDS US OFF WITH HIS BLESSINGS

Benediction

Postlude

There is PEACE and there is PEACE

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:6-7

These verses bring out the point that the antidote to anxiety is the peace of God.

The Philippians had believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul called them saints in Christ. As believers, they have peace with God through Jesus Christ.

Yet for Paul to exhort them not be anxious meant that they were not having peace in their hearts. How so? It was reported to Paul who was imprisoned that they were anxious about many things. They had reasons to. We are told that they faced with external threats from their opponents (1:28). They were dealing with internal opposition and disunity (4:2-3). They were concerned about Paul and Epaphroditus' health and well-being (2:26). They also might have been a bit worried about God's provision (4:19). So what was missing? Why did they appear to be losing their peace? Or were they?

Things begin to make sense when I realized that Paul was speaking of a different kind of peace he desires the Philippian Christian to have as well. It is a peace that is connected with “hearts and minds”, that spring and source of life within us.

There are 2 kinds of peace Paul talked about in his letters. The first peace is that which comes with having been washed and cleansed in the blood of Jesus. “Justified by faith, we have peace with God, Paul said in Rom 5:1. That is not something that you gain. It is a gift that comes with believing by faith in Jesus Christ. It is a peace that reconciles us with God and tears down the sin barrier that once stood between us and God. It is a peace that Jesus paid for with his blood and death on the Cross. It does not matter what who you are or what you are. If you are saved by God's grace you have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

But there is another peace mentioned that is here in Phil 4:7. It is the peace of God that guards or garrisons (for this is the meaning of the word “guard”) our heart and mind in Christ Jesus. It is not a peace *with* God but a peace *of* God. Every born-again one has peace with God, but not every Christian has the peace of God, though he should have it. The first peace is determined by your union

with the Lord; the second, by your communion with your Lord. Paul makes it clear in 4:7.

This is a peace that comes with prayer. The idea of communion is inherent in the very word ‘prayer’. It is not about praying *for* everything but *in* everything. That means in every and all situations in their lives, they are to be connected to God through prayer. They are to commune with him and behold Him face to face in worship and adoration.

And it is in this relationship of fellowship, they go to God with their requests as children opening their hearts to the Father. But not before they thank Him for being their Father and Lord. Thanksgiving is in the first place because we have peace with God. It is also because we are sure of the goodness of God, past, present and future. Prayer is the chief part of thanksgiving.

It is a folly to ignore regular communion with God and think we are be entitled to the peace of God because we have been saved by grace. There is the peace with God. But beyond it there is something rich and deep, the peace of God.

The peace of God promotes joy. It turns away worries, complains, stress, tensions and discontentment. It is the fruit of the Holy Spirit. So let’s bear that peace that surpasses all our human understanding. This divine calm is not something we can wrap our heads around as much as it is not mysterious. It is rooted in a solid trust in God that comes with a relational, regular and intimate devotion to Him. So much so we know that the God of peace is with us. His presence fortifies us against doubts, fears and anxieties.

Do men see you conducting your life with the peace of God and know that the God of peace is with you? Or are you that “Christian” who gets flustered up at the slightest provocation that people find irritable and discontented.

