

Life Sunday Order of Service

CALL TO WORSHIP

CONGREGATION STANDS

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us worship the Lord, our Creator and Savior. Let us worship Him in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

C: You have set your glory above the heavens

P: From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.

C: because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

P: When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

C: The moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

P: What is man that You are mindful of him,

C: The son of man that You care for Him?

P: You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

C: And crowned him with glory and honor.

P: You made him ruler over the works of Your hands;

C: You put everything under his feet:

P: All flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field,

C: The birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

P: O Lord, our Lord.

C: How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

BE SEATED

HYMN: 721 (in sampler)

STAND**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

C: Heavenly Father, Lord and Creator of Life, You have given us a great blessing in the way we are fearfully and wonderfully made. The life You give is so precious because it gives us time to learn about life with you, which You have given us in Jesus Christ. Forgive us, Father, for the times we have neglected to acknowledge You as Creator of all life. Forgive us, Father, for our silence in the face of strong opposition to life. Forgive us, Father, for our slowness to speak up on behalf of unborn children and others who cannot speak for themselves. Help us rededicate ourselves, Lord, to reach out to the lives You create with the only things that gives real Life, the Good News of Christ crucified for us.

P: The Lord of life has heard your confession and has forgiven your sins. The life of His son, Jesus Christ, was sacrificed for us, so we might have eternal life and be empowered to share that life with all whom God creates. Rejoice in God's grace, then, and recommit yourselves to His service for life. Amen.

PSALM 139 - read responsively

P: O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.

C: You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

P: You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

C: Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord.

P: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

C: If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

P: If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

C: Even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

P: If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me."

C: Even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

P: For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

C: I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

P: My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,

C: **Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.**

P: How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

C: **Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.**

P: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

C: **See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: ILCW Series B

Old Testament:

Epistle:

CHOIR:

STAND FOR THE READING OF THE GOSPEL:

Gospel:

HYMN OF WORSHIP: 717:1,3-4 Son of God, Eternal Savior (in Sampler)

A MESSAGE ABOUT LIFE: 1 John 3:1a
Children of God are Worth Something!

STAND

HYMN OF COMMITMENT: Come Sister and Brother

1. Come sister and brother, let's sing to none other than God the Redeemer our thanks and our praise. His mercy enduring, salvation procuring, our safety securing when His Son He raised. His blessings outpouring have set our hearts soaring His goodness will last til the end of our days. Through sorrow and pleasure thank God for this treasure; our partner thru life is the Christ who was raised.
2. Our Mighty Defender to whom we surrender has pledged His forgiveness to all who believe. If others are aching with hearts that are breaking, we have this rich treasure their pain to relieve. While speaking and teaching, our hands will be reaching with help for the needy with what we

can bring. Our grateful thanksgiving will show in our living; our words and our deeds we devote to our King!

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYERS

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe that God has made me and every creature and that He gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities. And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing all that I need to keep my body and life, and by defending me against all danger and guarding and protecting me from all evil.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood, and His innocent sufferings and death. All this He did that I should be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him.

I believe that the Holy Spirit has called me to faith by the Gospel, and given me His gifts with which to serve in His kingdom. All this God has done only because He is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

C: (sung) Amen, Amen, Amen.

HYMN OF DEPARTURE: Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You

1. Rise! To arms! With prayer employ you, O Christians, lest the foe destroy you;
For Satan has designed your fall.

Wield God's Word, the weapon glorious; Against all foes be thus victorious.

God will set you above them all. Fear not the hordes of hell,

Here is Emmanuel. Hail the Savior!

The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield And we, the victors, hold the field.

2. Wisely fight, for time is fleeting; The hours of grace are fast retreating; Short, short is this our earthly way. When the Lord the dead will waken And sinners all by fear are shaken, The saints with joy will greet that day. Praise God, our triumph's sure.

We need not long endure scorn and trial. Our Savior King His own will bring
To that great glory which we sing.

SILENT PRAYER

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